

access speak up for change



Speak Up for Change Information Package | ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education | www.speakupforchange.ca

Welcome, and thanks for taking the time to learn about our program

You've been sent this package because we would like to welcome your school's students to become participants in an exciting, new, empowering initiative.

Today, in a fast-paced world with pressing issues and constant negativity, there is a need to express concerns and create solutions collectively. Particularity, opening up these discussions to the youth of today - the generation with the power to change the world.

Please take the time to learn all about Speak Up for Change today, and let us know if you or any of your students are interested. Kindly pass this information package on to the person or department who you feel would be willing to facilitate or promote this program in any way!

The ever-popular Mahatma Gandhi quote, "You must be the change we wish to see in the world" is becoming increasingly relevant today, and we have been encouraging youth to be that change. This program will provide your students with the opportunity to express their concerns and start taking action. Please consider being a part of it.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Speak up for change!

Daniel Francavilla, Founder and President
ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at Education

All about the Speak Up for Change program!

As well as supporting students in developing countries, ACCESS aims to engage and educate youth in North America about world issues and the current global development situation.

Launched in the fall of 2008, Speak Up for Change is a program that gives youth and organizations a chance to write about poverty and education-related issues. It provides students with writing experience and online exposure, as well as volunteer hours and prizes.

Topics include social justice, youth activism, global development, poverty, education, political action, and many more.

Contributors will respond to quotes, current events, and social justice issues. The forum is moderated by members of the ACCESS Speak Up for Change Team, who both assign and edit the articles. Topics will be posted by the ACCESS team on a regular basis, inviting responses by youth. Schools are encouraged to become involved in the program, as the topics and writing assignments easily fit as a component of their curriculum. Guest contributors are welcome and include educators, politicians, local celebrities, members of the non-profit community, and social activists.

To kick-off, Speak Up for Change joined Blog Action Day, an annual nonprofit event that aims to unite the world's bloggers by posting about the same issue on the same day, to raise awareness and trigger a global discussion.

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Calling you to action!

Right now, ACCESS is seeking participation from schools, students, non-profit organizations, and individuals who are interested in participating in the Speak Up for Change program.

Both regular contributors and one-time participants are welcome. After being approved and categorized by our editors, submissions will be published on the Speak Up for Change website.

Both written and visual submissions are acceptable, including poetry and video. Any video or photography submissions must be accompanied by a title and description that will be published alongside the piece.

Funding the program

As a non-profit organization, ACCESS is still accepting sponsors for the Speak Up for Change program. The program is currently supported in part by local organizations.

Prizes to reward participation in the program as well as for promotional campaigns are ideal. Additional funds would be used to promote the program through advertisements online, send information packages to schools, and provide printed resources to participating students.

Become a Sponsor Today!
Supporting Students Speaking Up for Change
Be a part of the movement.

How to get started

As a school or organization, you can email the Program Coordinator at editor@accesscharity.ca to discuss the details of your involvement. Any student can also begin immediately, by submitting an article or topic idea directly!

There is also a team of dedicated members willing to guide you through the program, should you have any concerns. Additional contact details are found on the Speak Up for Change website, at www.speakupforchange.ca.

Registering writers today!

Right now, students can sign-up through the online registration form, located on the homepage of speakupforchange.ca, or directly at www.accesscharity.ca/speakupforchange_register.htm.

Students are also invited to become a Fan of Speak Up for Change on **Facebook**.



world issues aid
It's estimated that globally, 1.5 million new blog entries appeared in the past week. Let's ensure that we contribute as many positive, youth-written, change-driven posts as we can.
new social justice
charity activism

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Just some general background about us

For one week during the cold Canadian winter of 2006, a group of Ontario high school students went on an Exposure Trip to the Dominican Republic. They witnessed the harsh realities of poverty in the developing world first-hand.

Upon returning, then grade-10 student Daniel Francavilla was inspired to do something to make a difference. After presenting at a church in Brampton, over \$8000 was collected throughout two weekends. This was the beginning of ACCESS. The funds were sent to the Dominican Republic to purchase uniforms for hundreds of impoverished children, who would otherwise be unable to attend school.

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Now registered as a non-profit organization, the goal of ACCESS: Allowing Children a Chance at

Education, Inc. is to provide needy children in the developing world with school uniforms and necessary school supplies, so that they have the opportunity to obtain the education required to find decent employment and support their families. ACCESS also aims to educate youth across North America about relevant issues and the current situation in the developing world.

ACCESS has been featured on Rogers First Local News and OMNI Television, in publications such as Confidence Bound Magazine, The Brampton Guardian, The Catholic Register, on the TheMississaugaNews.com, Brampton.com, CharityVillage.org and more.

ACCESS initiatives and involvement with youth

As a youth-run organization, ACCESS has a focus on involvement with elementary and secondary schools, as well as post-secondary institutions. The goal of this is to educate today's students on the issues of the developing world, as well as to inspire them to do their part to make a difference in the world.

In addition to raising money for our development projects overseas, ACCESS strives to host events locally to raise awareness the important global poverty and education issues we face today. A list of our current projects be found on our website.

Our initiatives include:

- Educational Presentations
- School Supply Drives
- Educator Resources
- Student Contests
- Youth Journalism Blog Program
- Fair Trade Product Sales

We encourage youth to engage in hosting their own ACCESS events and fundraisers within their schools, faith groups, and local communities.

To learn more about ACCESS, please visit our website at www.accesscharity.ca, join our Facebook Group "ACCESS Charity", view our videos on our YouTube Channel at youtube.com/accesscharity, and visit our profiles on online networks Change.org, TakingItGlobal, MySpace and Twitter.

If you have general questions about ACCESS, please send an email to info@accesscharity.ca.

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get blogging:

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