



Reading Is  
Fundamental  
**Pittsburgh**

# Reading Is **FUN**damental

Pittsburgh



## 2015- 2016 Annual Report

6/1/15 - 5/31/16



RIF Pittsburgh



Storymobile

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to share with you Reading is FUNdamental (RIF) Pittsburgh's Annual Report!

For over three decades, RIF Pittsburgh's mission has been to provide children with the resources, motivation, and opportunities they need to develop a life-long love of reading. In the past year, we continued to add depth and breadth to our services by impacting the lives of more than 22,000 children and families. **We put more than 103,000 books into the hands, hearts, and homes of the children and families who are most in need.**

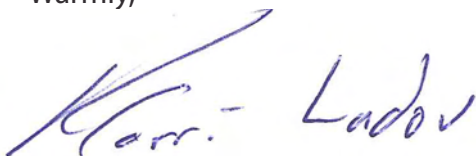
Recently, we were thrilled to hear from one of these "RIF Kids"—our new friend, Damon! I received a voicemail from the tiniest, cutest voice ever, thanking us again and again for the "awesome" RIF book he'd chosen. I called Damon back, only to learn that he was a 1st grader at PPS Manchester, was just learning to use the telephone, and had called us all on his own. Later, I visited him at his school and brought a backpack full of his favorite stories. The happiness in Damon's eyes when he saw the books was priceless! Damon and his aunt couldn't wait to add them to his growing collection of RIF books at home. Continuous support from people just like you is helping to make all of this possible.

The literacy gap that exists in the City of Pittsburgh, as evidenced by findings in the 2016 A+ Schools Report, is unacceptable. *All* children deserve the best chance at success in school and in life, and that's why we at RIF Pittsburgh are working to ensure that kids, starting in their earliest years, have the resources and opportunities they need to learn to love to read. By providing books, programming, mentoring, and more, we have the opportunity to play a positive role in a child's life story, and to impact him or her year after year.

I hope you enjoy reading about our accomplishments. If you have any questions, (or, like Damon, just want to talk about books!) please do not hesitate to contact me.

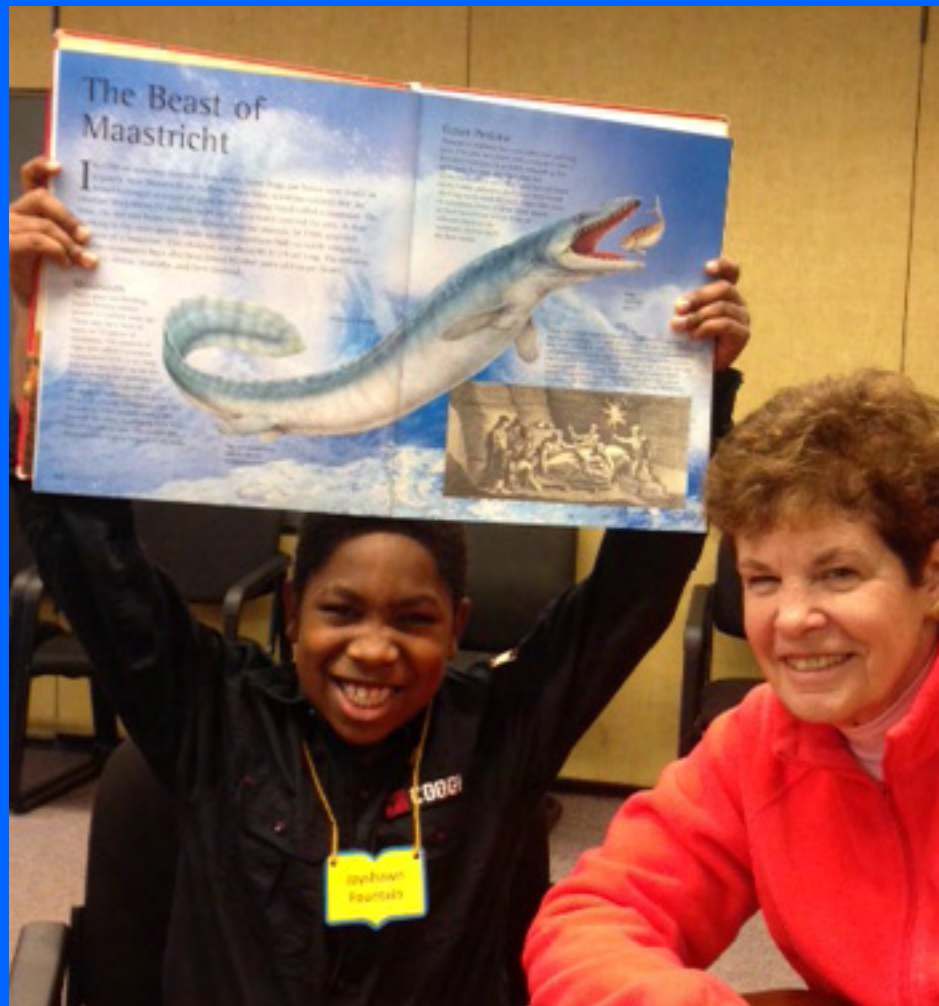
Thank you for joining in our mission to inspire a life-long love of reading in the children and families that we serve.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Florri Ladov". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Florri Ladov  
Executive Director

