

## PhiLAnthropist: Read to Kids This Weekend

*Photo by ~db~ via the [LAist Featured Photos pool](#) on Flickr. Dec 10, 2008*

The loss of 1.25 million jobs (yeah, 1,250,000!) in the last three months clearly has an impact on the demand (and need) for social services. On the flip side, the not-for-profits are struggling as they face budget cuts and sharp declines in donations. An increase in demand coupled with a decrease in supply...not too encouraging, especially around the holidays. Sunday's LA Time's included a "Guide for the Newly Poor" (h/t LA Homeless Blog). On that note, here are some upcoming volunteer opportunities for the week.

*Have an organization or volunteer opportunity that you would like us to include? Send an email to PhiLAnthropist.*

### **Read to Kids this Saturday**

**Reading to Kids is a fun and easy way to get involved in the community, especially if you are looking for something with children that does not require a long term commitment. The reading clubs meet at seven different elementary schools around downtown LA on the second Saturday of the month. Sign up ahead of time at [readingtokids.org](http://readingtokids.org).**

Help out at the Chrysalis Holiday Party

Chrysalis, an organization "dedicated to helping the homeless become self-sufficient through employment opportunities" is looking for volunteers to help out at their three holiday parties next week.

*Monday, Dec. 15//Pacoima//Youth and Family Center*

*Tuesday, Dec. 16//Santa Monica//Ken Edwards Center*

*Thursday, Dec. 18//Downtown LA//Bank Building*

*Contact Stephanie to participate.*

Volunteer at the Alexandria House's Afterschool Programs

The Alexandria House, located in the Mid-Wilshire area, provides transitional housing for women and children, particularly during the move from an emergency shelter to permanent housing. They also offer educational and enrichment opportunities for both residents and neighbors in the community. They are in dire need of toys this holiday season and they are also looking for volunteers for their after school (3:30-5:30) and teen programs (6pm-8pm). Email for more details.