



## ***Sharkey's Charity Ball 2010...A Casual Fundraising Event with a Caribbean Feel!***

Our friends at the Dayton Marriott Hotel have created a first of a kind fundraiser for literacy-based organizations. Project READ, the Dayton Metro Library, and Kettering School's Office of Community Literacy Programs will be the recipients of proceeds from the first Sharkey's Charity Ball 2010!

**Mark your calendars for Friday, March 5th.** Ticket holders will enjoy an evening with a "Caribbean feel" (Sharkey's indoors!) feast on a large selection of heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts, and dance the night away to the sounds of High Impedance and Velvet Crush. There will be door prizes, a raffle and more surprises. Dan Edwards, of Edwards Entertainment and WDTN will liven up the festivities as our DJ for the evening.

Tickets are \$50 (\$30 is tax deductible) and include all of the above and two drink tickets, and you'll be supporting literacy activities as well! Marriott is also offering a great overnight package deal for those interested in spending the night (marriott.com). For more information and tickets please call Becky (937) 512-3104, Mark (937) 496-8580 or Cindy (937) 499-1450.

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*Project READ is a partner agency of the United Way of Greater Dayton.*



# Sharkey's Charity Ball 2010

Dayton Marriott Hotel  
Grand Ballroom

Supporting these community literacy organizations:

Dayton Metro Library

Kettering School's Community Literacy Programs

Project READ

*Experience Sharkey's indoors with a Caribbean feel!*

## Friday, March 5, 2010

**Featuring:**

**High Impedance 7:00 - 9:00 pm**  
**Velvet Crush 9:30 - 11:30 pm**  
**DJ Dan Edwards of Edwards Entertainment**

**\$50.00 per person (\$30 tax deductible)**

(Includes Entertainment, Door Prizes, 2 Complimentary Drink Coupons and Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres with a Caribbean Flare)

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Tickets available at the door  
For advance tickets & information call:  
Becky, Project READ 937.512.3104  
Mark, Dayton Metro Library 937.496.8580

Must be 21 years of age and older for admission.

Shake off the winter blues Sharkey's style and support community literacy!

Special Room Package Rates available at [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)



## *Literacy\*AmeriCorps Dayton*

Our 10 Literacy\*AmeriCorps members have reached their half-way point of service. The majority of their time is spent tutoring and teaching, but they have managed to fit some service projects in as well. Since September, L\*AC members have participated in book sorting & distribution projects with our partner Look at a Book. Members have also volunteered at the Super Mentor Saturday, an event for the Suicide Prevention Center, at Habitat for Humanity as part of Make A Difference Day, at the Dakota Center helping with the Homework Club, at the early childhood event Voyage on the Parkway, and as the primary volunteers for the Books & Co. 2010 Poster Auction for Literacy Programs. These folks have been busy!

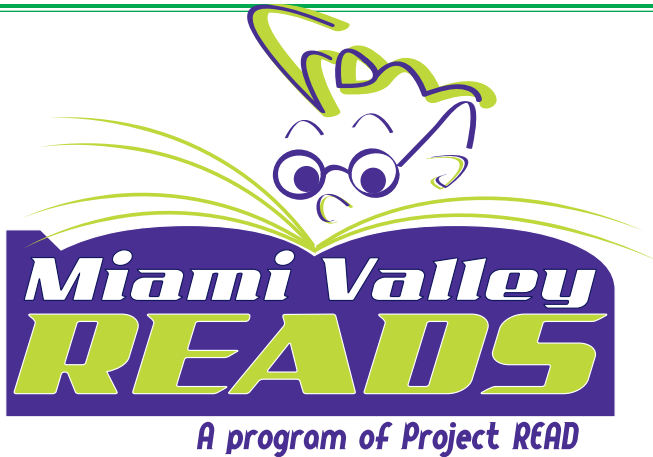
The L\*AC members and program coordinator will head to Pittsburgh at the end of February for the National Literacy\*AmeriCorps Conference where six other L\*AC programs from across the country will participate in three days of professional development and service. Over 125 L\*AC service members will have a chance to meet at the conference.

## *My Literacy\*AmeriCorps Service with Project READ*

~Jackie Avnaim

As the Literacy\*AmeriCorps member for Project READ I have the pleasure of taking part in several different community outreach activities. One role that keeps me busy is distributing donated books out into the community through schools, community events, and other youth programs. I get to see hundreds of books go out monthly! Included in my service is the task of co-teaching a beginning ESOL class with a fellow Literacy\*AmeriCorps member throughout the week as well as tutoring some of those English students one-on-one. There is nothing like sharing the gift of reading and language with others!





The Miami Valley READS program is in full swing! The program is in its second semester of the school year and currently has 300 volunteer literacy tutors serving in 65 schools and tutoring programs in the Greater Dayton Area. We want to say thank you to all those volunteers, schools, and community partners that continue to make this program a success. Your dedication and commitment to raising a community of young readers is amazing.

We are still recruiting Miami Valley READS tutors for the spring. So many children benefit from this program. Give us a call and we'll tell you how you can help!

### **RTA Bus Ads**

Have you seen Project READ's GED recruitment ads while riding the bus? Thanks to a special gift from RTA, interior bus ads have been on board 30 of RTA's fleet since mid December. Due to the ads, we've been able to connect a number of students to free GED classes in the community.

Thank You RTA. We are truly grateful for your help and support!

# Get your GED

**learn about other FREE classes & volunteer opportunities**



**Call Today! Project READ  
Helpline (937) 461-7323**



## **A Letter from the Executive Director**

Hope everyone is staying dry and warm in all our snowy weather these past few days. We have been busy here at Project READ with our Celebrity Poster Auction, book distributions, and referrals for students.

Project READ is continuing to receive a record number of calls from people trying to find GED classes. Our total number of referrals last year was 959. We have made 1,452 referrals in the first seven months of this year! Our coalition members' classes are filling up, but there is still room for more. If you know of anyone who needs their GED, please give them our number.

Fortunately, we have a college work-study student who joined our staff in December. LaToya has done a great job of answering the phone, entering information into the database, and sending postcards to remind students of what classes were recommended for them. She is a pleasant, cheerful addition to our office.

We would like to thank Holy Angels School in Dayton for selecting Project READ as one of two recipients of their Mission Day event. The student council also conducted a book drive for us—THANKS!

We just received a check from Dorothy Lane Market for our share of their Good Neighbor Program from last year. Please consider enrolling in this program. During your next visit to Dorothy Lane Market just ask for an enrollment form, which is very simple, and designate Project READ as your organization. We will receive a percentage of the \$40,000 that Dorothy Lane Market plans to donate in 2010.

Come and join us for a night of casual dining and dancing at the first Sharkey's Charity Ball. Project READ is one of the non-profits splitting the proceeds of ticket sales. Tickets are \$50, with \$30 going to charity and eligible for a tax deduction. Get the details in this newsletter.

As always, a huge thank you to all of you supporting Project READ with referrals, book donations, and monetary contributions. Everything you do is greatly appreciated!