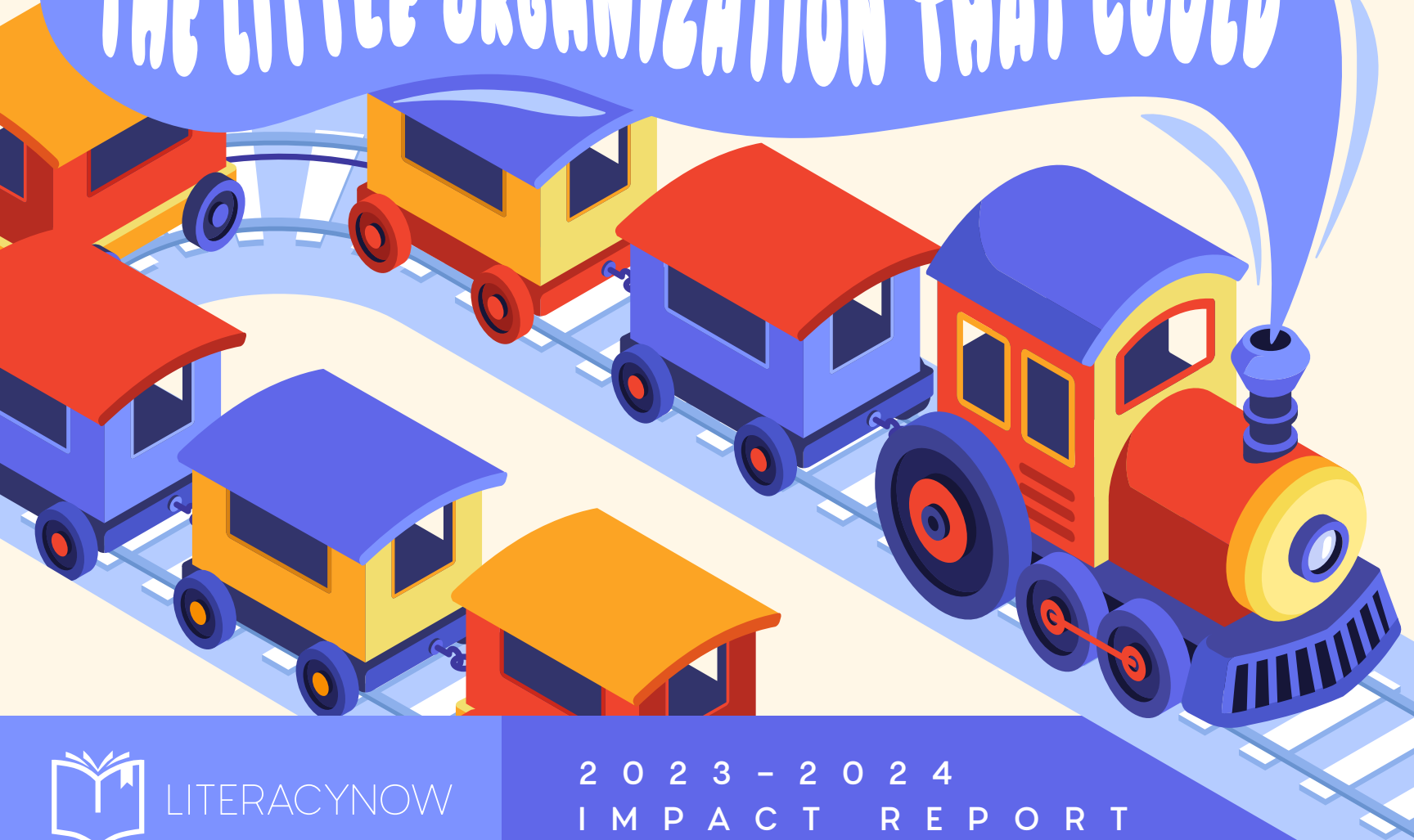


THE LITTLE ORGANIZATION THAT COULD



LITERACYNOW

2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4

I M P A C T R E P O R T

FAREWELL FROM YOUR OUTGOING CONDUCTOR



HELLO DEAR FRIENDS,

As you likely know, this is my last letter as the Conductor of this little organization that could. As I reflect on the last 17+ years, I am incredibly humbled by the generosity of time, talent, and treasure shared with Making It Better/Literacy Now by thousands of amazing supporters just like YOU! Our donors, volunteers, staff, and partners are absolutely beyond compare and what we've built, together, these last 17+ years is incredible. We started in one HISD school with me and 8 part-time tutors and in 2023-24, we had 10 full-time and 53 part-time staff members serving 15 campuses. I am overwhelmed with gratitude to have had the privilege to lead and earn the trust of donors, volunteers, employees, and partners alike during my time as the Conductor.

My last year at the helm has been quite a ride with many twists and turns brought on by the TEA takeover of HISD. However, I am so incredibly proud of our entire staff who have been flexible while keeping their eyes on what's most important . . . the kids and teaching them to read! Our mantra for 2023-24 was turning challenges into opportunities and we have done just that. I am delighted to say that in 2024-25, we will be expanding our Reading Intervention program from serving in two ISDs to serving in four ISDs and three public charter schools.

Although I am no longer the Conductor of this little organization that could, I am excited about my new role as Donor & Partner Relations Liaison and the opportunities that will afford me to be singularly focused on YOU (and have a bit more personal time)! It's time to entrust the next generation with the future of Literacy Now and I'm thrilled to have a front row seat to watch Jacklyn Minimah-Wilson take the organization to the next level.

Outside of being a wife, mother, and grandmother, leading Making It Better/Literacy Now has been the greatest joy and privilege of my life. I thank each of YOU for your trust, support, and friendship and look forward to continuing this work together!

God bless you, friends,

Jacquie Daughtry

Jacquie Daughtry
Donor & Partner Relations Liaison

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



DEAR LITERACY NOW FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

