



CHARTING NEW COURSES



LITERACYNOW

2024 - 2025

IMPACT REPORT

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



DEAR LITERACY NOW FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

As I reflect on this past fiscal year, I am proud to share that, even while navigating uncharted waters, Literacy Now has emerged stronger than ever. If there is one word that defines us, it is resilience. We adapt quickly, pivot strategically, and remain unwavering in our determination to transform challenges into opportunities. This spirit reflects the heart of Literacy Now: people from all walks of life united by one clear mission, helping struggling readers across our city.

Throughout this report, you'll see highlights of what we've accomplished together. From providing more than **32,000 hours of service** to success stories like Alexzia, who became a confident reader in just 20 weeks, our impact is both measurable and deeply personal. None of this would have been possible without you: our donors, partners, volunteers, board, and staff. For your support, we are deeply and sincerely grateful.

Even as we celebrate these achievements, we recognize the work still ahead. Currently, we are **reaching only about 20%** of Houston-area children who need our help. Guided by our vision that every child should read on grade level, we remain committed to expanding access to our proven programs and transforming even more lives.

Thank you for your continued support and ALL you do for the children and families we serve. Your generosity means more than you can imagine.

For the Children,

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

2,297
TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED



688 K - 12TH GRADE
READING INTERVENTION
STUDENTS



1,050 PARENTS THROUGH
PARENT PARTNERSHIP



45 LUNCH BUNCH
STUDENTS SERVED



514 READING EXPRESS
CHILDREN AND PARENTS

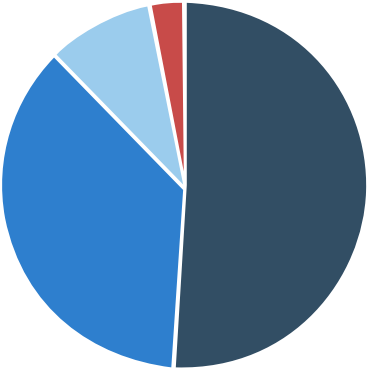


393
LITERACY KITS
DISTRIBUTED



13,400
TOTAL BOOKS
DISTRIBUTED

DEMOGRAPHICS



51% Hispanic
37% African American
9% Other/Mixed
3% White



50%
FEMALE



50%
MALE



90% INCREASE

IN READING SKILLS FOR READING
INTERVENTION STUDENTS (AVERAGE)



665 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED 1,845 HOURS
AT A VALUE OF \$64,188

EXPLORING OUR IMPACT

2024-2025

BUILDING A BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS

This summer, Literacy Now took a bold step by joining a pilot program with Harris County Public Library and the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department's Leadership Academy. For the first time, we introduced our proven Reading Intervention program to high school students within the juvenile probation system.

We believe every child, regardless of age or past life experiences, deserves the opportunity to read. During our time at the Leadership Academy, we built a bridge to literacy grounded in foundational skills, compassion, trust, and respect.

The results were inspiring. Thanks to the program's success, we are excited to share that next year Literacy Now will provide our full 25-week Reading Intervention program to the young men at the Leadership Academy, furthering our mission to transform lives through literacy.



READY, SET, SAIL!

Meet Alexzia, a shy Kindergartener who joined our Reading Intervention program as an emergent bilingual student at Best Elementary School. At the beginning of the school year, she faced significant challenges with sight words and was unable to read.



However, after just 20 weeks, Alexzia made remarkable progress, mastering a wealth of sight words and is reading fluently. Her newfound confidence shines through as she shares her improved reading skills with her teacher and mom.

