

826MICHIGAN

2017



FUELING THE FUTURE

At **826michigan**, we believe writing is a process of **discovery** and **engagement**, an action that **connects** us to the world, a means to further personal **understanding**, and a tool to access **power** and build a **better world**.



Photo: Doug Coombe

Dear friends,

At 4:30PM every afternoon, our tutoring students take a break from homework assignments and gather at the table where we put each day's healthy snack: tomatoes and cheese sticks; hummus and pretzels; the kinds of things to fuel a person through an afternoon lull.

Partner businesses and restaurants make this small but important nourishment break possible, and our tutors see an immediate cause and effect from this contribution.

826michigan's school-aged students—all 3,000+ of them—use the fuel we offer in our programs and do astounding things. As you surely know, it goes well beyond cheese sticks. At no cost to students, parents, or schools, 826michigan staff and volunteers provide unmatched opportunities and support:

Madison wrote and edited a memoir about the empowerment of singing with personalized guidance.

Eugene attends a Wednesday evening youth writing group at a public library branch in Detroit's Redford neighborhood.

Shane works on sixth grade homework with a tutor every afternoon, then switches to creative writing once his math assignments are complete.

Ja'Niya's original essay about teaching her cousin to read was published in 826michigan's eighth annual *OMNIBUS*.

Your donations provide essential fuel—of volunteer tutors' attention, paper and supplies, writing inspiration, creative and safe spaces to work, publishing opportunities, individualized classroom support and more. At 826michigan we believe writing is a process of discovery and engagement, an action that connects us to the world, a means to further personal understanding, and a tool to access power and build a better world.

When you donate to 826michigan, you contribute to this better world. You fuel the future.

I'm writing today to invite you to join me in making a contribution to 826michigan this year end in honor of not just what we've done this year—as you'll see in the pages that follow—but more importantly in support of all that our students will do with our help in 2018 and beyond.

With gratitude,

Kana Osaki-Greenawalt

President,
Board of Directors





**826michigan worked with students
from 109 schools (public and charter) in
Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti, and supported
108 teachers both in and out of
their classrooms.**



“The experience that I had was actually having the opportunity to hear her creativity, and to know that she can actually be creative and put it down on paper.”

Roderick Jenkins, parent



“I give to 826michigan—and always will—because I have huge confidence that my contribution will make a powerful difference and that every dollar will be used efficiently.”

Amanda Uhle, Executive Director Emeritus

“I have taught most of these students for two—if not three—years and they always impress me with the powerful stories that they tell. It takes hard work to dig inside of yourself, reflect, and turn those experiences and thoughts into engaging texts. These students prove that they can ... these writers show us parts of Detroit, parts of themselves, and parts of what it means to be young.”

**Shannon Waite, teacher
Benjamin Carson High School
of Science and Medicine**



517 caring volunteers
from the community contributed an astounding
16,390 hours as tutors, robot store shift workers,
copy editors, graphic designers,
and more!





3,265 students ages 6 to 18 participated in **826michigan** programs in schools, community centers, and at our tutoring labs in **3 cities**.

“I really enjoy helping students with their homework and like being a part of an organization that helps support my community and especially its student, parents, and teachers!”

After-School Tutoring Volunteer



Madalyn is going to a new school today. The name of the school is Estabrook. She is fun, funny, and caring, and she helps me with my homework. Her superpowers are snow and ice, lava, and invisibility. She even has a heart.

“Robots Go to School” by Sidney Putala, Age 7



We published **116 books filled with original student writing, including two professionally-bound books, *A Moment to Remember* and *OMNIBUS VIII*, the coloring book *Surveyors of Space*, and approximately **826 original stories.****