It is an immense honor to step into the role of Chief Executive Officer at Literacy Now. Taking the helm of an organization that has been a beacon of empowering children and families through literacy is both a privilege and a profound responsibility. The journey ahead is brimming with opportunities to deepen our impact and expand our reach, and I am truly thrilled to steer us on this new voyage.

Your incredible support and steadfast dedication have been instrumental in playing a crucial role in making our vision a reality. It is your belief in our mission that has that has guided our progress and inspired us to strive for excellence. As we move forward, I am committed to building on the strong foundation that has been established and driving our efforts toward even greater achievements.

Together, we have accomplished so much, and I truly believe that with your continued support, we can reach extraordinary heights in the future. My focus will be on expanding outreach and engagement as we chart new courses with more school districts and charter schools; enhancing program effectiveness; and strengthening partnerships and collaboration. To achieve these goals, we need dedicated and passionate supporters like you. I am excited about the opportunity to work together with all of you as we make progress toward our shared goals.

Thank you once again for your belief in our mission and for your continued dedication. I am eager to embark on this journey with you. Together, we can make a profound difference and create lasting positive change in our community.

With deepest gratitude and excitement,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jacklyn Minimah-Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "J" and "M".

Jacklyn Minimah-Wilson, M.Ed.
Chief Executive Officer

AN EXCITING NEW JOURNEY

OH YES, WE DID! 2023-2024 IMPACT



**150%
INCREASE**

IN READING SKILLS FOR
READING INTERVENTION
STUDENTS (AVERAGE)

2,444 TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED



916 K – 5TH GRADE
STUDENTS THROUGH
READING INTERVENTION



1,209 PARENTS THROUGH
PARENT PARTNERSHIP



108 STUDENTS
THROUGH LUNCH BUNCH



211 CHILDREN AND PARENTS
THROUGH THE READING EXPRESS

13,312 TOTAL PROGRAM
SERVICE HOURS

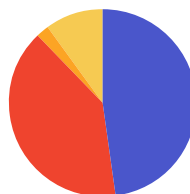
DEMOGRAPHICS



53% MALE



47% FEMALE



■ **48%** Hispanic
■ **40%** African American
■ **7%** Other/Mixed
■ **3%** White

