

California Library Literacy Services Walk-A-Mile For Literacy

Member's Manual

Walk-A-Mile for Literacy



Bringing awareness to the challenges our low literacy families face in every day life. “If only people could experience a mile in the shoes of a person that struggles with low literacy.” This event is designed to do just that, give them an experience.

Dear AmeriCorps members and Site Supervisors,

AmeriCorps members and Site Supervisors requested Dorothy Rojas and Phyllis Perea (Hemet AmeriCorps members) put together a guide that could help members if they wanted to duplicate the Walk-A-Mile event at their site for their Day of Service. This is what we have attempted to do here.

The Walk-A-Mile event was created as a way to bring awareness to the challenges an adult with low-literacy skills faces on a day-to-day basis. We chose to have participants walk a mile route around downtown Hemet and visit different sites where someone who struggles with reading might face challenges. The businesses we encountered on the route were a restaurant, a hospital, a rental office, a pharmacy, a bank, the fire and police department, the United Way, and the Hemet Library. Your site may offer you more varied and challenging businesses to highlight.

This guide will give you an idea of some of the processes involved in planning a similar event. We will include sample fliers and forms that we used. It will also help you set up a timeline far in advance of the event to give you a head start on going to businesses for in-kind donations and opportunity drawing items, as well as sponsors for the event.

There are some start-up costs involved. We were fortunate to have many of the items donated such as printing, bags, balloons, water and food for our reception. You will have to find out what connections your committee has to help defray costs. The main cost was the printed t-shirt, but the registration fees the participants paid covered those costs.

This event generated good community interest with advertising in local newspapers and TV stations. It also generated awareness of the need of literacy programs in our community and the work that we do. This, of course, is our ultimate goal.

This is an overview of what we did the day of the event: Every registered walker picked up a t-shirt, an orange "read" bracelet (the bracelet was used to receive an opportunity drawing ticket at each site along the route) and a bag with the literacy program's information inserted inside, a map of the route and a bottle of water. They walked to 10 predetermined sites along the route. The walker would stop at each site and view a visual display of what it might be like for someone struggling with low literacy skills. Volunteers at the sites explained to the walkers what the display represented and gave them an opportunity drawing ticket. At the end of the walk, participants met at a reception area where they deposited their tickets for different prizes. We were fortunate to have many prizes donated so the walkers had a choice of putting their tickets in a fishbowl placed next to the prizes they were most interested in. We drew out tickets and gave out many GREAT items. **That, in a nutshell, is the walk!**

GO AMERICORPS!!

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Selecting your Route

1. Look for an area with different centralized businesses and community services. Consider an area that consists of a bank, a hospital, a pharmacy, a fire department, police department, library, restaurant, or any business that would challenge a learner's reading ability. You may also consider a community service such as United Way that would be perfect for your route.
2. Drive or walk the distance to assure that the route is no more than a mile or so in distance. We suggest walking it to make sure it is not too difficult for seniors. Walking will give you a sense of how long the walk will actually take. Wear sneakers 😊
3. As you walk, keep your sights on choosing businesses that may be a literacy challenge for learners. This will help bring awareness to the community of struggles learners may face daily.
4. Once your sites have been selected you should schedule an appointment to speak with a representative at the site that will be your contact. Take the Literacy Supporter letter to the contact as well as your business card and information on the literacy program. (See page 17)
5. Ask that person to attend the planning meetings. This person will be your liaison for that site and can also be the contact for possible in-kind donations and contributions.
6. Visit each site and to let your contact there know the planning and logistics involved with the event.
7. Make sure to have each site sign a "Host Site Agreement" (See page 19)

Planning Meetings

Your first planning meeting should be as early as you and your supervisor can arrange. Our first planning meeting was late March. This meeting, in itself, was a learning lesson -- a trial and error approach. We emailed an invitation to members from the library, the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses -- just to see who would attend. We called all invited on the day prior to the meeting to confirm their attendance. The agenda for the meeting was always prepared in advance and minutes were taken at each meeting. The first meeting was productive because:

1. We found what base of people were committed to help.
2. We set a time line for future meetings.
3. We created a Member Information Planning Committee Sheet with their contact information.
4. We discussed the type of event to be planned and got input from attendees on how to solicit help from the community and in what capacity they would be effective.
5. The decision was made to meet once a month until June, twice a month in June and July and weekly after that until the day of the event in September.

All tutors and learners were encouraged to be a part of the planning committee. Learners are an important part of the planning because they can give you the insight into the trials and challenges they face daily. They can contribute valuable suggestions on where to go to solicit for walk sites and other information that otherwise might be overlooked by readers.

