



# Reading Legacies

...for our children

## 2020 Annual Report



Reading Legacies is a nonprofit  
501 (c)(3) organization  
Federal Tax ID #27-0523331

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# FOUNDER'S STATEMENT

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“Everything we do is about the connection, the communication, the bonding, and the empowerment.

The tool is literacy, is reading, is books. It’s a very safe place to communicate with each other. You do not have to talk about yourself. You don’t have to talk about what you know. You’re just reading and sharing and enjoying each other.”



Betty J. Mohlenbrock

Founder & President

Stephen R. Lewis, M.D. Presidential Chair





# COVER LETTER

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*Dear family and friends,*

Our method of action at Reading Legacies is to empower YOU as the “first and most important teachers” your children will ever have – and to provide options in your choices as they relate to reading aloud with children.

By reading aloud with them, we instill the love of reading and a special bond between each other.

By reading books that illustrate values, we instill these values in their hearts and minds.

By demonstrating these same values to them, we provide good models for their own behavior choices in the future.

Our children are watching us in all that we do and say. We are their role models and they are our future.

Reading aloud with children in our lives is something we ALL can do – youth and elders alike.

The character traits that we feature on our website and in our programs provide a “treasure trove” of fun and meaningful books to read together with children while instilling strong messages of respect, responsibility, compassion, courage, perseverance, trust, honesty, gratitude, self-discipline, and citizenship.

We are here for children, for you, and for our future. Thank you for your commitment that produced a successful 2020 for so many children and families. Let’s go forward into our next decade with great resolve and strength – on behalf of the young lives we are touching.

Together, we can do this!!!

Onward & Upward!



Betty J. Mohlenbrock

Founder & President

Stephen R. Lewis, M.D. Presidential Chair



# BOOK BRIDGES PROGRAM

Strengthening family bonds by facilitating read-aloud connections in families separated by incarceration and addiction

## 2020 Outcomes:



**272**

Parent Participants



**680**

Children Benefitted

Through our Book Bridges program, parents and older siblings are coached to read to children on video or over the phone, forming healthy and lasting bonds while learning about the importance of reading aloud together.

*"It's like putting on your absolute best performance for the ones you love most... Every time you read a character's line, you do your best to turn into that character, whether it's a little girl or a big beast."*

- Former Book Bridges program participant



# GRANDPARENT STORYBOOKS PROGRAM

Forming meaningful communication between generations as seniors read aloud to their family members

## 2020 Outcomes:



**82**

Senior Participants



**205**

Children Benefited

Thanks to a special collaboration with a local Girl Scout, dozens of grandparents had the opportunity to participate in our program this year. After sharing personal memories while reading aloud, their grandchildren gained a greater understanding of grandma or grandpa's life experiences by enjoying special videos created just for them.

*"When I was little, my grandma would let me choose my favorite book off the shelf and sit down and read it with me. I felt so valued and loved, and truly believe those moments fueled my love for reading."*

- Grandparent Storybooks program volunteer





# FIRST TEACHERS PROGRAM

Empowering parents as their child's first teacher through reading aloud regularly in the home

## 2020 Outcomes:



**101**

Parent Participants



**253**

Children Benefitted

This year, we established partnerships with MAAC Project Head Start and the Neighborhood House Association to provide educational workshops to parents. Reading Legacies staff, volunteers, and members of our Board provided personal and research-based insights on the benefits of reading with children.

*"I have been trying the methods that were shown during the workshop and my daughter and even 6-month old baby are very engaged while I'm reading. I read every night and my daughter doesn't let me forget!"*

- Parent workshop participant



# YOUTH READERS PROGRAM

High school students learn leadership and public service by reading aloud to children in their community.

## 2020 Outcomes:



**114**  
Youth Volunteers

In April, we launched Reading Legacies Storytime, a virtual effort to reach children and engage youth volunteers. Nearly 200 read-aloud videos were submitted - many of which were shared on our social media platforms to encourage the habit of reading with children at home.