"They give out the most greatest books and make sure I read always."



"My child loves the program. I am very proud of her excitement!"

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2015, the NCES' bi-annual "Reading Report" stated that 31% of all fourth graders in the United States cannot read at even the basic level. The report went on to note that children from economically disadvantaged families consistently perform significantly lower than other children in school, especially in reading.

The situation here in Pittsburgh is no different. According to A+ Schools' 2016 *Report to the Community*, **a significant literacy gap exists for economically disadvantaged students in Pittsburgh, placing thousands of our city's children at risk of academic failure.** This report shows that nearly 60% of economically disadvantaged children in the Pittsburgh Public Schools' elementary schools cannot read at grade level.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Pittsburgh addresses these critical needs in our community by offering consistent, high-quality, "pushed-in" literacy and educational programming for more than **22,000 economically disadvantaged children** in Pittsburgh and the surrounding communities. In the last year alone, we put more than **103,000 self-selected books** into the hands of the children and families that need them the most! **Our research-based programs work to bridge the local literacy and achievement gaps and aim to spark a life-long passion for reading and learning in the children that we serve.**

Going forward, we will continue to saturate our targeted neighborhoods with as many of our programs as possible, exposing "RIF Kids" to innovative programs from birth through their teenage years.

\*Please note, our program figures are for our program year 2015-2016 (school year 2015-16 and summer 2016).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bryan Iams, President

Cary Blancett  
Tom Dowling  
Nicholas Galizia  
Matthew Harbaugh  
Pace Markowitz  
Mark Morrison  
Jessica O'Brien  
Francis X. Solano Jr. MD

**"[RIF] IS SO  
FULL OF FUN  
IDEAS, COOL  
ACTIVITIES, AND I  
LOVE THE BOOKS  
THEY GIVE ME.  
ALSO, THEY MAKE  
ME PURSUE MY  
DREAMS. THANK  
YOU RIF!"**

*Student at Pittsburgh Linden*

**Our mission is to provide children with the resources, motivation, and opportunities to develop a life-long love of reading.**

**"They give you awesome - and I mean awesome - books."**

# WE SERVE....

- More than **22,000 economically disadvantaged children** and families in Pittsburgh and the surrounding communities through our programs and **an additional 7,400 through community events**
- More than **170 sites**
- **Seven targeted neighborhoods:** East Liberty, Hazelwood, Hill District, Homewood, Northside, South Side, and Wilkinsburg

Our core programs:

- Bring **innovative, high-quality literacy experiences** to children and families
- Support students as they **build literacy skills and work to develop a life-long love of reading**
- Provide more than **103,000 books each year** to the children who need them the most

## NORTHSIDE

*Books for Keeps, Everybody Wins! and Storymobile programs*

7,465 Children Served  
37 Sites Visited  
18,352 Books Given  
2,927 Books Loaned  
89 Mentors Recruited

## SOUTH SIDE

*Books for Keeps, Everybody Wins!, and Storymobile programs*

3,653 Children Served  
25 Sites Visited  
9,979 Books Given  
2,506 Books Loaned  
19 Mentors Recruited