During the meetings, items discussed were:

- Time line.
- A logo and design for t-shirts.
- Registration form was designed.
- Sponsorship forms and due dates.
- Balloons (and a possible vendor) to highlight sites.
- Levels of sponsorship and titles for each level.
- Amount of registration fees (\$10 for adults, \$5 for children).
- Security and safety issues - Asking the sheriff's Explorers group to help. Also notify the local ambulance company.
- Placing a banner across the main street in Hemet to promote the event. This included printing the banner and getting the proper permits (allow plenty of time for this).
- Have event placed on City Calendar.
- Possible water vendors -- to prevent dehydration.
- In order for a walker to receive a ticket at each site we needed to come up with a way for participants to show they were part of the Walk, so we came up with the idea to have walkers show the orange "Read" bracelet to get a ticket. We ordered these from Janway.
- Items needed at each site and who would be responsible.
- Designate one person whose sole responsibility is to take LOTS of pictures!

Site Displays

We designed a visual display to demonstrate what it might be like for someone struggling with low-literacy skills for each stop on the route. Example: We made a menu with the food words in an unreadable font. (See pages 29 & 30 for more examples)

<u>Menu</u>	
Πιζζα	\$3. 45
Ταχος	\$1. 75
Χοκε	\$1. 25
Φρενγη Φριεσ	\$2. 35

End of Walk Displays At Reception Area

At the end of the walk we displayed letters from learners that told their personal stories of their struggles with reading and writing. If you plan to do this, start early. Suggest to tutors that it could be a writing assignment to be done in a tutoring session. These letters were anonymous so learners would not be embarrassed to write their stories.

Our literacy program highlights a tutor and a learner each month, we also displayed these (with their permission).

We also had a “Thank You” board, listing all the donations for the opportunity drawing items as well as a list of all the people and/or organizations that volunteered to help make the day a success. (See page 28)

Make sure you start designing your displays as soon as you secure your sites. These are time consuming, but fun to design. Be creative. You might want to ask a learner to help you; they are the ones with the personal insight.

Other Things We Had At the Reception

While people waited for others to arrive, we showed the video “Adult Learner’s Perspective.”

We served pastries that were donated by a local coffee shop and fresh fruit. We had extra bottled water for walkers.

Soliciting In-kind Donations and Contributions

Soliciting contributions and in-kind donations can be an exciting thing to do. Your attitude will make you a success!

Businesses will want to know what's in it for them. Make sure to let them know that their business will be highlighted on either the t-shirt or on a "Thank You" board at the reception area (depending on the amount given). (See pages 22 and 28)

Remember these important things:

1. Keep an upbeat and positive attitude.
 - Your attitude and presentation to the literacy supporters is important in bringing in contributions.
 - Believe in what you are doing and project that to the supporters.
2. All literacy supporters can contribute, no matter how small the contribution is.
 - Business that offers services such as theaters, bookstores, hardware, bible, party, pet, grocery, craft, department stores, hair salons, restaurants, the dog pound (free spay and neuter coupons??), gyms, spas, etc. should be approached.
 - Leave no one out. The least expected business could be the one that gives the most. Consider every business in your town whether big or small.
3. As you do your daily shopping or running errands, look for opportunities for possible contributors. You never know when the inspiration for a great opportunity may strike!
4. When asking for a contribution, **Go for the Gold** (the highest level for the t-shirts) NOVEL!!
5. FOLLOW-UP, FOLLOW-UP, FOLLOW-UP ☺
 - Be consistent and follow up on all possible contributors.
 - Be persistent, but don't be a pest or overbearing.
6. Remember to give is to receive!

Volunteers for the Walk

Everyone in the community can be a volunteer for the Walk!! Consider your neighbors, your friends, your church, your co-workers, and children -- anyone that walks! ☺

Let everyone in your program (both tutors and learners) know that even if they are unable to walk that they will be able to help with the event by manning site tables or booths, or in any other capacity that may be needed. Other AmeriCorps members from a site that is close can also be a great help.

Consider contacting local sororities and scout troops.