SETTING COURSE

Meet Adan, a 1st grader at Jones Primary in Aldine ISD and his Reading Interventionist, Valorie Swain. When we first met Adan, he only knew one lowercase letter and refused to engage with his group. In fact, he would often stand by the door, shying away from any interaction. After some encouragement from Ms. Swain,



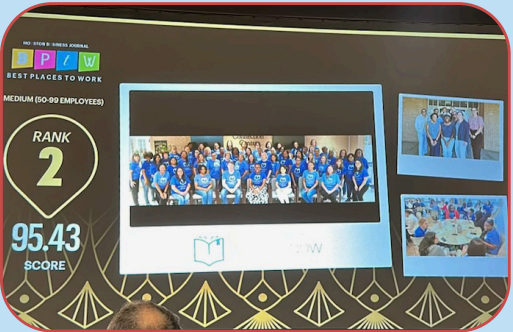
Adan slowly but surely began to join in on the group activities recognizing it as a safe and welcoming place. It wasn't long before he began to really look forward to each session. Adan is surely on the right path to becoming the best version of himself!

LAND HO!

Anchoring Some of the Year's Biggest Achievements

Literacy Now charted a major milestone: earning 2nd place in the *Houston Business Journal's* annual survey of the Best Medium-Sized Companies to Work For. Competing against both for-profit and non-profit organizations, this recognition is a true testament to the strong and supportive culture we've built together.

At Literacy Now, our crew - staff, board, volunteers, and partners - are the wind in our sails, making it possible to navigate challenges and celebrate victories like this one.



The 11th Annual Guild Luncheon dreams big and flies high! Thanks to our wonderful Guild, the luncheon was the most successful in our history, a true voyage of generosity and vision. The funds raised are helping Literacy Now go the distance, ensuring that

struggling readers across our city have the support they need to reach new horizons.

Our 5th Annual Houston Reads Day exceeded all expectations, reaching a **record breaking 16,000 Pre-K through 5th grade students** across Houston. In just one day, volunteers



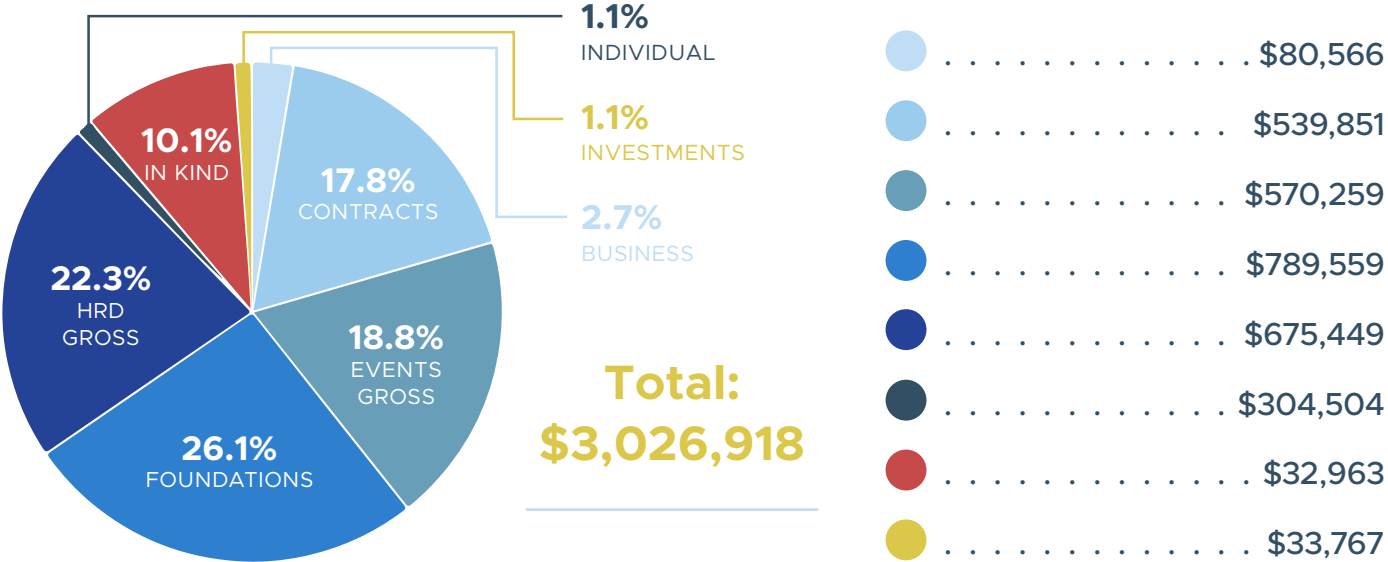
logged more than **13,700 minutes** of reading: a tidal wave of stories, smiles, and inspiration for our youngest learners.