## REST OF CITY

*Books for Keeps program*

7,037 Children Served  
33 Sites Visited  
19,738 Books Given

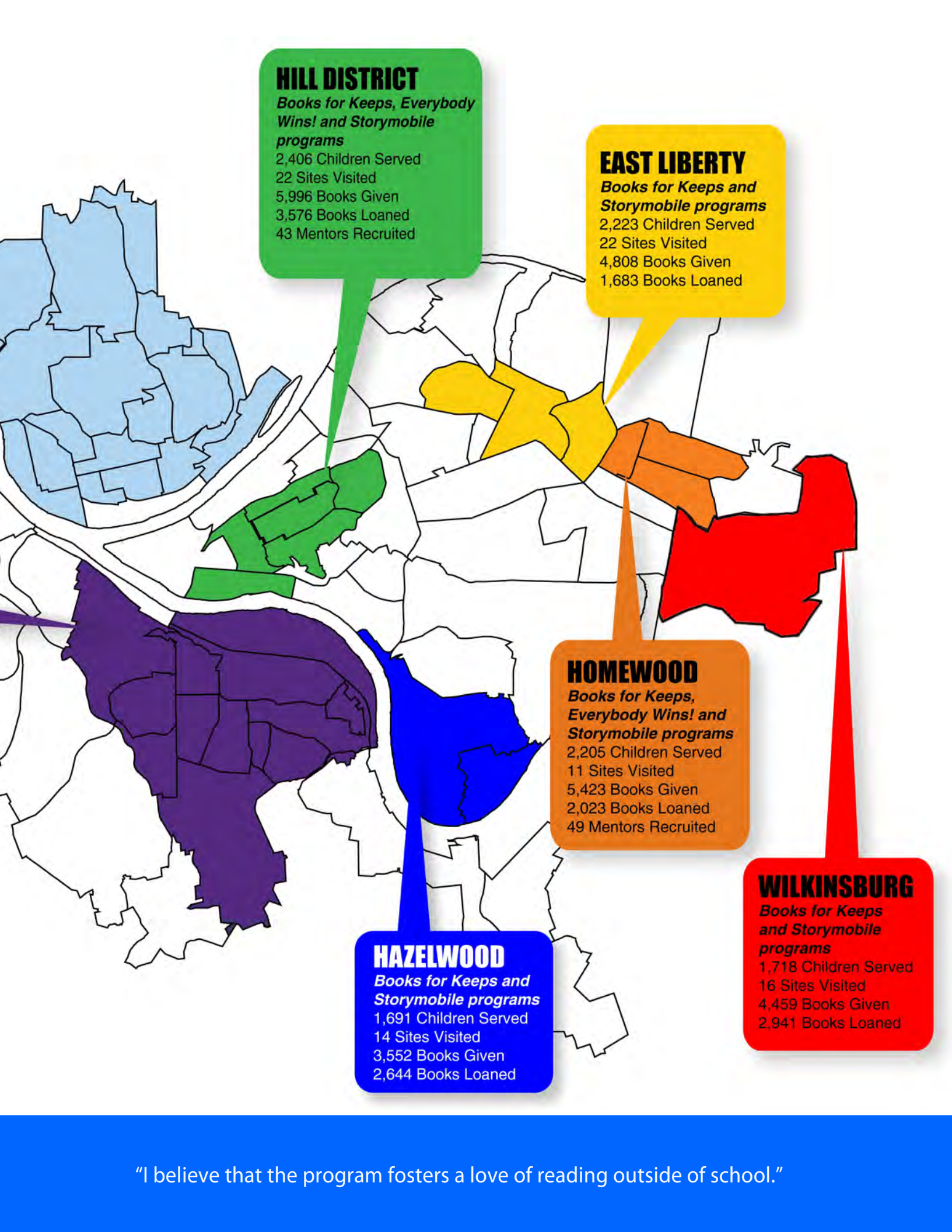
## OUTSIDE OF CITY

*Books for Keeps program*

851 Children Served  
3 Sites Visited  
2,811 Books Given

\*Program Year 9/15 - 8/16

"My favorite part of RIF is that we get cool books!"