The following places are areas that can be manned by non-walkers:

- The display tables at each site will need 2 volunteers. We created a sheet with site assignments to make sure everyone knew where they signed up to volunteer. (See page 27)
- These volunteers will show the display and give out opportunity drawing tickets.
- The registration tables on the day of the walk will need volunteers to register people, collect money, and give out the T-shirts.
- Volunteers will also be needed to drop off and pick up displays and tables at the sites. This is a good way husbands, sons, and/or brothers can help in the walk (strong arms!)
- Help setting up the food, tables, chairs, and opportunity prizes at the end-of-the-walk reception area is important.
- Have one person who will walk the route after everyone else has who will notify the site volunteers to pack up and be ready for pick up.
- Have one person with a truck that will drive the route after the last walker has finished who will pick up the tables, chairs, displays, etc.
- After the displays are picked up, the volunteers who manned the site are to go to the reception. They should be given 10 tickets that they can enter the drawings also.
- Volunteers will also be needed for clean up after the walk.

Selecting a T-Shirt Vendor

This in itself is not a difficult task but in order for you to make money for your program you must shop around and compare prices from at least four different vendors. The vendor will need an approximation of how many shirts will be needed so he can give you a set amount to work with.

The amount of shirts, of course, will be determined on how big or populated your site is and how well this is being received by the community. Once you have decided on a vendor and amount of shirts you need, make sure to do as follows:

1. Set an early date with the vendor to show your t-shirt design to assure that the design will fit on the shirt. The vendor should then give you a time and day when he can show you a sample. If all goes well, the vendor should then give you a final day all shirts will be delivered.
 - We chose levels of sponsorship to be: Novel - \$1000 and up, Chapter Book - \$500 to \$999, Primer Book - \$250 to \$499.
 - Novel, Chapter and Primer levels of contributions will have to be pledged before a set deadline to be listed on the shirt.
 - Last minute registrations and other emergencies might arise. Let vendor know you might have to adjust quantities ordered. Find out the cut-off date for changes.
2. Check on your vendor periodically to make sure he is on target with the colors, the design, and the date of delivery of the shirts.
3. Suggest to the vendor that if he gives you a discounted price and the amount is at least the amount of the primer level (\$250), he will be listed on the shirt. If the amount is less, he will still be acknowledged on the "Thank You" board at the reception.
4. Again, it is very important to check on your vendor periodically to see if he is on the same page with you on color, signage, logo, levels, etc.

Advertising the Walk

This the most important part!!! Advertise, Advertise, Advertise!!
ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE POSSIBLE. The success of the walk will depend on your ability to successfully get the word out to all the members of the community.

We suggest that you use your planning committee members as a starting point to get the word out. They will need fliers and information on the literacy program to go to their site and other personal connections.

Getting your information and fliers started as soon as you can is important. We were fortunate to have one of our planning committee members volunteer to have all our fliers printed. These forms and fliers will be available for you to view and print to use in the "Forms and Fliers" section. (See pages 15 - 27)

Suggested places to advertise are as follows:

- Library bulletin board
- Newspapers
- Radio and Television stations
- Library newsletters
- City calendars and websites
- Post fliers in as many business as possible
- Mobile home park offices
- Malls
- Word of mouth -- IMPORTANT
- All tutors and learners
- All community services, and their newsletters, United Way etc.
- The Chamber of Commerce
- If possible, a banner in the center of town.
- The local gyms
- Any other place that you think you might be able to get walkers.

When going to businesses, always remember to take your information letter to present to the manager. (See page 17)

Day Before the Walk

Okay, the big day is almost here!! You have prepared and should not be stressed or worried. Everything is ready, right? Well, there is ALWAYS Murphy's Law! Be ready for the unexpected. Inevitably there will be a no show or some sort of miscommunication. Have a plan "B"!

Things that should be ready:

- All shirts and "read" bracelets should be ready and sized in boxes the day before the walk.
- Bags with literacy information, maps and bottled water should be prepared. (See page 26 for map)
- All volunteers should know their site assignment. (See page 27)
- All Host Site Agreement confirmations should be signed and on your site supervisors desk. (See page 19)
- All registrations should be in and counted. Letters of confirmation should have been mailed out to registered walkers as soon as registration was received. (See page 18)
- All displays should be ready to go. Have the people who are manning the site pick up all displays and items such as tablecloths, tickets, etc. the day before if at all possible.
- Confirm balloon delivery.
- Volunteers should be instructed to meet at the Registration site to pick up their t-shirts, tickets and instructions at least one hour before the walk.
- As a courtesy, notify the local ambulance company again.