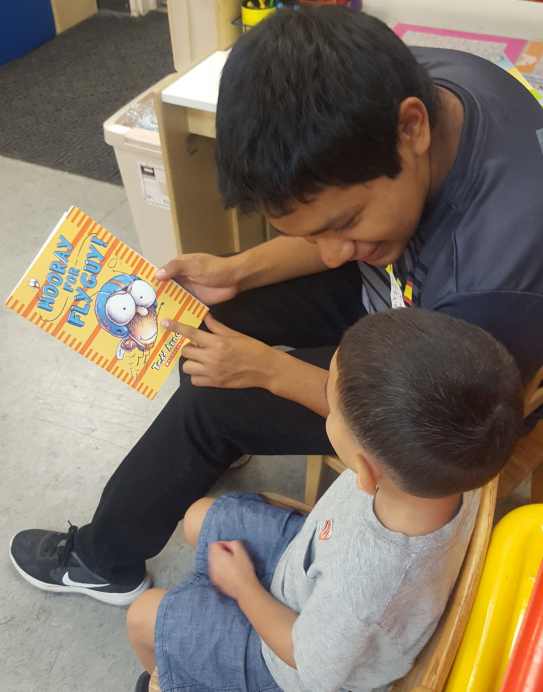
**13,024**  
Children Benefitted

Additional videos were created specifically for preschool students and their families to use as educational tools during a shared time of online learning.

*"Participating in this program made me happy that we have something like this for kids who need it. I am grateful that I got to be a part of it."*

- Youth Reader volunteer





# VOLUNTEERS

Our work would not be possible without the many dedicated volunteers who help carry out our mission. Keeping families connected through the power of reading together is what we do best - even in times of change.

We've seen the profound impact reading has on children. Whether it's recorded on video or facilitated at home, the benefits are truly everlasting for both the reader and the listener.

From pre-recorded storybook readings to virtual parent workshops, we empowered over 100 volunteers to continue serving children and families this year.



Despite the challenging aspects of 2020, Reading Legacies volunteers came together to carry out our virtual program adaptations.

**Total volunteer hours in 2020: 575 hours**



# CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

January - December 2020

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Reading Legacies is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit, public benefit organization supported by gifts and grants from individuals, corporations, foundations, civic groups, and service organizations. On their behalf, we thank you!

## **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

McBeth Foundation

## **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Altrusa International of Chula Vista

Dr. Seuss Fund at The San Diego Foundation

Girard Foundation (Discretionary Fund of Mr. Buzz Woolley)

Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund at The San Diego Foundation

Las Patronas

## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

The Christopher Family Foundation  
(a discretionary grant from Doris K. Christopher)

L'Oreal Paris at the GoodCoin Foundation

L'Oreal Paris

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Nordson Corporation Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation

## **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Alpha Delta Kappa - ETA Chapter  
Boys and Girls Foundation at The San Diego Foundation

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Q. Carter\*

The Chick-fil-A, Inc. Giving Fund at  
The National Christian Foundation\*

The Ed & Mary Fletcher Family  
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(FOCUS)

Goodwin Family Memorial Trust

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## **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

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Samuel I. and John Henry Fox  
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Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions. If we have made a mistake, please let us know so that we can update our records.

# CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

January - December 2020

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## \$100 - \$499

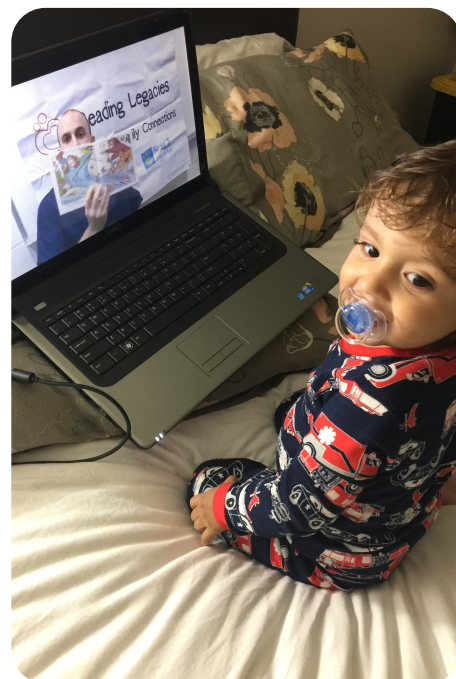
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Ms. Shirley Wilson  
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Mr. Alan Ziter

## \$1.00 - \$99.00

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Ms. Rosemary Ellis  
Ms. Jean Feller (In memory of Lt. Cdr. Donald S. Stebbins)  
Rev. Susan Juergensen



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# CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

## Lifetime Monetary Donors

Donors who have contributed \$10,000 or more in their lifetimes are listed with their lifetime giving.

