



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission: To facilitate supportive relationships for children through family and friends reading aloud with them.

Our Vision: That all children will feel the security of caring adult relationships and develop a love of reading through the read-aloud experience.



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Dear Friends and Supporters,

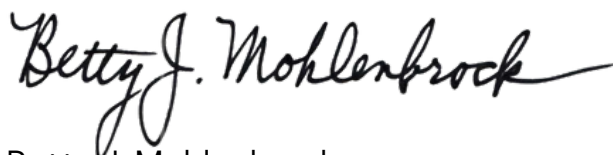
It is with joy, gratitude, and hope that we send you this Annual Report for our 2022 programs and financials. We have definitely made an incredibly positive difference in many children's lives, as well as their families and communities. As you know, our mission is to facilitate SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS for children through family and friends reading aloud with them.

Much of our progress may not be discernible in the numbers, partially due to the intentional focus on laying the groundwork for collaborations that are expandable and replicable for many months and years to come. This is because 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 over time.

The beauty of the design of our programs is that it is FOUNDATIONAL to the purpose and goals of most other organizations serving children, youth, and families – and based on our education, empowerment and encouragement – the building blocks are in place far into the future. We do not intend to be the reading solution, but rather the LEGACY of children learning to love reading because of meaningful relationships. We are connecting a disconnected world through reading!!

Please let us know how we may better serve YOU as you come alongside in this important initiative for our country.

Blessings to you all!



Betty J. Mohlenbrock

Founder & President

Stephen R. Lewis, M.D. Presidential Chair





The purpose of our **Book Bridges program** is to strengthen relationships between family members separated by incarceration or drug rehabilitation treatment.

Through the shared experience of reading aloud, this program both establishes a habit of reading together and instills a love of reading in the children.

The Book Bridges program allows children to transcend the bars that separate them from their incarcerated loved ones. We work with mothers, father, foster parents, grandparents, older siblings, cousins, and other important familial relationships with our goal on benefitting children with the greatly needed love of a parent, as well as learning the love of reading.

In 2022, two San Diego County detention facilities embraced this program. Within these facilities, we hosted three in-person monthly workshops with parents. We are grateful to the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and our incredible volunteers for their commitment, as well as the generous community organizations and individuals who provided their financial support for the program.

Additionally, our program is provided for women in the Vista Hill Foundation's ParentCare Family Recovery facilities where we work with chemically dependent women and their families who are at high risk for child abuse, domestic violence, and homelessness. Our program empowers and encourages these women to read aloud with their children when they are able to spend one-on-one time with them.

"I feel more connected to my child, even though we are not physically together. I am very excited to read to her when I go home this month."

- Mother and Book Bridges program participant



Parent participants
104

Children benefitted
366

BOOK BRIDGES PROGRAM

Reading Legacies 2022 Annual Report



The purpose of our **First Teachers program** is to engage parents in the development of their children through thoughtful interactions (sharing and listening) when reading aloud with them.... empowering them as their children's "first teacher."

Every minute you read to children makes a difference. At Reading Legacies we believe empowering parents as their children's first teachers is a pillar of educational and emotional success.

In 2022, Reading Legacies hosted a series of Family Story Hour events at Liberty Station, the San Diego Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army Door of Hope. With the goals of preparing children for emotional and academic success, and supporting families in need of hope and healing, we engaged children, teens, parents, and even grandparents in the read-aloud experience. Through facilitating these treasured read-aloud moments, we are engaging and connecting families for generations to come.

Our Family Story Hour events were held monthly for the first half of the year, then grew into larger-scale outdoor events, featuring local children's book authors as guest readers. Our collaboration with Katie Turner and Susie Horn, owners of Joyride Bookshop, provided a rich experience for families in attendance. Their mobile bookstore (as well as storefront location) supplied guests with children's books for all ages, allowing families to continue the habit of reading together at home.

"[What I liked most about Family Story Hour] was seeing interactions with other children and the animation of the storyteller!"

- Father and First Teachers program participant



Parent participants
179

Children benefitted
639

FIRST TEACHERS PROGRAM

Reading Legacies 2022 Annual Report



The purpose of our **Storybook Inspirations program** (formerly Storybook Legacies) is to provide meaningful communication between generations as they read stories aloud together, using technology to bridge geographical separations and to enhance inter-generational interactions.

Through this special program, adult readers are coached and video recorded as they read a favorite book out loud to their children, grandchildren, and other important children in their lives. Their read-aloud recording is then sent electronically to their family to be enjoyed and cherished time and again. A true "Reading Legacy" is created as readers reflect on their own memories and life experiences as they read the story aloud; a gift to be treasured by generations.

