

Mercy Bridges, a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy, was developed by Mercy Sister Edwardine Weaver and Mercy Associate Dorothy Lindsay. In 2006, they officially began this ministry and currently serve as Co-Directors of *Mercy Bridges*.

Sister Edwardine Weaver is an experienced educator. She is a former teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools in the Diocese of Rochester. Her most recent role in education was that of assistant professor at the University of Rochester Warner Graduate School of Education. In this capacity, she served as the director of the Office of Professional Development and of the Catholic School Leadership program.

Associate Dorothy Lindsay has had a rich and successful experience as a public school educator. She has served as principal of three schools and as vice principal of one school in the Greece school district. She has had leadership roles in teacher training projects, has been a trainer for the Peace Corps, and has served as an instructional instructor in counselor education at SUNY Brockport.



...a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

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Mercy Bridges
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Mercy Bridges



*...Helping adult learners
to succeed in
reading, writing,
and in using
English language skills.*

Mercy Bridges
is coming in
April, 2007

What is Mercy Bridges?

Mercy Bridges is a new ministry of the Sisters of Mercy. Through instructional services, it provides a bridge to a new chapter in the lives of adult learners who seek to develop their reading and language skills.

This service is provided by competent and trained Sisters, Associates, and friends of Mercy who will work one-on-one with adults. Each will be mindful that learning takes place on a variety of levels. Each will work towards making the learning experience rewarding, enjoyable, and attainable.



Why are These Services Needed?

Today, adults need higher levels of skills to function effectively in many areas of life.

Learning to read and understand medical prescriptions, credit and financial information, bus schedules, written instructions, etc., are vital parts of life.

People need problem-solving and higher level reasoning skills to be able to advocate for themselves and for their families.



What Is Unique about Mercy Bridges?

Instructional services are one-to-one, based on the learner's goals, utilize practical, real life materials, and are free of charge and confidential.

Mercy Bridges' tutors build on what the learner already knows and helps them learn *their* way.



Who Does Mercy Bridges Serve?

Adults (18 years and older) who want to improve their ability to read and to speak the English language will be the primary people served.



Mercy Bridges is Coming!

Mercy Bridges is pleased to announce that it will be offering services beginning in April, 2007.

Tutoring will take place privately at a public place that is mutually agreeable to the tutor and learner.



What is Expected of Learners?

- A willingness to learn
- A commitment to attend a weekly session of two hours per week
- Completion of weekly assignments
- One year commitment to tutoring



What Is Involved for Learners?

An introductory meeting with one of *Mercy Bridges'* Co-Directors is held. The purpose of this meeting is to gather background information and to assess where the learner and tutor will begin.

Once accepted into the program, participants attend a New Learners' group meeting aimed at easing them back into a learning mode. This experience helps individuals focus on their own strengths and needs, while increasing their motivation to learn.

Following this meeting, the learner will meet with his or her tutor and get acquainted. Future tutoring sessions will be held two hours each week. Homework and practice time are important to progress and success.