The Day of The Walk

- There should be a separate place at registration for last minute sign-ups.
- A separate table for people to turn in their personal sponsorship forms is helpful. (See page 20)
- We found that 2 tables with 2 people at each table worked best for registered walkers checking in. We split up the registrations so one table was for people with last names beginning with letters A through L and one table for people with last names beginning from M through Z. One person at each table checked the person off the list of registered names and the other person gave them the t-shirt, orange “Read” bracelet and the bag with literacy information, map and water.
- Make sure you are organized! People will try to grab bags/t-shirts, etc. without signing in. One challenge we had was people trying to exchange shirt sizes. Have extras of each size if you can.
- All displays, tables, chairs, tickets and balloons should be ready for the volunteers to take to their site to set up at least one hour before the walk if they were not picked up the day before.
- Food, drinks and any other displays should be delivered to the reception hall and set up as soon as the walk has started.
- Your plan “B.” Have alternate volunteers you may call on if someone does not show up. Keep a list of names and phone numbers handy. Think of all the possible scenarios of things to could possibly go wrong and have a contingency plan.

YOU ARE READY!!!

After the Walk

WOW, the Walk is over!! All your preparation and in one day it is over! Your Walk was a fantastic success and now you can reap the benefits of the Walk for your learners! We are confident you will have success because as we all know **volunteers come motivated!** There are still a few things that must be done:

- Your cleanup committee must clean up the reception hall.
- You and your site supervisor need to add up all donations all levels and in-kind donations to see the profit you have made and report back to your Library Director.
- Send out a Post Walk Questionnaire and a “Thank You” letter to all the registered walkers and ask their opinion of the walk. What problems did they have? How can we improve? Would they walk next year? (See page 24 and 25)
- Acknowledge the highest amount collected by one person from walker sponsorships with a gift certificate or something special.
- Send pictures of the Walk via e-mail to Susan Empizo, Carla Lehn and all AmeriCorps members!
- Contact all planning committee members for a “wrap-up” meeting and celebrate your accomplishment!

Supplies Needed for Walk

- Display boards
- Tables & chairs
- Orange “Read” Bracelets (purchased from Janway @ 55¢/each)
- T- Shirts
- Water (ours was donated)
- Balloons to tie to each site table (also donated)
- Bags (donated)
- Food for reception (donated)
- Orange tablecloths for site tables (Dollar Store) – We chose orange because this was our “theme” color
- Rolls of tickets (for opportunity drawing)
- Containers to place at each prize in reception hall (we used fish bowls, also donated)
- Reams of paper for printing flyers, registration forms etc. (our printing was donated)
- Literacy information to go inside the bags (fliers, pamphlets, etc.)
- Tape, scissors, markers, etc. are always needed

Walk-A-Mile for Literacy

Hosted by Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services, AmeriCorps and Hemet Adult Literacy Advocates



September 9, 2006

9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

ILLITERACY AFFECTS US ALL!!! Help support Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services as we "Walk-A-Mile for Literacy" to bring awareness of the challenges people face in every-day life.

You can be part of this important event by becoming a sponsor and/or donating a tax-deductible item(s) for the "opportunity drawing." "Walk-A-Mile for Literacy" t-shirts will be given to participants the day of the event. Sponsors will be listed on the shirts at different levels of sponsorship. Levels of sponsorship are: "Novel" Level \$1000 and up, "Chapter Book" Level \$500-\$999 and "Primer" Level \$250-\$499. Each level will be listed in different size font on the shirts. Sponsors who donate smaller amounts and/or items for the "opportunity drawing" will be listed on posters as "Literacy Supporters" at the wrap-up event.

For more information, call (951) 765-3744 or 765-3856 or email leastman@cityofhemet.org



Sponsorship Form:

Return by August 11, 2006 to Hemet Public Library, 300 E. Latham Ave., Hemet, CA 92543

-or-

Fax to (951) 765-3857

Yes, I want to support Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services' cause to help eliminate the adult illiteracy problem in our Valley.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____

I would like to have my sponsorship listed on the "Walk-A-Mile for Literacy" t-shirt. Enclosed is my (tax-deductible) check, made out to Hemet Adult Literacy Advocates in the amount of \$ _____

EIN# 20-2003221

Novel Level (\$1000 and up) Chapter Book Level (\$500—\$999) Primer Level (\$250-\$499)

I would like to sponsor this event by making a tax-deductible donation for \$ _____

I would like to sponsor this event by donating a tax-deductible item(s) for the "opportunity drawing." I will donate: _____

I will advertise your event at my place of business. Please send me promotional materials.

Please contact me, I would like to discuss other ways I can support your valuable program.

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ILLITERACY AFFECTS US ALL!!!

Join us as we “Walk-A-Mile for Literacy” to bring awareness of the challenges people face in every-day life.