### \$50,000+

Dr. Seuss Foundation  
Dr. Seuss Foundation  
Dr. Seuss Fund at The San Diego Foundation  
Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund at The San Diego Foundation  
McBeth Foundation  
Reed Elsevier – RELX  
S. Mark Taper Foundation  
R.B Woolley, Jr.  
Mr. Buzz Woolley  
Girard Foundation – Discretionary Fund of Mr. Buzz Woolley  
Woolley Fund at The San Diego Foundation

### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Q. Carter\*  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Q. Carter  
Charles Q. and Margaret W. Carter Fund at The National Christian Foundation  
Cushman Foundation  
Johnson Family  
Johnson Family Foundation Fund at the National Christian Foundation  
Johnson Family Foundation  
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Tony Robbins Foundation

C.J. & Dot Stafford Memorial Trust at Wells Fargo  
Wintemute Family Foundation  
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### \$10,000 - \$24,999

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Altrusa International of Chula Vista  
Boys and Girls Foundation at the San Diego Foundation  
CareFusion Foundation at The San Diego Foundation\*  
The Chick-fil-A, Inc. Giving Fund at The National Christian Foundation\*  
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Price Philanthropies Foundation  
Price Philanthropies Foundation (at the discretion of Julie Nguyen)  
SDG&E  
Swinton Family Fund at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation  
Union Bank  
Weingart Foundation

\*Dr. Stephen R. Lewis, M.D., the husband of Cheryl Lewis, one of the founding board members of Reading Legacies, died September 21, 2010, after battling kidney cancer for more than a year. We are deeply honored that Cheryl has chosen Reading Legacies to be the beneficiary of any gifts in his memory. Following discussions with Cheryl and her family, the Reading Legacies Board of Trustees decided to honor Steve's life and carry on his legacy by directing all donations made in his memory into the Stephen R. Lewis, M.D. Legacy Fund for Reading Legacies.