Throughout 2022, this program continued at our Liberty Station location in Point Loma and at the Coronado Public Library. In April, the Reading Legacies team brought the Storybook Inspirations program to the Altrusa International's District Eleven Spring Conference, where seniors were recorded on video reading a storybook for the special children in their lives.

"I am so excited to be given this opportunity to read to my grandchild who lives so far away."

- Grandparent and Storybook Inspirations program participant



Senior participants

31

Children benefitted

81

STORYBOOK INSPIRATIONS PROGRAM

Reading Legacies 2022 Annual Report



The purpose of our **Youth Readers program** is to develop and nurture teens who volunteer in their own communities and families to instill the joy of reading in children.

The Youth Readers program benefits teens, young children, and the communities in which they live through the simple, yet magical experience of reading together. High school students volunteer to read with local preschool children on a regular basis, enhancing the teen's sense of self, helping them recognize their community leadership potential, and allowing them to experience the impact of making a difference in the life of a young child.

In 2022, Reading Legacies worked in the preparatory stages of offering our in-person Youth Readers program to students at Escondido High School and Del Norte High School. Our team worked closely with principals, student leaders, teacher-advisors, child-care center directors, service organization representatives, and community volunteers to prepare for launching this exciting program.

Additionally, student interns from e3 Civic High School participated in our virtual Youth Readers program by creating educational read-aloud videos from home. These videos will continue to be shared with teachers, parents and preschool students at Head Start centers in the San Diego area in effort to engage children in the joy of sharing a storybook.

"[I was motivated to volunteer] because I've always had a passion for reading, and it helps me to connect with the world and everything around me. In addition to this, I've also had a passion for taking care of children and helping to teach them."

-High school student and Youth Readers program volunteer



Youth participants

18

Children benefitted

212

YOUTH READERS PROGRAM

Reading Legacies 2022 Annual Report

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

January-December 2022

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+

Dr. Seuss Foundation
McBeth Foundation
Hervey Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

City of Coronado Community Grant
City of San Diego Small Business and Nonprofit Relief Fund in partnership with The San Diego Foundation
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The Judith Campbell Educational and Community Foundation
Ralph M. Parsons Foundation- Directors Grants Program on behalf of Gayle Wilson

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$100,000+

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McCarthy Family Foundation
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 Cheryl Carter King Family Foundation

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Wintemute Family Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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CareFusion Foundation at The San Diego Foundation
Mr. Terry Carter
The Chick-fil-A, Inc. Giving Fund at The National Christian Foundation
The Christopher Family Foundation - discretionary fund of Doris K. Christopher
City of Coronado Community Grant
City of San Diego Small Business and Nonprofit Relief Fund in partnership with The San Diego Foundation
David C. Copley Foundation
Fieldstone Foundation
Friends of Children United Society (FOCUS)
Goodwin Family Memorial Trust at Wells Fargo
Guilford Whitney Foundation Fund at The San Diego Foundation
Hand to Hand, A Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation
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Vital Spark Foundation
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 by directing all donations made in his memory into the Stephen R. Lewis, M.D. Legacy Fund for Reading Legacies.

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.

(Legacy Fund donors are indicated with an asterisk.)

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.