Get your daily exercise while supporting a great cause!

- ◆ \$10 (tax deductible) registration fee for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12 includes a “Walk-A-Mile for Literacy” t-shirt. Late registrations will be accepted the day of the event for \$15.
- ◆ Participants will walk a predetermined (approximate) 1-mile route around downtown Hemet, receiving tickets along the route for an “opportunity drawing” for **great prizes!**
- ◆ The walk will start at Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services building located at 315 E. Latham Ave. and end at the Simpson Center located at 305 E. Devonshire Ave.

For more information, call (951)765-3856



Registration Form:

Return by August 28, 2006 to Hemet Public Library, 300 E. Latham Ave., Hemet, CA 92543

___ **Yes**, I want to walk to support Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Service’s cause to help eliminate the adult illiteracy problem in our Valley.

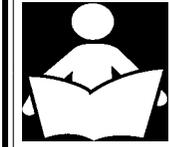
Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Shirt Size: Adult Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___
Child Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___

Enclosed is my check, made out to H.A.L.A. in the amount of \$_____ (\$10/adult, \$5/child 5-12)
(Hemet Adult Literacy Advocates) EIN# 20-2003221

___ **Sorry**, I will not be able to join you. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation for \$ _____



Hemet Public Library
Adult Literacy Services



July 10, 2006

RE: Walk-A-Mile For Literacy

Dear Literacy Supporter,

John B. of Hemet, California, can't read signs, newspapers, or maps. He cannot read job want ads or fill out applications by himself. He has little knowledge of public issues and has never voted.

John B. is not alone, nearly one in five adult residents of the San Jacinto Valley are unable to read or write well enough to function easily in everyday living and working. They are functionally illiterate.

To bring awareness of how low-literacy skills impacts everyone in the community, Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services is hosting a "Walk-A-Mile For Literacy" event on September 9th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Participants (called "walkers") will walk a predetermined route (approximately 1 mile) around downtown Hemet, stopping at designated businesses. Each walker will receive a t-shirt with an "Illiteracy Affects Us All" logo on the front and a list of sponsors on the back. Tables at each site will be set up with a display of how a person struggling with low-literacy skills might be challenged at that place of business. Walkers will collect a ticket at each stop that will be deposited at the end of the route for an "opportunity drawing."

You can be part of this important event by becoming a sponsor and/or donating a tax-deductible item(s) for the "opportunity drawing." Businesses can be listed on the t-shirt at different levels of sponsorship. Levels of sponsorship are: "Novel" Level \$1000 and up, "Chapter Book" Level \$500-\$999 and "Primer" Level \$250-\$499. Each level will be listed in different size font on the shirts. Sponsors who donate smaller amounts and/or items for the "opportunity drawing" will be listed on posters as "Literacy Supporters" at the wrap-up event.

Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services addresses the needs of functionally illiterate adults in our community by providing one-on-one and small group tutoring free of charge. Participants with pre-school- age children benefit from our Families for Literacy program by learning the importance of reading to their children. This year our program celebrates 21 years of service to Valley residents.

For more information, please call the Adult Literacy Program at (951) 765-3744 or email to LibrTmp4@cityofhemet.org. Thank you for your consideration and support.

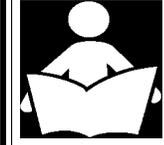
Sincerely,

Phyllis Perea
Dorothy Rojas
AmeriCorps members



300 E. Latham Ave.
Hemet, CA 92543
Phone # (951) 765-3856 Fax # (951) 765-3857





Hemet Public Library
Adult Literacy Services



“Walk-A-Mile for Literacy”

CONFIRMATION LETTER

Dear _____

This letter is to confirm your registration for the “Walk-A-Mile for Literacy” event. We thank you for your participation and hope it will be fun and enlightening. Bring sunscreen; wear comfortable clothes and your walking shoes! Enjoy your morning walk and check out some of the businesses that you might not be familiar with in downtown Hemet. Just remember, you need to be at the Simpson Center by 10:30 a.m. to be included in the drawing for great prizes!

We ask all participants of the walk to sign in at the Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services building, located across from the Library at 315 E. Latham Ave., at 9:00 a.m. on September 9th. You will receive your t-shirt, a “READ” wristband (which you will show to designated stops along the route for the chance to win great prizes at the end of the walk), a bottle of water, a bag to hold informational items, and a map of the route.

