

A wise woman once said to me:

**“There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots; the other, wings.”**

– Hodding Carter, *Where Main Streets Meets the River* (Rinehart)



HELPFUL TOOLS TODAY TO SUPPORT  
YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT TOMORROW.

**Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that will allow you to:**

- Build your capacity as a facilitator?
- Work with diverse groups of parents and caregivers?
- Have an impact on brain and language development of Georgia’s youngest children?

If you answered “yes” to all of these questions, Rooted to Rise can provide an opportunity to lend your skills while having a positive impact on Georgia’s families.

**What is Rooted to Rise?**

Rooted to Rise is a program created through a partnership between GEEARS: The Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students and the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School that provides parents and caregivers of young children, as well as expecting parents, with tools and strategies to support early brain and language development. Through three, one-hour sessions, parents and caregivers can learn how to ensure their children have high quality experiences in early childhood that will aid in their ability to enter kindergarten with the skills they need to succeed.

**Why is it important for parents and caregivers to participate in Rooted to Rise?**

Research indicates that early childhood is a critical and rapid period for brain development, with 700-1000 new neural connections formed every second during the first few years of life. The quality of a child’s early environment and their experiences during these early years’ shape children’s brain architecture and determine the foundation for future learning. Children who miss the opportunity to build a strong foundation in early childhood may experience detrimental effects on the development of critical thinking, vocabulary, and literacy skills.

**Become a Rooted to Rise Volunteer and take action to support Georgia’s children and your local community.**

We are looking for volunteers who enjoy working with adults, facilitating discussions, and are passionate about making an impact in their community. Rooted to Rise volunteers will be trained on the curriculum and facilitation techniques, paired with a business, place of worship, or nonprofit organization, and have the opportunity to facilitate the curriculum with parents and caregivers of children prenatal - five.

Time Commitment

Our goal is to provide volunteers with adequate training, while being respectful of their valuable time. We anticipate the initial commitment to be 12 hours, but are hopeful that our volunteers will sign up to facilitate multiple sessions.

Volunteers’ time will be divided up in these increments:

- Pre-training preparation and material review (2 hours)
- Rooted to Rise training (2 hours)
- Pre-facilitation preparation (2 hours)
- Facilitation of three one-hour sessions (5 hours; includes travel to and from host site, set-up, and facilitation)
- Feedback to Rooted to Rise Staff (1 hour)

Volunteer Responsibilities	Rooted to Rise Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review all content material and attend a Rooted to Rise training program</li> <li>• Facilitate the three, one-hour sessions at a host site</li> <li>• Provide feedback on facilitated sessions to Rooted to Rise program staff</li> <li>• Represent the Rooted to Rise program in the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide volunteers with training and materials</li> <li>• Act as a liaison between host site and volunteers, provide volunteers with appropriate materials</li> <li>• Provide additional support to volunteers during and after program facilitation</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for continued involvement in early childhood initiatives and advocacy</li> </ul>

*Volunteer with Rooted to Rise to give parents and caregivers access to the information and skills they need to support critical language and literacy development in their young children.*

**For more information, email [sarah@endurancepm.com](mailto:sarah@endurancepm.com) or call 541-968-0525.**

Rooted to Rise was a created through a partnership between GEEARS: The Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students and the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School. Project Management support is provided by Endurance Project Management.