375 VOLUNTEERS READ TO **14,000**
PRE-K-3RD GRADE STUDENTS DURING
HOUSTON READS DAY AT **43** HOUSTON AREA
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



680 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED **1,300** HOURS
AT A VALUE OF **\$39,000**



896
LITERACY KITS
DISTRIBUTED



14,539
TOTAL BOOKS
DISTRIBUTED

THE LITTLE ORGANIZATION THAT COULD

TRANSFORMING CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES

The obstacles posed by the TEA takeover of HISD in the 2023-2024 school year had profound and lasting effects on Literacy Now and the students we served. But as the Little Organization That Could, we were not deterred and have used these challenges as a catalyst for growth in new school districts and charter schools throughout Houston. The resiliency of Literacy Now allowed us to remain steadfast in our vision that every child will read at grade level as we continue to chart new courses and empower kids to read!

I THINK I CAN, I THINK I CAN, I THINK I CAN



Meet Noorsahira, a timid first grader, who joined our Reading Intervention program and struggled to pronounce even the simplest sight words. With determination and effort, she became an independent reader by the end of the year, proving the effectiveness of our program is empowering kids to read!

CLICKY CLACK, MY READING IS ON TRACK



Meet Muzamile, an energetic and humorous young man who was in our Reading Intervention program to help him read at grade level. Our dedicated and compassionate Interventionists worked with him and by the end of the program, Muzamile's reading skills were off the charts as he realized a **229%** increase in his reading skills!

I HAVE NEVER BEEN OVER THE MOUNTAIN, UNTIL NOW

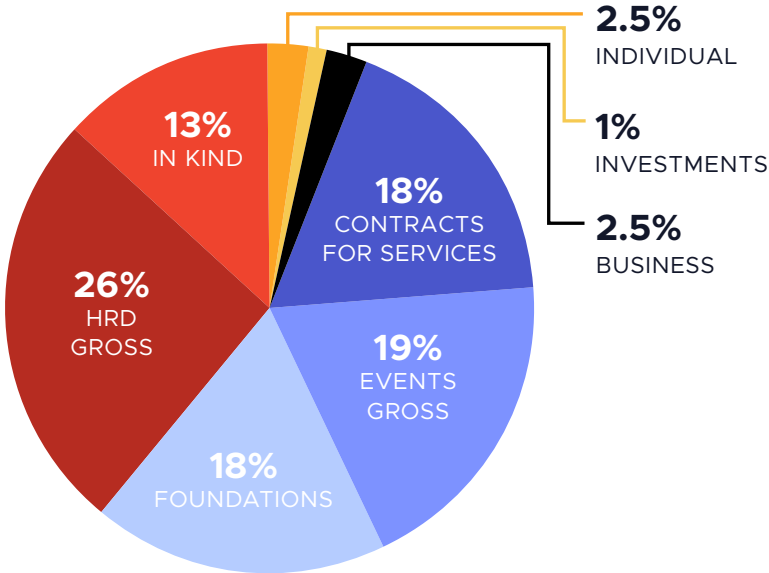


Just like the Little Engine That Could, Sophia was unable to accomplish her goals prior to joining our program. Despite her passion and determination, she faced challenges with reading until she joined our Reading Intervention program, which provided her with the necessary tools and resources to conquer that obstacle.



FINANCIALS + SUPPORT

INCOME SUMMARY 2023-2024



●	.....	\$65,188	●	.....	\$716,314
●	.....	\$503,500	●	.....	\$365,468
●	.....	\$534,175	●	.....	\$43,299
●	.....	\$499,750	●	.....	\$24,680