The purpose of the event is to 1.) Bring awareness to the community of the struggles that adults with low-literacy skills deal with on a daily basis by “walking a mile in *their* shoes” and 2.) To spotlight the great works that Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services has done to help individuals improve the quality of their life—and therefore the quality of the whole community—through better literacy skills.

Also, enclosed is a “Sponsor a Walker” form. This form is for your family, friends, or neighbors who are unable to walk the day of the event but would still like to make a (tax-deductible) contribution to the Literacy Program. Please bring the form with collected donations to the Literacy Center the day of the event or sooner. **All contributions need to be delivered to the Literacy Center no later than September 14, 2006.**

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile event.

Sincerely,

Lori Eastman
 Literacy Coordinator



300 E. Latham Ave.
 Hemet, CA 92543
 Phone # (951) 765-3856 Fax # (951) 765-3857
 leastman@cityofhemet.org



Walk-A-Mile for Literacy

Hosted by Hemet Public Library Adult
Literacy Services, AmeriCorps and
Hemet Adult Literacy Advocates



Host Site Agreement:

_____ agrees to host a table at the
Business Name _____

“Walk-A-Mile for Literacy” event scheduled for September 9, 2006 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The purpose of the event is to bring awareness to the community of the struggles that adults with low-literacy skills face on a daily basis and to promote the services of Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services.

Host site responsibilities:

1. Display “Walk-A-Mile for Literacy” fliers and registration forms prior to event.
2. Be open to the public during event hours (September 9, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.).
3. Display “literacy awareness” materials during event.

_____ I will supply a table and chairs at my site.

_____ I am not able to supply a table and chairs at my site.

_____ I will supply a staff member(s) to help at table.

_____ I am unable to supply a staff member to help at table.

Signed: _____ Phone # _____
Name and Title

Address of Site: _____

Thank you for supporting this important event!

Mark Your Calendars!

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Get your daily exercise while supporting a great cause!

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- ◆ Participants will walk a predetermined (approximate) 1-mile route around downtown Hemet, receiving tickets along the route for an “opportunity drawing” for **great prizes!**
- ◆ The walk will start at Hemet Public Library Adult Literacy Services building located at 315 E. Latham Ave. and end at the Simpson Center located at 305 E. Devonshire Ave.
- ◆ Registration forms available at Hemet Public Library.

EIN# 20-2003221

For more information, call (951)765-3856

Front



Back



Walk-A-Mile for Literacy

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Literacy Services, AmeriCorps and
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_____ I will supply a table and chairs at my site.

_____ I am not able to supply a table and chairs at my site.

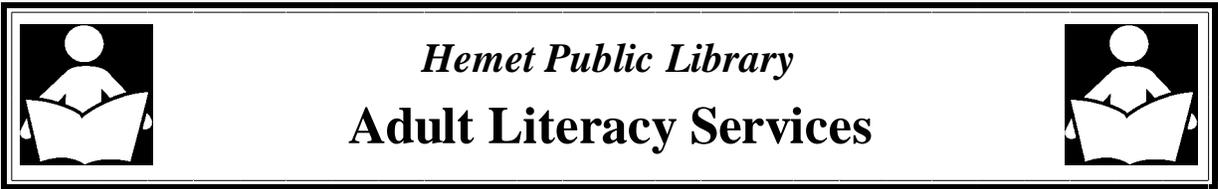
_____ I will supply a staff member(s) to help at table.

_____ I am unable to supply a staff member to help at table.

Signed: _____ Phone # _____
Name and Title

Address of Site: _____

Thank you for supporting this important event!



September 12, 2006

Dear Literacy Supporter,

Thank you for attending our first annual "Walk-A-Mile for Literacy" event. We hope you had a great time and have a better understanding of the importance of our Literacy Program.

Enclosed is a questionnaire we hope you will take the time to fill out. Your answers will help us to make next year's event even better than this year. You can drop the questionnaire off at the Literacy Program office, at the Hemet Library or mail it to us.

The Literacy Program will be hosting an "Open House" at the Literacy Center on September 22, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We hope you will stop by and see our facility. Literacy staff will be available to answer any questions about the program.

If you, or someone you know, would like more information about becoming a tutor or learner, please call us at (951) 765-3856.