FINANCIALS

INCOME SUMMARY 2024 – 2025

MAJOR SUPPORTERS



Audubon Companies
Lynda Bain
Julia & Jody Batdorf
BCKK Engineering
Julie & Kevin Blount
Boyar Miller
Laura & Nathan Brownell
Bunch Family Charitable Fund
Cactus Companies

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Cheniere Energy
Chubb Charitable Foundation
Nisha Desai & Alan Clark
Community Health Choice/Harris Health System
Jacque & Mike Daughtry

Claire & David de Roode Family Foundation
Philana Diaz
Emerson
F-E-T
Tom Fitzpatrick
Britain & Jeremy Garner
HEB
Albert & Ethel Herzstein Foundation
Hines Interests

Houston Association of Insurance Agents
Houston Foundation
Houston Junior Forum
Houston Pi Beta Phi Foundation
Jennifer & Brent Howard
Kalsey & Dana Jurick
Steve Kesten
Karla & Paul LeBlanc

Deviyani Misra-Godwin
NOV
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Patterson UTI
Piper Sandler
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Seyfarth Shaw LLP
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TDECU
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Whalley Foundation
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THANKS TO OUR CHAMPIONS FOR LITERACY DONORS FOR MAKING AN IMPACT



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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	Toward Reading Intervention program delivery
\$2.5K	Provides materials and supplies for three Parent Engagement Workshops
\$1K	Helps sponsor one child in the Reading Intervention program
\$500	Toward Reading Intervention program curriculum
\$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 MISS THE BOAT – SET SAIL WITH US!


Save The Date

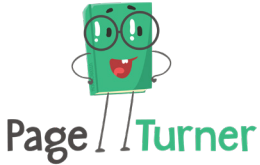


LITERACY NOW 17TH ANNUAL
**MAGNUMS MAKE
A DIFFERENCE**
an unforgettable wine dinner
HELPING US EMPOWER KIDS THROUGH READING

Saturday, November 15th, 2025
6:30pm
The St. Regis Houston

CO-CHAIRS
BRITAIN & JEREMY GARNER

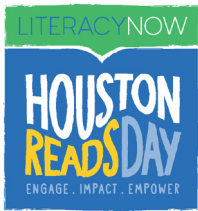




BE A CHAMPION FOR LITERACY!
Become A Page Turner Monthly Donor TODAY!



GIVING TUESDAY – DECEMBER 2, 2025
Make a difference by supporting our Reading Intervention program on this Global Day of Giving.



**6TH ANNUAL HOUSTON READS DAY
FEBRUARY 27, 2026**
Join more than 400 volunteers in reading to over 16,000 Pre-K through fifth graders to raise awareness about the literacy crisis in our city and support our Reading Intervention program.



**12TH ANNUAL GUILD LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026**
Junior League of Houston



BOOK/LITERACY SUPPLIES DRIVE
Support the kids by conducting a book and/or supplies drive.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

The Reading Express

(October – May)

Group Storytime

(October – June)

Story Swap Library

(October – June)

You Matter Mailbox

(October – June)

Houston Reads Day

(February 27, 2026)

ONGOING:

Young Professionals

Book Drives

Administrative Projects

Book Sorting

2024 - 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jasmine Castleberry

Fred Charlton

Giselle Rodriguez
Greenwood

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Monsterville Horton, IV

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Deviyani Misra-Godwin

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Andy Waite

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Mohammad Shahzad

Dr. Margie Sutton

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jacklyn Minimah-Wilson, M.Ed.

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