



Dear REA Leader:

Happy Spring, wherever you are situated! This is our 17th Annual **With Our Youth!** awards program. I am writing to share a valuable opportunity to recognize the outstanding work of volunteers in your association—whether individuals or local units/chapters.

What's New in 2018!

- ✓ The submission process is now online only (no mailing or faxing)
- ✓ One first prize winner will receive a \$250 grant!
- ✓ Second and third prize winners will receive a Red Wagon, along with a plaque
- ✓ All participants will receive a plaque and certificate of award to honor your service

We believe in the tremendous potential of our youth

Children are a positive, creative force in our society. They make our lives richer and more fulfilling and are also the future of our world. Because retired educators and our associations believe in the tremendous potential of youth to be a positive influence in our society today, we commit ourselves to take action to ensure all children have the resources they need in order to be, and become, the best they can be.

The Pledge

With Our Youth! is inspired by America's Promise Alliance and its five promises to youth. NRTA and the retired educator network pledges to provide children with:

The five key resources:

1. Caring adults in their lives: *we serve as guides, caretakers and advisers who give positive and productive guidance throughout a child's (and/or children's) development.*
2. Safe places to learn and grow: *we provide safe places – environments that support and encourage inquiry, exploration and play without fear of harm.*
3. A healthy start in life: *we provide access to proper nutrition and exercise habits.*
4. An effective education: *we provide meaningful educational and life-skills support to young people.*