Sincerely,

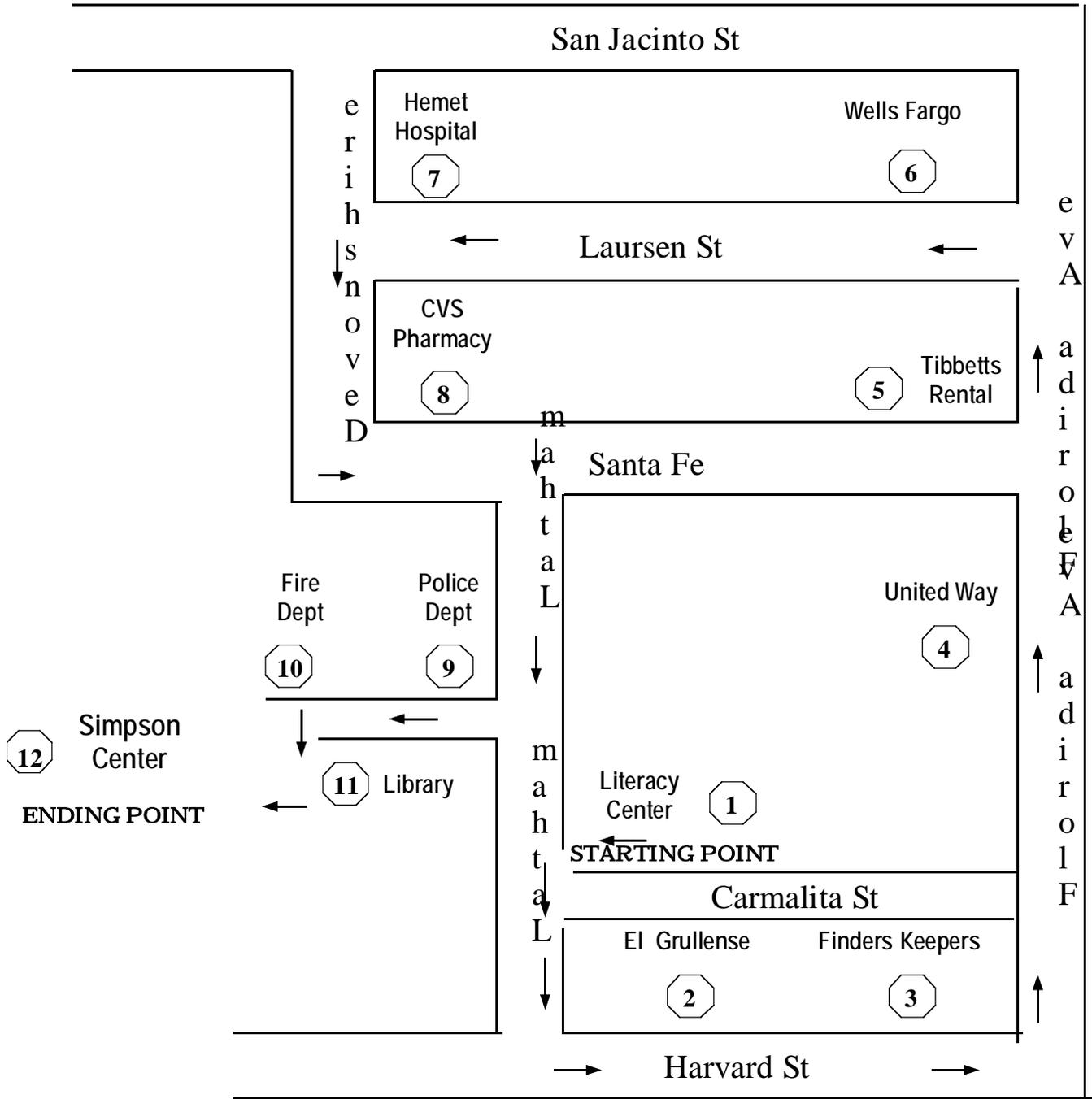
Lori Eastman
Literacy Coordinator



300 E. Latham Ave.
Hemet, CA 92543
Phone # (951) 765-3856 Fax # (951) 765-3857
leastman@cityofhemet.org



Walk - A - Mile for Literacy Map



Stops along the route:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Literacy Center | 7. Hemet Valley Hospital |
| 2. El Grullense Restaurant | 8. CVS Pharmacy |
| 3. Finders Keepers | 9. Police Department |
| 4. United Way | 10. Fire Department |
| 5. Tibbetts Rental | 11. Hemet Public Library |
| 6. Wells Fargo | 12. Simpson Center |

