



...Creating family and community connections

President's Message

Betty J. Mohlenbrock, M.Ed., Founder and President

Dear Friends of Reading Legacies:



It is such a joy to reach out to you and provide an update on the status of our ongoing efforts to empower young children, their teen counterparts, and families in general about the many benefits of reading aloud together regularly. Our programs are designed with a primary focus on helping children and youth experiencing challenges in their lives which compromise their opportunities to be prepared for success in reading, school, and life.

Over our five years of service within San Diego County, our programs have improved the lives of over 15,000 children and their family members. The rewards for all of us (beneficiaries, volunteers, staff, donors, and collaborative partners) have been and will continue to be extremely powerful. We thank any/all of you who have participated to date, and encourage you all to come to our website for further information on how you can get involved. You will find it to be a most meaningful use of your time.

One of our organization's core values says it this way: "We value service to others as a powerful method for personal growth and increase in self-worth." Another way of saying it is....."it's a win-win situation"! Enjoy our newsletter, and let us know how

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you would like to get involved by visiting www.readinglegacies.org.

Gratefully, Betty

Interesting Research Facts

Problem –

“With nearly one in three American children entering kindergarten lacking the skills they need to read, and two in three children not reading at grade level by the end of third grade, the problem affects the public health of our nation as well as our prospects for future prosperity.”
Urban Institute Wire: Adolescents and Youth (July, 2014)

Solution -

“Last summer, the American Academy of Pediatrics announced a new policy recommending that all parents read to their children from birth.” Study Finds Reading to Children of All Ages Grooms Them to Read More on Their Own (Motoko Rich, January 8.2015)



Community Connections Program

...creating connections for children and local teens through reading aloud together



"I want to be able to impact these children's lives in only positive ways, ways that will allow the to grow and mature. This only leads me to want to grow ever more into a respectable and mature role model.

My experience with Reading Legacies will definitely be unforgettable. I thank this opportunity and the people that have provided it to me endlessly."

(High School student volunteer)

Family Connections Program

...creating connections for children and their incarcerated family members through read-aloud DVDs and books mailed home

"I love this program! I really appreciate doing this every month, I love reading w/ my daughter that is very important to me to make that time available for her and I so to be able to do this in Las Colinas is such a blessing. Thank you for your time."

Mother reading to 3-year-old daughter. Have been separated for 8 months.



Beneficiary Spotlight

Testimony from former inmate at Vista Detention Facility



"Please keep coming back. You guys make a big difference in life! This element is outstanding and a great bonding tool."

Father reading to 5-year-old son and two 2-year-old and 4-year-old daughters. Have been separated for one year.

Volunteer Spotlight

Rick Storey

Rick Storey is a volunteer with Reading Legacies who came to us as a student volunteer from Alliant International University. As a student volunteer, he gave his time in the juvenile facilities, and upon completing his required student service learning hours, he continued to volunteer in the both the juvenile and adult facilities



where our program is offered. Currently, he has become a volunteer Trainer for new volunteers as well as dedicating his time in our extended (multi-session) program at East Mesa Reentry Facility for men.



Rick has volunteered a total of 322 hours since joining our team during the summer of 2013.

Thank you, Rick, for your dedication to children and families in our community.

Volunteer Opportunities

Join our team today!



Family Connections Program –

- Facility Coordinator
- Workshop Facilitator
- Book Drive Coordinator
- Book Selection Committee

Community Connections Program –

- Guest Reader/Mentor
- Community Coordinator

General –

- Marketing Expertise
- Board Governance Interest/Expertise
- Special Events Coordination

News Update

Reading Legacies will hold our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event in conjunction with National Volunteer Week during the week of April 10th – 16th, 2016. Invitations will be forthcoming with details as to date and location. We encourage you all to join us for this celebration in 2016!

Please visit our website at www.readinglegacies.org.

Donate to our cause at <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/ReadingLegacies/Donate.html>.
Contact us at 619-269-2743 or info@readinglegacies.org