TOTAL: \$2,752,374

- Amerant Bank
Aris Water Solutions
Audubon Companies
BCCK
Victoria Beard
Julie & Kevin Blount
Boyar Miller
Laura & Nathan Brownell
Bunch Family Charitable Fund
Cadence Bank
CapStreet
Cheniere Energy
Claire and David de Roode
Family Fund
Nisha Desai & Alan Clark
Community Health Choice/
Harris Health System
Jacque & Mike Daughtry
Teresa & John Davis
Stacy & Greg Davis
Deep Well Services
Energy Corridor District
F-E-T
Shelley Frisby
Britain & Jeremy Garner
Harris County Department Of
Education
Austrie Hesford
Hines Interests Limited
Partnership
Jennifer & Brent Howard
Howco
- Kaley & Dana Jurick
Kirkland & Ellis
Karla & Paul LeBlanc
Andrea & James Maher
Mekala Kathirvel & Deepak
Manoharan
Sandra McDowell
Jessica & Ted Moore
Nine Energy
NOV
Locke Lord
Piper Sandler
Rebecca & Dudley Ray
Riveron Holdings LP
Sapphire Natural Gas
Niti & Sanjiv Shah
Cristina & Creighton Smith
Smith & Associates
Solaris Companies
Stallion
TDECU
Texas Mutual Insurance
Company
TPH & Co.
Trammell Crow Company LLC
Vinson & Elkins LLP
Vulcan
Wells Fargo - Wealth
Management
White Deer Management LLC
Dawn & Ken Zieren

THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS FOR MAKING AN IMPACT



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THE KINGDOM TRUST FOUNDATION
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CATHY & FRANK MONTGOMERY
BRET & LYNNE PARDUE
DENISE & KEVIN POYNTER
ANNALEE & ANDY WAITE

ALL ABOARD TO SUPPORT STRUGGLING READERS

\$10K	Helps support the cost of program materials and supplies for our Reading Intervention program
\$5K	Helps support the salary of one Reading Interventionist
\$2.5K	Helps provide materials and supplies for three Parent Engagement Workshops
\$1K	Helps sponsor one child in the Reading Intervention program
\$500	Provides materials, supplies and volunteer training for the Lunch Bunch mentoring program
\$250	Provides materials and supplies for The Reading Express mobile classroom
\$100	Provides 30 books to be distributed to children
\$50	Helps provide supplies and materials for take home backpacks
\$25	Provides literacy enrichment activity supplies

DONATE:



BY MAIL:

14781 Memorial Dr. #25, Houston, TX 77079



ONLINE:

literacynowhouston.org



DON'T GET LEFT AT THE STATION - JOIN US TODAY!

LITERACY NOW 16TH ANNUAL MAGNUMS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

11.09.24 AN UNFORGETTABLE WINE
DINNER HELPING US EMPOWER
THE ST. REGIS HOUSTON KIDS THROUGH READING



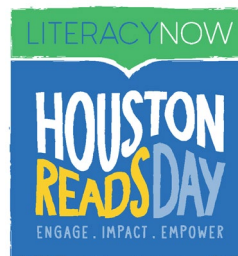
MAKE A BIG IMPACT

Become A *Page Turner*
Monthly Donor TODAY!

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

GIVING TUESDAY DECEMBER 3, 2024

Make a difference by
supporting our Reading
Intervention program on this
Global Day of Giving.



5TH ANNUAL HOUSTON READS DAY FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Join more than 400 volunteers
in reading to over 14,000 Pre-K
through fifth graders to raise
awareness about the literacy
crisis in our city and support our
Reading Intervention program.



11TH ANNUAL GUILD LUNCHEON FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025

Junior League of Houston



BOOK/LITERACY SUPPLIES DRIVE

Support the kids by conducting
a book and/or supplies drive.
[Click here](#) for more information.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Lunch Bunch Mentor

(October – April)

The Reading Express

(October – May)

Group Storytime

(October – April)

Houston Reads Day

(February 28, 2025)

ONGOING:

Story Swap Library

Administrative Projects

Book Stamping

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN

Deepak Manoharan

MEMBERS

Nathan Brownell

Dr. Jessica Faith Carter

Jasmine Castleberry

Fred Charlton

Giselle Rodriguez

Greenwood

John Haley

Monsterville Horton, IV

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Deviyani Misra-Godwin

Lynsey Ritchie

Andy Waite

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Dr. Margie Sutton

CONNECT WITH US



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