

# THE SUREST PATH TO THE GOOD LIFE



Common sense and vast amounts of research agree that the best thing a parent can do for his or her child, beyond showing love, is helping the child learn to read at the earliest possible age.

The 18-39 Parental Empowerment Program of the Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Corporation operates on the idea that discovering the power and joy of reading transforms children and prepares them for a happier and more prosperous life. The most important thing that BGACDC can do is get books into the hands of parents and children throughout the community and motivate them to tackle reading *together* each and every day. For teachers as well, the most important thing they can do is to encourage parental involvement in reading.

Here's what reading does for youngsters who begin learning to read as tots:

They do better in every class, their concentration levels improve, they bond better with their parents, their vocabularies grow, their imaginations expand, their creative skills improve, their social skills with other children and with the rest of the world grow, they develop empathy and compassion for others, and they gain a deeper understanding of their community and the world.

Reading leads to a lifetime of learning and that leads to more rewarding work and a happier life. What parent does not want that for his or her children?