List of Booth Assignments

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>El Grullense</u></p> <p>1. Lea Ashworth</p> <p>2. Janet Wilson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Finders Keepers</u></p> <p>1. Margi Kasai</p> <p>2. Deborah Douglas</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>United Way</u></p> <p>1. Kathi</p> <p>2. Mary</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tibbetts Rentals</u></p> <p>1. Esther Barnes</p> <p>2. Meghan Kennedy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wells Fargo</u></p> <p>1. Hal Spangenberg</p> <p>2. Ann Sanchez</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hemet Valley Hospital</u></p> <p>1. Dan Lueras</p> <p>2. Janice Young</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CVS Pharmacy</u></p> <p>1. Elizabeth Calvert</p> <p>2. Elfrieda Calvert</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Police Department</u></p> <p>1. Freda Perry</p> <p>2. Barbara Hisse</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Fire Dept</u></p> <p>1. Bev Dorland</p> <p>2. Carol Stahr</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Library</u></p> <p>1. Shirlee Cooperstein</p> <p>2. Ingrid Stirdivant</p>

Thank You Board

The Literacy Program would like to thank the following "Literacy Supporters" for their generous contributions for the opportunity drawings:

- Arturo's Grill
- Quinn's Automotive
- Regal Theatre Group
- Maria "D" Hair Designs
- Phyllis Perea, AmeriCorps member
- Cameron Books
- Mulligan's
- Legoland
- KZSW Television Inc.
- Robert Kristen, Tutor
- Floral Expressions
- Henry's Market
- Jo Books

- El Grullense Restaurant
- Coco's Restaurant
- Denny's Restaurant
- Polly's Restaurant
- Marie Callender's Restaurant
- Chuck E Cheese
- KidZone Youth Museum
- Chick-Bi-A
- Dick's TV
- Metropolitan Water District
- Rabobank
- Econo Lube 'N Tune
- Hemet Stationers
- Sam's Donut Shop
- Bodyworks By CJ
- Hometown Buffet
- Ramona Animal Shelter
- Western Center For Archaeology & Paleontology

Also, thank you to Henry's Market, Olivera's Coffee & Juice Bar, KWIE FM 96.1, Aamco Transmission, Party Tyme, Hemet Auto Upholstery, Jester's Hearing Aid Center, Dorothy Rojas, & Hai Quality Graphics.

The Literacy Program would also like to thank the "Walk-A-Mile for Literacy" committee for all their hard work and dedication to help make this event a great success!

- Joann's Home Decor
- Mary Davis, Foster Grandparent/United Way
- Kabe Dinko, KVVU Channel 3
- Ann Sanchez, Wells Fargo
- Barbara Smith, AmeriCorps/United Way
- Cathy Farrant, Golden Era Productions
- Steve Puffer, Chamber of Commerce
- Janet Hester, Chamber of Commerce
- Cindy Olson, Hemet Valley Medical Center
- Karna Roberts, Hemet Valley Medical Center
- Shirley Robinson, United Way
- Gene Dierker, City of Hemet
- Mary Kay, Hemet Valley Adult Literacy Advocate
- Brenda Matthews, York House Adult Learning Advocate
- Elizabeth Calvert, York House Adult Learning Advocate
- Robert Thomas, York House Adult Learning Advocate
- Gloria Potts, Learner

Hospital Site Display

Going to the hospital is scary enough as it is, but for those adults struggling with reading, there is another level of anxiety. There are many papers that need to be filled out about one's health. If the doctor/hospital does not know about the full health history of the patient, serious risks can occur.

What if you were struggling with low-literacy skills and asked someone at the hospital where to go for x-rays and the person said:

“Just follow the signs.”

?

- ◆ Admitting
- ◆ Maternity
- ◆ Podiatry
- ◆ X-ray
- ◆ Emergency
- ◆ Psychiatry
- ◆ Nursing Station
- ◆ Pediatrics
- ◆ Rehabilitation
- ◆ Blood Work
- ◆ Waiting Room
- ◆ Surgery

“Please fill out this medical form and the doctor will see you soon.”



Pharmacy Site Display



Can you imagine what it might be like if you were given this prescription for your child? How much would you give him? How often?

If you were struggling with low-literacy skills, the words on the prescription bottle might as well be in another language.



Today's health care system relies heavily on health education and promotion for maintaining and improving the overall health of the United States population. This is primarily accomplished by the distribution of printed materials. These materials are usually written at a tenth grade or higher level of education.



Adults with low-literacy skills may have trouble reading instructions given to them from their doctor. One adult learner said her motivating factor to learn to read came when she had to care for her ill husband. She had relied on him to do all the reading for her in the past, now he was relying on her.



Health Care professionals and HMO's are beginning to recognize the significance between literacy levels and health status. Evidence suggests that low literacy, poor health, and early death rates are relentlessly linked.