Reading Legacies
...for our children

2020 Annual Report
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Reading Legacies is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization Federal Tax ID #27-0523331
“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
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
Strengthening family bonds by facilitating read-aloud connections in families separated by incarceration and addiction

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
"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

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.

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

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

2020 Outcomes:

- **101** Parent Participants
- **253** Children Benefitted

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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.

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
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

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
Ms. Joan Burch Luhrsen
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*

$1,000 - $2,499

The Ed & Mary Fletcher Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation
Friends of Children United Society (FOCUS)
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Mr. Michael Orlando
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$1,000 - $2,499

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(in honor of Carolyn Colwell)
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Las Primeras

$500 - $999

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San Diego Futures Foundation
Solera Desert Mountain Bible Fellowship
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Swinton Family Fund at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation

$2,500 - $4,999

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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.

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January - December 2020

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$100 - $499

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Anthony Albers  
Ms.Augie Augusto  
Cdr. & Mrs. Scott Beaty  
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Mr. Alan Ziter

$1.00 - $99.00

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Ms. Kristin Beaty  
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Ms. Molly Biehl Corbin  
Mr. Derek Cox  
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Dr. Edward F. DeRoche  
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
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

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

$10,000 – $24,999
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Price Philanthropies Foundation
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  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.

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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
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2020 INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

Total Income: $300,353

- Family Foundations, $118,981, 40%
- Corporate Foundations, $14,900, 5%
- Individuals, $59,217, 20%
- Fee for Service, $12,900, 4%
- Service & Civic Organizations, $34,790, 11%
- Special Events, $11,491, 4%
- In-kind Contributions, $25,029, 8%
- Corporations, $19,046, 6%
- In-kind Contributions, $22,006, 7%
- Special Events, $11,491, 4%
- Book Bridges, $189,036, 59%
- Fundraising, $8,279, 3%
- Grandparent Storybooks, $6,642, 2%
- General & Administrative, $37,460, 12%

Total Expenditures: $319,973

- Youth Readers, $78,555, 24%
- Book Bridges, $189,036, 59%
- General & Administrative, $37,460, 12%
- Fundraising, $8,279, 3%
- Grandparent Storybooks, $6,642, 2%
- Youth Readers, $78,555, 24%
- Corporate Foundations, $14,900, 5%
- Individuals, $59,217, 20%
- Fee for Service, $12,900, 4%
- Service & Civic Organizations, $34,790, 11%
- Special Events, $11,491, 4%
- In-kind Contributions, $25,029, 8%

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...FOR OUR CHILDREN

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  Instagram  Twitter  Facebook

www.readinglegacies.org

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