

Rachel Brusstar

Contact Information for Rachel Brusstar:

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Are you currently a member/involved with other non-profit organizations? If Yes, please list them below:

- Yes, Tutoring Chicago (Literacy Intensive Tutoring)

What volunteer experience do you have?

- I have been involved in multiple volunteer opportunities, since my earliest years in school. Currently, I tutor in the Tutoring Chicago Literacy Intensive Tutoring (LIT) program, which works with children who are struggling with reading and writing in school (typically at least one or two grades behind). In the LIT program, I work with a second-grade student each week to improve her reading and writing levels, by practicing phonics, sight words, and reading and writing exercises. While the tutoring just ended for the school year, it is my second year with the program, and I plan to return to the program in the fall. During my time at the University of Michigan, I held a leadership position with the WeRead program, where I worked with an elementary-school class in Detroit each week, to improve their writing skills. Throughout the year, we helped the children to write their own stories (on the subject of their choice), and, at the end of the year, we published a book that was a compilation of the stories. Both of these opportunities were incredibly rewarding, as I was able to see the children's confidence levels grow, as they found their voices in reading and writing.

What contributions would you make as an Associate Board Member for Dreams for Kids?

- I strongly believe in the mission of Dreams for Kids, and I understand the importance of fulfilling commitments, so I would make my Associate Board member duties a top priority. In addition to fulfilling my time commitment to meetings and events, I have a strong background in editing, writing, marketing, and volunteering. I would use my skill set to help in whatever capacity possible, to ensure that the Associate Board successfully met the mission of the organization. I believe that my prior experiences, including my work with Tutoring Chicago, will provide value to the Dreams for Kids Associate Board.

Why are you interested in serving as a member for the Dreams for Kids Associate Board?

- Dreams for Kids seems to be an organization where volunteers not only impact the lives of children, but also provide the children with the tools to continue to transform their own lives. When I first learned about the opportunity to apply for a position on the Dreams for Kids Associate Board, I was excited about the possibility of becoming a part of the organization, and I felt that it aligned well with my previous volunteer experiences and interests. The mission of Dreams for Kids is truly inspiring, and I would be honored to be a part of the Dreams for Kids Associate Board.