Total volunteer hours in 2022: **322 hours**



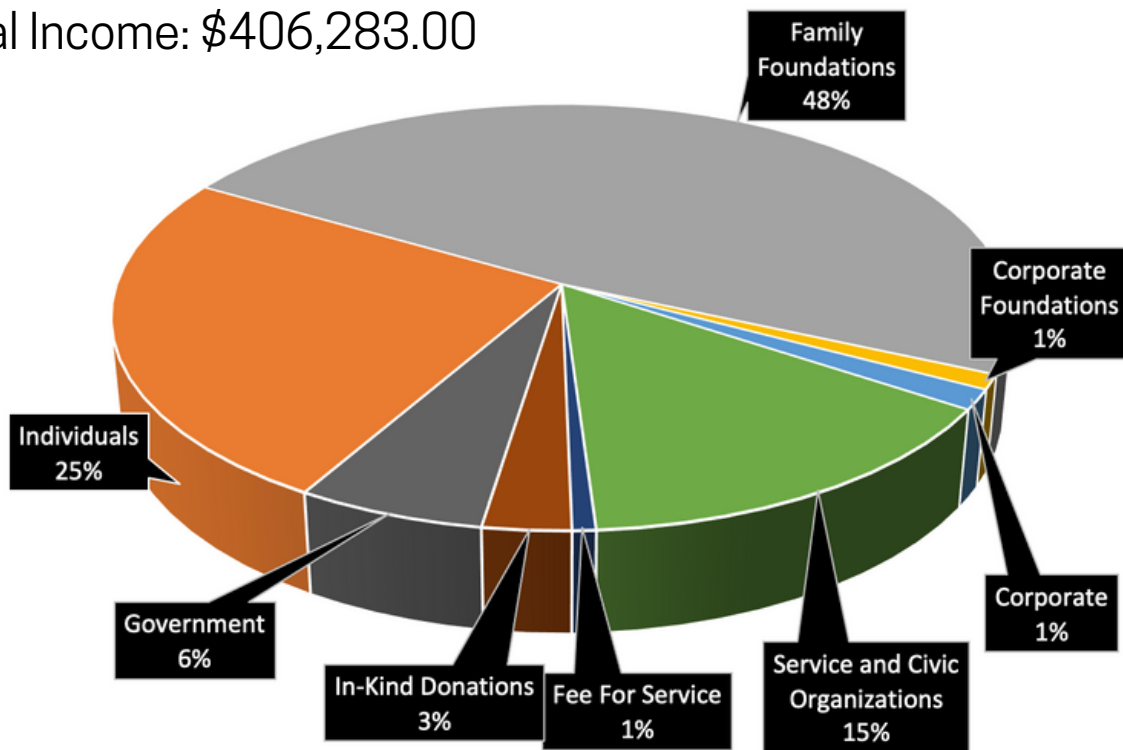
Elana Levens-Craig, Reading Legacies board member, former special education teacher, school board member, and business owner, and Sandy Pugliese, retired community relations manager, were the volunteers (pictured below, top right corner) to lead the first Book Bridges workshop after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

In their words, the experience was ***“incredibly impactful.”***

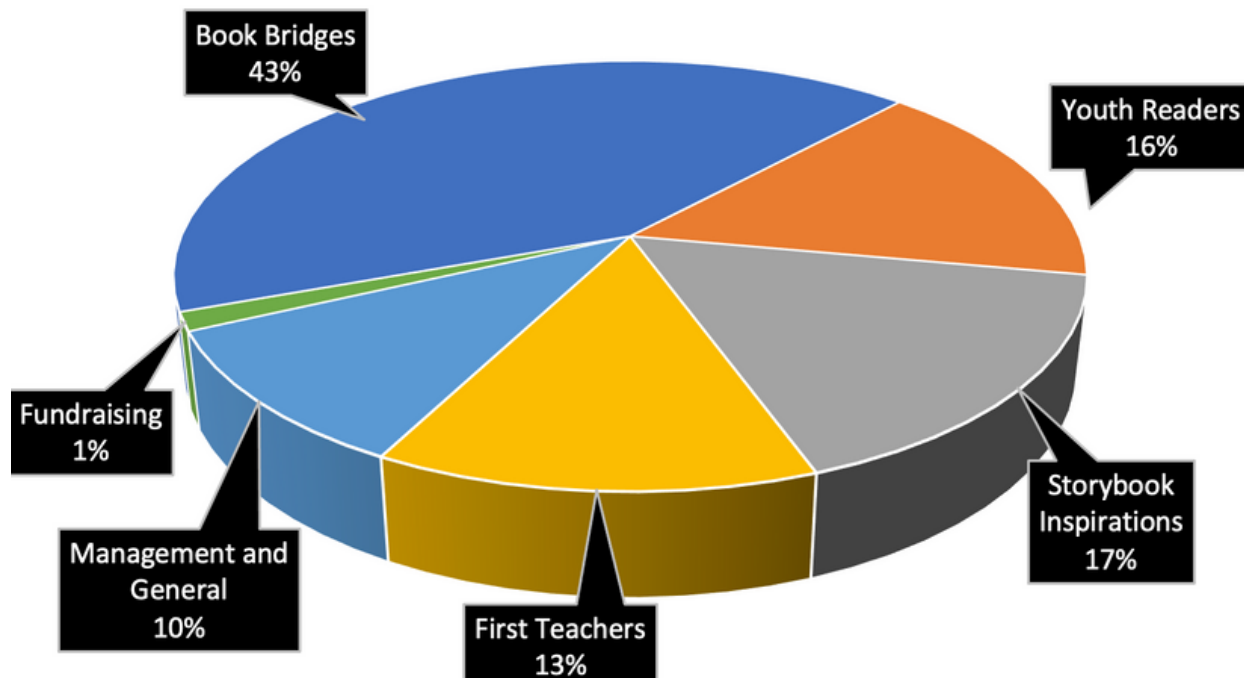


2022 INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

Total Income: \$406,283.00



Total Expenses: \$362,302.00



... 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   

www.readinglegacies.org