#### EMPOWERING KIDS THROUGH READING

# HERE WE GROW



2018-2019 IMPACT REPORT





### DEAR FRIENDS,

The past school year was marked with multiple firsts for us . . . the launch of The Reading Express mobile

classroom for little ones, the creation of a very ambitious three-year strategic plan for growth, two facilitated Think Tank sessions, having served more than 2,000 children and parents, and two record-breaking fundraising events.

Our passion has and always will be to stand in the gap for children and families by developing literacy skills and proficient readers by 3rd grade, empowering parents with additional skills and materials to serve as their child's first and most important teacher, providing positive role models our students can trust, and surrounding those we serve with staff and volunteers who pour into their lives each day.

We have an incredible history and are now looking forward to an amazing future! I am excited to share two BIG announcements! We have changed our name to Literacy Now to better reflect who we are and what we do. We have also updated our tagline that speaks to the heart of our mission: Empowering Kids Through Reading

We plan to double in size within the next two school years! We are on our way to doubling our capacity with the addition of a 10th HISD campus, and a 40% increase in the number of children served in our Reading Intervention program this year. With 63% of Houston area 3rd graders not reading on grade level, we cannot wait to expand our services and close the achievement gaps for some of Houston's most vulnerable children. We must do more NOW, so we are!

We look forward to sharing our successes, challenges, and needs with you – our donors, partners, volunteers, and employees – as we expand and serve. Thank you for being a part of this urgent work, we are honored to do this work and to do it with YOU!

Blessings, Cacque

Jacque Daughtry, Executive Director

# DONATE

**BY MAIL** 14781 Memorial Dr. #25, Houston, TX 77079

**ONLINE** www.literacynowhouston.org

CONNECT

LITERACYNOWHOUSTON. ORG

# VOLUNTEER

#### WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES OCTOBER - MAY

Lunch Bunch Mentor The Reading Express Reading Intervention

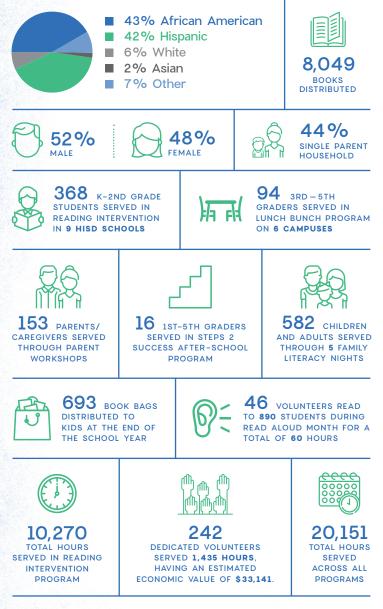
#### **ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITIES**

- Family Literacy Night
- Read Aloud Month
- Administrative Projects
- Themed Literacy Enrichment Group Activities



# 2018-2019 BY THE NUMBERS

# PEOPLE **1,906** STUDENTS SERVED **487** ADULTS



# OVER THE PAST 12 YEARS OVER 17,000 CHILDREN AND PARENTS SERVED



I am a retired teacher and discovered Literacy Now at my neighborhood school this past year. As a volunteer, I got to witness the smiles on many students' faces as they achieved goals and grew in selfconfidence. Small group instruction and the tireless support of the Literacy Now staff made this possible. I can't wait for the next school year and to be a small part of Literacy Now!

#### -BARBARA LAMPORT,

Reading Intervention Assistant, Walnut Bend Elementary

Words cannot explain how much we appreciate their programs and how much they have helped my two kids to become better readers. Thank you for your books, teachers, and your love and service!

-PARENT

Literacy Now does an awesome job of not only providing skilled professionals but also professionals who really care about the kids.

-CHRIS WALKER, Principal, Ashford Elementary

Literacy Now is awesome because it helped me to be a better person. The teachers help us deal with problems at school and at home. Literacy Now has taught me so much and we really need more programs like this because there are a lot of kids out in the world who need them.

- ORLANDO, 5th grader

# LIVES TRANSFORMED

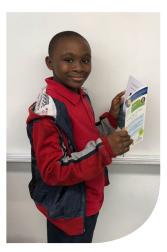


# "I THINK I CAN. I THINK I CAN. I THINK I CAN. I KNOW I CAN." - THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD

"I'm Adam, and I'm six but I can't read." When we first met Adam, he was a timid kindergarten student in our Reading Intervention program at Shadowbriar Elementary. At the start of the program, he recognized less than half of the alphabet and the sounds that letters make. After twenty-three weeks of individualized small-group instruction, Adam improved his foundational skills by 73% and began reading on a kindergarten level. Seeing Adam's face light up with a smile after confidently reading his first books was the biggest reward of all! He is now able to read on a kindergarten level and is much more prepared for first grade.

