

# THE PROBLEM



1 in 4 Houston area third graders **failed to meet the minimum academic performance level** on the state reading assessment.



As many as **60%** of Houston-area kindergarteners entered school **without the requisite reading-readiness skills.**



Children who **do not read proficiently by the end of third grade** are four times more likely to leave school without a diploma.



Studies show that a **lack of parental involvement** has a direct impact on a child's academic success.



Only **1 out of 300 kids** living in low-income homes **has a book at home.**



Students who **lack a positive role model** show lower levels of self-esteem and weaker academics.



Making It Better is a nonprofit organization transforming communities by empowering children and families through literacy, leadership and life skills.



MAKING  
— IT —  
BETTER

TRANSFORMING  
LIVES THROUGH  
LITERACY

## JOIN US

Become a **VOLUNTEER** today by contacting our Community Relations Manager at [volunteer@mibt.org](mailto:volunteer@mibt.org).

**DONATE** by phone, mail or online at [www.mibt.org](http://www.mibt.org)

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14781 MEMORIAL DR. #25  
HOUSTON, TX | 77079 | 281.940.5998

M I B T X . O R G    

“WE WILL NEVER BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY UNLESS WE BREAK THE INTER-GENERATIONAL GAP OF ILLITERACY IN THIS CITY.”

Neil Bush, Chairman  
Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation



## OUR PROGRAMS

### READING INTERVENTION

Individualized, small group instruction for K - 2nd grade students reading significantly below grade level.

### PARENT PARTNERSHIP

Outreach to educate and empower parents with additional skills and materials to expand their child's learning at home.

### STEPS 2 SUCCESS

After school program helping K - 3rd grade students develop relationship and leadership skills, resulting in positive community impact.

### LUNCH BUNCH

Pairs trained volunteer mentors with small groups of 3rd - 5th grade students to promote positive decision making and healthy relationships.

### THE READING EXPRESS

A mobile classroom that delivers weekly reading readiness programming to young children (2 months to 4 years old) and their parents/caregivers in low-income areas.



## OUR VALUES

**RELATIONSHIPS** built by trust, respect and commitment.

**PARTNERSHIPS** with parents, schools, other non-profits and community members.

**ACCESS** for all children to high quality programs that develop the whole child.

## OUR SOLUTIONS

Providing **INTERVENTIONS** to improve students' reading ability by the end of third grade.

Providing **OPPORTUNITIES** for increased parent education and involvement.

Providing **BOOKS** through lending libraries, backpack and parent partnership programs.

Providing **POSITIVE ROLE MODELS** through relationships with mentors and staff members.

Providing **EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMMING** to young children and their parents/caregivers to enhance literacy development at home.

**ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS  
PROMOTE LITERACY DEVELOPMENT  
AND ENCOURAGE READING AS  
A WAY OF LIFE.**

“MAKING IT BETTER HAS DEDICATED ITSELF TO WORKING WITH KIDS ON DEVELOPING LITERACY, LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS, AND THE KINDS OF HABITS THEY NEED IN ORDER TO BE SUCCESSFUL.”

Dr. Rod Paige, Former U.S. Secretary of Education



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TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH LITERACY