*Legacy Fund donors are indicated with an asterisk.*



# CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

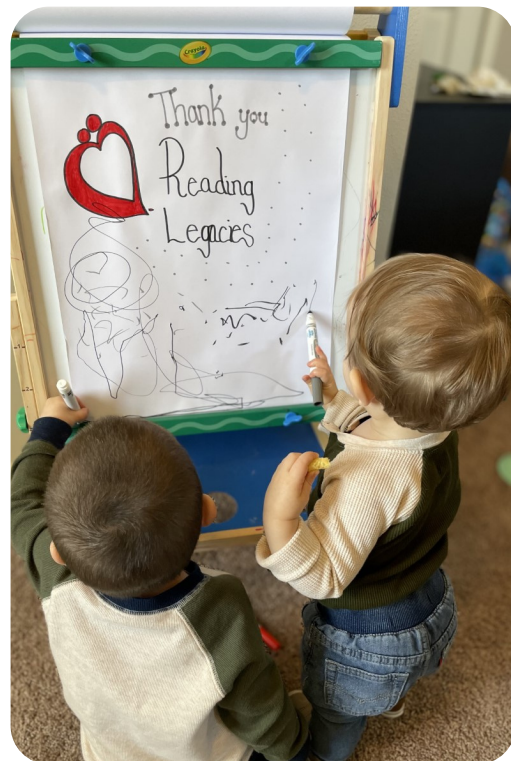
## *In-Kind Donors*

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Ms. Jennifer Anderson  
Beauty and Body Medical Lounge  
Cathy Bourdon's Book Club  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Burger  
Ms. Donna M. Cameron  
Ms. Maru Cham  
Ms. Tiffany Chow  
Club Pilates Liberty Station  
Ms. Marcie Colleen  
CDR. Michael J. Dobbs USN (Ret.)  
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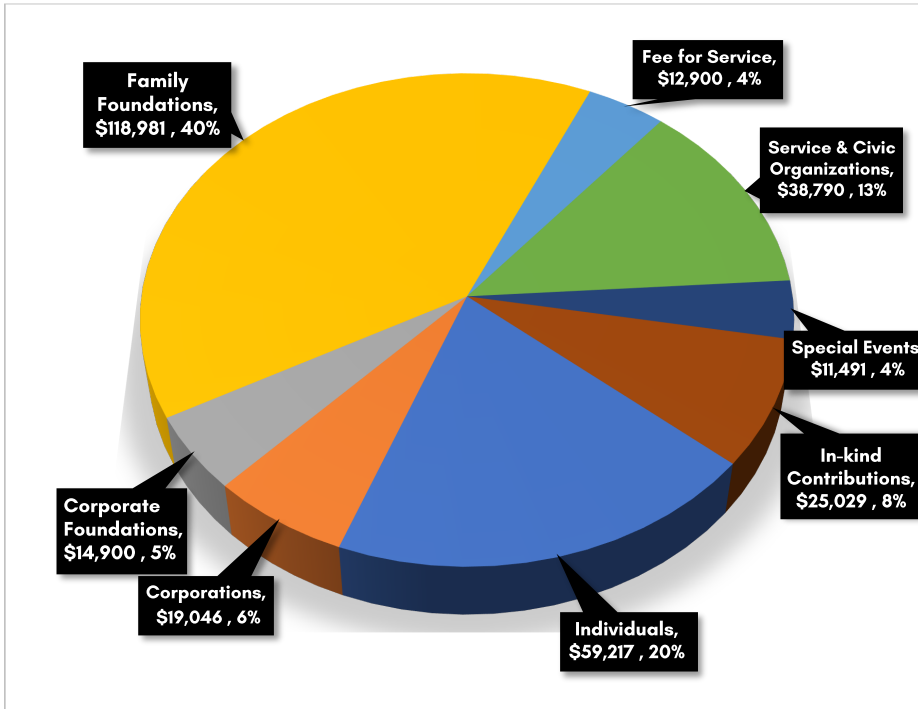
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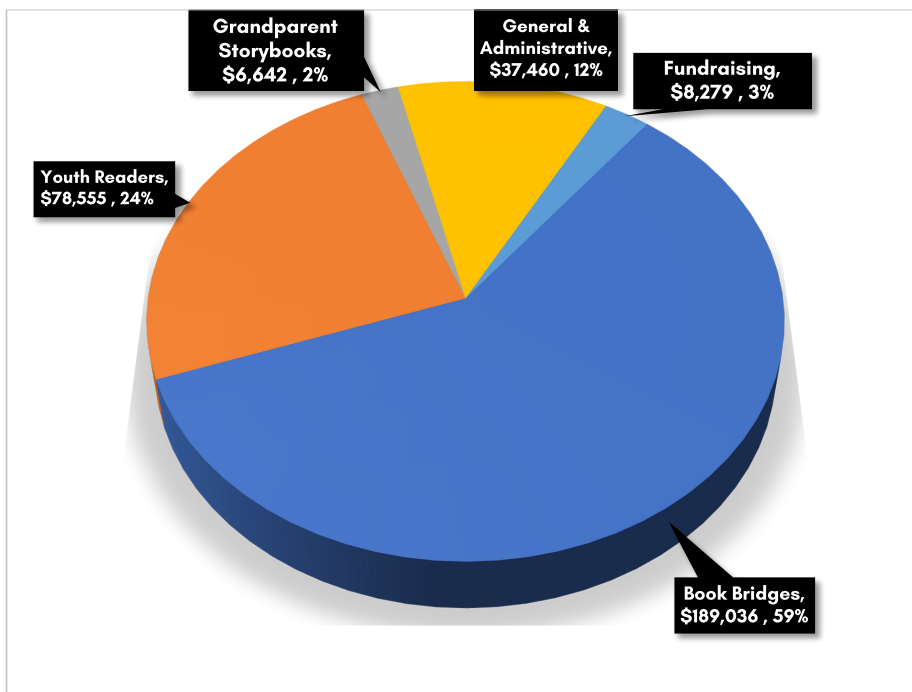
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# 2020 INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

**Total Income: \$300,353**



**Total Expenditures: \$319,973**



# ...FOR OUR CHILDREN

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## Mission

Our mission is to facilitate supportive relationships for children through family and friends reading aloud with them.

## Vision

Our vision is that all children will feel the security of caring adult relationships and develop a love of reading through the read-aloud experience.

## Core Values

We value children and youth as powerful, important resources for the future of any community.

We value intergenerational social interaction as an opportunity to share cultural heritage and values.

We value reading aloud as an effective medium to build relationships and develop an interest in reading.

We value service to others as a powerful method for personal growth and an increase in self-worth.

We value our relationship with our community and our country as a public trust by providing services with the highest integrity and sound business practices.



@ReadingLegacies     
[www.readinglegacies.org](http://www.readinglegacies.org)

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