# "UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT, NOTHING IS GOING TO GET BETTER. IT'S NOT." - THE LORAX

Trachaum was a 3rd grader in our Lunch Bunch program at Ross Elementary School and was mentored by Nestor Nafareno who has been volunteering in the program for two years. According to Nestor, "Trauchan began the program with tendencies toward bullying. He definitely improved throughout the year, and I believe he's learned to be more of a role model for other students. I hope to continue working with him next year as he further develops his social skills. He has a big heart and dreams of one day becoming a police officer so he can help his neighborhood. As he put it, 'Police don't like to be in my neighborhood, and I want to protect the kids when I get older.' Dreams change, but he has good intentions, and I think the program has definitely helped him! He is a great kid!"





# "A PERSON'S A PERSON, NO MATTER HOW SMALL." - HORTON HEARS A WHO

"My 3-year-old daughter and I love The Reading Express program! Every Wednesday, she gets very excited waiting in the window of our apartment for the bus to roll up. Because German is my first language, having the staff of Literacy Now teach her has helped her so much in her language development. I can't thank Literacy Now enough for bringing this program to our community." - Parent

LITERACY NOW

# "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME." - THE WIZARD OF OZ

"Not only has Literacy Now helped my kids, but they have also helped me as a parent. I have opportunities to make new friends, get closer to the teachers at school, and to learn different skills to help my kids with their reading and development at home. The volunteers and staff are always there to help me when I need it. I have people I can go to for advice who are always willing to listen and help without any hesitation. We especially enjoy the Family Literacy Night events because it is something our whole family can participate in together, and the kids are learning while they are playing, which we love." - Parent





#### GIVING TUESDAY · TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

This December 3rd, join the #GivingTuesday movement and make a difference by donating. Your support will provide books, activity supplies, and teaching materials for The Reading Express mobile classroom.

LITERACY NOW GUILD LUNCHEON • MARCH 27, 2020

At The Junior League of Houston

#### NATIONAL READ ALOUD MONTH · FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020

Literacy Now is joining forces with other non-profits throughout the country to raise awareness among children and families about the importance of reading aloud to children every day. We hope you will choose to join us in this endeavor by being one of the one million people promoting Read Aloud Month by placing volunteer readers in our schools and/or with your financial support.

# HOW DONATIONS IMPACT OUR KIDS

\$25	Toward literacy enrichment activity supplies
\$50	Toward supplies and materials for a Family Literacy Night
\$100	Provides 35 books to be distributed to children
\$200	Toward materials and supplies for The Reading Express mobile classroom
\$500	Toward materials and supplies for the Lunch Bunch mentoring program
\$1,000	Sponsors one child in the Reading Intervention program
\$2,500	Toward materials and supplies for 10 Parent Workshops.
\$5,000	Toward the cost of one Reading Interventionist
\$10,000	Toward the cost of program materials and consumables for multiple programs

# THE HORTON SOCIETY

THERE IS LEARNING TO BE DONE! THEY NEED HELP TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. WILL YOU BE THE ONE?

Please join our monthly giving program -The Horton Society - as we set our students on their way. For just a dollar a day, your tax-deductible monthly contribution will go toward supporting our Reading Intervention program that provides individualized, small-group reading interventions for at-risk students in grades K - 2. Through this program, we are serving 450 students annually in ten HISD Title 1 schools.

As a member of The Horton Society, you will "hear" great things about "who" you are helping. You will receive quarterly updates on the progress of our students and the places they are going. You will also be featured on our Horton Society Members web page. To become a member, please visit our website at literacynowhouston.org.

EMPOWERING KIDS THROUGH READING

# FINANCIALS FISCAL YEAR

8.15% INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

37.75%

9.93%

# MAJOR SUPPORTERS · 2018-2019

42.56%

EVENT NET

Holly & Jose Bayardo Kimberly & Scott Bayley Holly & Breen Haire

Jessica & Ted Moore Camille & Tom Reiser Mindy & Sean Rice

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE FOUNDATIONS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE



AnnaLee & Andy Waite **Bret West** 

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SOURCES OF INCOME

··· \$406,941

\$87,780

\$4,000

· · · \$8,697

\$458,683

\$107,000

\$1,077,696

0.37% FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

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