



MICHIGAN BUSINESS

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GIVING BACK

Farbman Group aids Detroit students in reading, writing

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TODAY'S SUBJECT: Farbman Group, a full-service real estate company headquartered in Southfield.



THE CAUSE: Beyond Basics provides reading, writing and enrichment programs to students. The organization has more than 1,000 volunteers and runs programs in four Detroit public schools. The nonprofit operates in-school publishing centers where students can write, edit and publish their own books with the help of a volunteer.

Farbman Group is an original sponsor of the organization. In 2009, Farbman Group donated \$60,000 to the program, and employees volunteered at Jamieson Elementary, a Beyond Basics school in Detroit. David Farbman, president of Farbman Group, is on the board of directors for Beyond Basics and has worked to improve a park near Jamieson Elementary. Burt Farbman, chairman of Farbman Group, also has been involved in the organization since the start by working with children in school and serving as a mentor.

BACKGROUND: David and Burt Farbman understand the importance of giving back and have inspired their employees to give back as well. In 2009, Farbman Group donated more than \$100,000 and offered more than 1,000 hours of service to charities.

RESULTS: Thanks to volunteers like those from the Farbman Group, 95% of students who participated in the Beyond Basics reading tutoring program made advancements in their grade level reading and 77% advanced to a grade-appropriate reading level or

higher. Beyond Basics was also able to publish 5,000 books written by metro Detroit children during the 2008-09 school year.

"Beyond Basics is what it is today and has helped thousands of children during the years thanks to the Farbman's dedication and generous support," said Pamela Good, Beyond Basics executive director.

ON GIVING: "Life-changing programs like Beyond Basics rely heavily on community support," said David Farbman. "Our employees have thoroughly enjoyed building positive relationships with children while helping them improve in school."

INFORMATION: For information about Beyond Basics, go to www.beyondbasics.org. To learn more about Farbman Group, go to www.farbman.com.

Giving Back recognizes philanthropy and volunteerism in the Michigan business community. To nominate your company, boss, colleague or employee, e-mail Randy Essex, ressex@freepress.com.