**HILL DISTRICT**

*Books for Keeps, Everybody Wins! and Storymobile programs*

2,406 Children Served  
 22 Sites Visited  
 5,996 Books Given  
 3,576 Books Loaned  
 43 Mentors Recruited

**EAST LIBERTY**

*Books for Keeps and Storymobile programs*

2,223 Children Served  
 22 Sites Visited  
 4,808 Books Given  
 1,683 Books Loaned

**HOMWOOD**

*Books for Keeps, Everybody Wins! and Storymobile programs*

2,205 Children Served  
 11 Sites Visited  
 5,423 Books Given  
 2,023 Books Loaned  
 49 Mentors Recruited

**HAZELWOOD**

*Books for Keeps and Storymobile programs*

1,691 Children Served  
 14 Sites Visited  
 3,552 Books Given  
 2,644 Books Loaned

**WILKINSBURG**

*Books for Keeps and Storymobile programs*

1,718 Children Served  
 16 Sites Visited  
 4,459 Books Given  
 2,941 Books Loaned

"I believe that the program fosters a love of reading outside of school."



# BOOKS FOR KEEPS

Our largest program, Books for Keeps, features fun, educational Reading Celebrations that combine story times, motivational literacy activities, and the opportunity to select a book to take home and keep. Designed to engage children in the joy of reading and learning throughout the school year and summer, Reading Celebrations pair story times with engaging activities like games, crafts, and scientific exploration!

By combining literature with cooking, dance, technology, and more, Books for Keeps works **to ignite a passion for reading and learning that will follow children throughout their lives.** These positive reading experiences are especially critical for children at-risk of educational failure, providing them with the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond.

In the 2015-16 program year, Books for Keeps:

- Provided hands on, interactive Reading Celebrations at **97 sites** across the City of Pittsburgh
- **Engaged with over 16,000 economically disadvantaged students** at schools, early childhood centers, and afterschool programs
- Put over **52,000 new, high-quality books** directly into the hands, hearts, and homes of the children who are most in need
- Partnered with the United Way to bring more than 850 books to pre-teens and their mentors through the **Be A Middle School Mentor program**

“They were exposed to so many different stories and it has really sparked their interest in books.”



# MATH AND SCIENCE

Students and teachers agree—they can't get enough of our Books for Keeps Math and Science Reading Celebrations! Each special session kicks off with an interactive read-aloud story, focused on a **STEAM** theme. Children then become mini-mathematicians, engineers, and scientists by participating in hands-on experiments, games, explorations, and projects, all based on the book.

After the activity, each child also chooses a brand-new book to take home and keep from a selection of books that explore the world through the lens of math and science. These books often reinforce the skills and topics that were covered in the Celebration, peak a child's curiosity by exposing them to new material, and **empower them to reach their full potential by reading and learning every single day.**

In the 2015-16 program year, our Books for Keeps Math and Science Program:

- Gave over 3,100 children the opportunity to explore math, science, engineering, technology, and more through STEAM-centered Reading Celebrations at 27 different sites
- **Encouraged curiosity and passion for discovery in children, and helped to plant the first seeds for a life-long love of learning**
- Invited special guest scientists from ALCOSAN, Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, and others into classrooms, giving students a first-hand look at careers in STEAM fields



"It helps you learn your words, so when you go to college you know lots of words."

# EVERYBODY WINS!

Everybody Wins! is a lunchtime literacy and mentoring program that strives to build literacy skills and a love of reading in elementary school students. This program pairs first, second, and third graders with corporate and community volunteers to share lunch, conversation, and good books. Students look forward to spending time with their reading buddies each week and benefit from the encouragement of a caring adult, while mentors enjoy sharing a love of books with their students.

One study, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Academy of Sciences, found that **Everybody Wins! is one of few programs that effectively impacts low-income students in reading comprehension, motivation, achievement, as well as overall academic performance, classroom behavior, self-confidence, and social skills.** The study, conducted in 1998, focused on the Everybody Wins! DC program.

In the 2015-16 program year, Everybody Wins!

- Hosted weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions at four PPS schools: Faison, King, Phillips, and Weil
- **Paired nearly 200 first, second, and third grade students with corporate and community volunteers** to share lunch, conversation, and books—each and every week
- **Loaned over 1,500 books through our “sharing” program**, making it possible for students to take books home to read with their families in between mentoring sessions
- **Gave participating children 2,000 books to take home and keep** over the course of the year, most of which were specifically chosen by the students themselves



“They feel a sense of pride, excitement, and joy to be a part of a community of learners as well as bonding with mentors.”



