



December 2020

ARISE Newsletter

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE 2020

Today, December 1st, is Giving Tuesday, a global movement to encourage donating and volunteering with organizations during the season of giving. **RISE to the Challenge** is our initiative to raise awareness about LDS, our services, and our impact on the community. Please consider making LDS your Giving Tuesday charity and **RISE to the Challenge** to raise **\$100k for 100Kids!** LDS is so grateful for the continued support of our many donors and volunteers. To learn more about our campaign and to donate, visit [RISEtotheChallenge.team](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team).



Events



Please join us December 10th from 5-6pm for our Virtual Open House. You will receive an overview of our programs, tour the Learning Centre, and get to know some of the team members! Curious about the RISE Method? Questions about one of our programs? We look forward to welcoming you into the Centre (virtually), and answering any questions you may have! [Register](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team) to reserve your spot.

Announcements



Assistive Technology Webinars

Did you know that LDS offers a suite of assistive software tools that students and families can use from home? These programs include MindMeister, Grammarly, Read&Write, BeeLine Reader, and Live It Earth. [Email us](mailto:info@ldsociety.ca) to get your free license to any of these products. To learn more, visit the RISE-AT page on our [website](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team) or [register](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team) to take one of our virtual software tours for an in-depth introduction to these amazing products.



LDS's RISE-AT Program Increases Accessibility

We have formally announced the launch of our RISE Assistive Technology Program (RISE-AT) which incorporates an impressive collection of leading-edge assistive technology hardware and software tools to assist children and youth with learning differences and social-emotional challenges. [Read more](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team).



LDS to Study Benefits of Social Robots

Today we announced a partnership with the University of Waterloo's Social and Intelligent Robotics Research Laboratory (SIRRL) to study the potential for assistive robot technology incorporation in programs for children with suspected or diagnosed learning differences. Learn more about our partnership [here](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team).



PEERS Registration Open Now!

PEERS is a 14-week program that helps teens with learning differences build confidence, learn social skills, and make friends. Sessions start January 2021 (in person or remote, TBD). Bursary support available to qualifying families. Visit our [website](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team) to learn more and register.



PEERS Social Coach Volunteers

We are seeking individuals who can commit to Tuesdays from 5:30-7:15 for 16 weeks, beginning January 16. Successful candidates will require a criminal record check issued within the last two years. Submit your resume and short cover letter to lara@ldsociety.ca.

Resources



Financial Literacy Workshops

LDS is collaborating with [Vancity Credit Union](https://www.vancitycreditunion.ca) to help families with their financial literacy. In January we'll offer workshops on RESPs, RRSPs, the Disability Tax Credit and more!



RISE after School Program

Our RISE after School peer mentorship program is taking high school peer mentor applications now. Join students from Vancouver College and Little Flower Academy in being a virtual mentor to some of our elementary students. [Learn more](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team).



Our Annual Report

Please see our [2019 Annual Report](https://www.ldsociety.ca/RISEtotheChallenge/team) for an overview of our specialized programs, our students' achievements, and our charity's progress, including highlights from 2020.



Holiday Schedule

Last day of student sessions is Saturday, December 19th. The Centre will also be closing for the holidays starting Thursday, December 24th. We look forward to seeing you when we reopen on Monday, January 4th, 2021. Enjoy your holidays!

Help us #KeepOurKidsLearning

With your help during these difficult times, we can make RISE at Home online learning available to vulnerable learners in need throughout our province.

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