

CITY YEAR MILWAUKEE

ROGERS STREET ACADEMY

Quarterly Newsletter



MILWAUKEE

Hello Lovely Readers!

Welcome to our new quarterly newsletter! My name is Jess Santos Valadez, and I'm the proud Team Leader at Rogers Street Academy.

Each quarter, I'll share school highlights, celebrate our AmeriCorps members, and spotlight moments of joy, growth, and impact. To kick things off, here's a quick update on what we've been up to and who makes up our FY26 RSA team.

In September, we settled into our space and we are now thrilled to be fully moved in. Our team is serving across 3rd–8th grade classrooms and supporting the Boys & Girls Club after school. Matthew and Kam even launched a chess club!

We've embraced the strong culture and spirit of RSA and are excited for what's ahead.

You can expect these newsletters quarterly, and I hope they help you feel connected to our team and community.



Jess Santos,
Team Leader at Rogers Street Academy

In this newsletter you can expect:

Meet the Team

Student Spotlight

Partner Spotlight

Progress to Goals

How to Apply

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MEET THE TEAM!

Get to know the incredible AmeriCorps members serving at Rogers Street Academy! Our team shared Why I Serve Statements so you can get to know us better.

ELIA

Impact Manager

Why I Serve: I believe that every student deserves equitable access to education and that all students should have at least one adult in school that they trust. I hope to inspire my corps members to show up as their best selves for our school communities.

KAM

Second-Year
AmeriCorps Member

Why I Serve: I serve because I believe in the power of young people, and I believe with the right guidance and support they can do great things.

MATTHEW

First-Year
AmeriCorps Member

Why I Serve: I serve because I believe in the power of our youth. Our future leaders deserve our time and effort now.

ANA

First-Year
AmeriCorps Member

Why I Serve: I'm inspired to serve because I grew up with powerful educators who believed in me and I see the intelligence and creativity that our students have to give to the world!

SHAWN

First-Year
AmeriCorps Member

Why I Serve: I am inspired to serve because I wish to make students feel welcomed and safe while also making learning more fun! I believe students deserve to feel like they belong and they can feel safe within their classroom, I believe advocating for students when no one else can is a big priority.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Each quarter, we'll feature one student from our school community. We will share their story in a way that highlights their growth, leadership, or unique contributions. The following is brought to us by Rogers Street Academy's First-Year AmeriCorps member, Matthew!

My student, *JV, has shown tremendous growth over the first two months of the school year. He used to never participate during math class. I started sitting down with him during math lecture and work time to help him understand the material being taught. He quickly gained the confidence to answer questions in front of the class and write his answers up on the board. Afterwards he told me, "I can feel myself getting smarter! It's because of you!" I am incredibly proud of *JV's growth this year, and I'm excited to see how the rest of the year unfolds for him.

**Pseudonym used to protect student identity*



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

I want to spotlight Mrs. Ibarra, the fifth-grade bilingual teacher at RSA and my partner teacher during my first year of service. She strikes the perfect balance of warmth and structure, creating a classroom where students feel cared for and challenged.

Mrs. Ibarra is deeply committed to her students' academic growth. She's always open to new strategies and values collaboration. As a first-year corps member, I appreciated how intentionally she paired me with students each day, helping us make the greatest impact together.

Working with her was an incredibly meaningful experience, and I'm grateful for all I learned from her student-centered approach.

-Second-Year AmeriCorps member,
Kam

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CURRENT EVENTS



- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- College, Career, and Graduate Fair at Marquette
- Unity Rally
- CLC Programming

PROGRESS TO GOALS

This year, we have 27 Focus List students whom our first-year Corps members will meet with weekly for 60 minutes.

Our Math Focus Lists include 11 students, and our ELA Focus Lists include 16 students—all in 5th, 7th, and 8th grade classrooms.

As a team, our goal is for every Corps member who logs weekly data to consistently reach the full 60 minutes of intervention time with their Focus List students. We're excited to bring you along on this journey.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested in serving with City Year Milwaukee? Applications for our next corps are open now at www.cityyear.org.

If you know a young person who may be a great fit, please connect them with our Community Partnerships Manager, Ysel, for more information and support.



GET CONNECTED!

Scan this QR code to connect directly with the City Year Milwaukee site for recruitment opportunities, upcoming events, and ways to get involved!

