

# Common Place Family Learning Center



## Common Place Family Learning Center

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**Facebook:** Common Place Family Learning Center

### Executive Director

Pamela Rumba

### Director of Adult Programs

Patricia Moten

### Academic Organizational Advisor

Betsy Bladel

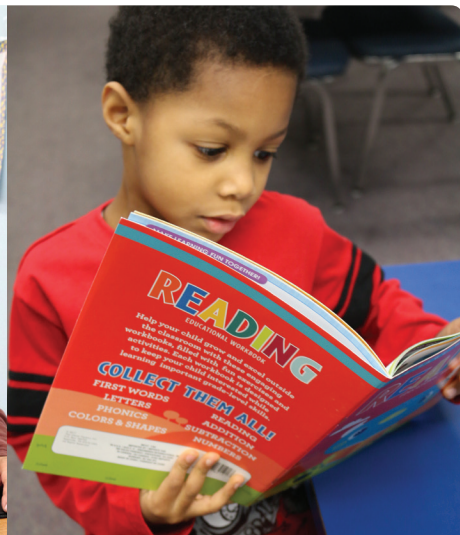
## Mission

To embrace diversity and improve lives through education and family support.

## Vision

To provide programs and services leading to a strong, caring community where all people are valued and have every opportunity to succeed. Core Values: Commitment, Compassion, Integrity, Lifelong Learning and Respect.

For further information or to become involved as a donor or volunteer, please email [pamela.rumba@commonplacepeoria.org](mailto:pamela.rumba@commonplacepeoria.org) or [patricia.moten@commonplacepeoria.org](mailto:patricia.moten@commonplacepeoria.org).



For over 50 years, Common Place Family Learning Center has been an “anchor” in South Side Peoria, promoting academic success and supporting individuals and families by advancing literacy. Common Place provides educational instruction for all ages, adult literacy, GED education, preparation for junior college entrance testing, after-school youth academic support, grade level tutoring, and summer educational and activity programs.

Our *Next Steps* initiative, described by graduates as “life-changing,” is a 12-week program leading to further education and employment opportunities. In fact, *Next Steps* helps provide preparation for a new job seekers initiative, *Jobs For Life*, which begins in early Fall 2018.

Recognizing that good health contributes to academic success, Common Place provides a weekly food pantry which strives to meet unique dietary needs and provide healthy meals, focusing on fresh produce options. Common Place provides trained community volunteers, educators, and diverse opportunities for outreach and service. The one-city/one-book annual project *The Big Read: Peoria Reads!!* is a 16-year collaboration of Common Place and the Peoria Public Library.

At Common Place, LITERACY is the heart of our mission to eliminate poverty through education.

## How to Help

**Volunteer:** Common Place relies heavily on volunteer educators, adult tutors and classroom teachers. Tutor training for our adult academic program is provided quarterly. Volunteers are also needed in our pantry, summer/school youth programs and facility support.

**Share:** Generous financial giving from our community has sustained Common Place programs for over 50 years. As Common Place embarks on the next 50 years of advancing literacy in our community, individual and corporate giving is essential to our mission.

**Recruit:** Encourage new volunteers. Engage your organization or group to gather non-perishable food items or paper goods for our food pantry, adopt a classroom, or contribute tickets enabling adults and youth to engage in community events or activities.

## Signature Events

### Love in Action Award Reception

September 6, 2018

The Warehouse on State, Peoria  
Honoring Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth  
and Mr. Derrick Booth

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