# STORYMOBILE

Our three lending-libraries-on-wheels are a sight to see! They drive up to early childhood centers, schools, afterschool programs, and housing communities on a bi-weekly basis, encouraging children, families, and educators to read, read, read. **Each visit features songs; stories; educational games and activities; and the opportunity to choose a book from our diverse, high-interest, culturally-relevant collection. Our sessions focus on kindergarten readiness and reinforce the skills that children learn in their classrooms.**

In the evenings, the Storymobile brings books and programming directly into the communities that are most in need. While engaging children through puppets, technology, crafts, and more, we also build strong relationships with parents, grandparents, and community members, increasing the impact of our visits and assuring that the truck is a safe, warm, inviting location within the public housing communities. We strive to develop the Storymobile into a welcome gathering place for all of the children, families, and educators we serve.

In the 2015-16 program year, our Storymobiles:

- **Traveled to more than 70 sites, serving over 5,300 children**, in our target communities: East Liberty, Hazelwood, Hill District, Homewood, North Side, South Side, and Wilksburg
- **Helped children self-select nearly 14,000 books to keep during our bi-weekly visits** in public housing communities and afterschool programs, as well as during our Reading Celebrations 3-4 times a year
- **Loaned nearly 17,000 books to children through our circulating Storymobile collection**, and loaned over 3,000 books and resource materials to educators

“When I’m sad the Storymobile makes me... HAPPY!!!”

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Reading Is FUNdamental engages children, families, and educators inside the schools, early childhood centers, and afterschool programs that we serve, but our program has a much wider touch—we are on the ground throughout the year, connecting with people wherever they live, work, and play. We strive to create a broader “culture of literacy” within our community, spreading the fun and importance of childhood literacy wherever we go. In order to deepen our relationships with families right in their own neighborhoods, **RIF Pittsburgh brings books, activities, and smiling faces to over 100 events each year.** These events not only serve to publicize our many programs, but they allow us to spend time with community members at block parties, holiday lunches, volunteer days, back-to-school celebrations, and more. Of course, events also give us the opportunity to put even more books into the hands of children and families!

Our newest initiative, Storymobile Book Babies, engages the youngest “RIF Kids” and their parents, establishing a love of reading from the earliest age. For the past two years, **we have built the Book Babies program into a multi-faceted early literacy service for families living in public housing communities. At special events designed just for them, moms have been able to get “mommy makeovers,” engage with guest speakers from Pittsburgh Brown Mamas, the Office of Child Development, and more; and simply take time for fun and fellowship with other parents.** We have also begun to provide morning “Mommy and Me” storytimes, complete with activities, songs, and stories that are perfect for infants and toddlers. These storytimes are an addition to our bi-weekly visits to public housing communities, which give parents time in the evenings to visit the truck with their little ones. There, they can read, talk, sing, and play with their children—all the ingredients necessary for early childhood literacy!

Each and every time they visit the Storymobile, parents and grandparents pick up a bag full of board books and gifts for their babies, and many also choose a book of their own to keep! Parenting books, cookbooks, thrillers, and nonfiction are all favorites that get adults excited about reading. One mom recently reported that she piles her infant, toddler, and school-ager into her bed each night, where they all read their Storymobile books together. **In the 2015-16 year, we built relationships with over 150 parents and their little ones.** We love the opportunities that this program provides for families to read and learn together, and we can’t wait to watch as our “Book Babies” grow into “RIF Kids” right before our eyes!

Additionally, RIF Pittsburgh continues to work hand-in-hand with schools, afterschool programs, and early childhood centers to provide incentive-based programs for reading. **Through our Read to Your Family initiative, as well as Storymobile STARS, students and families receive recognition and prizes for reading outside of school and recording their progress.** Educators are also encouraged to become “Reading RockSTARS” as well, keeping track of storytimes inside their sites. Incentives provide new and exciting ways for both children and adults to track their reading while also bolstering confidence and encouraging reading as a daily habit for all ages.



“It gave her confidence and makes her feel great being able to read to her siblings.”

# INDIVIDUAL DONORS

*Listing includes individuals and organizations who donated between 6/15- 5/16*

## Library Level (\$5,000+)

Nicholas and Cheryl Galizia  
Francis X. Solano Jr. M.D.  
and Lenette Solano

## Collection Level (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

James and Electra Agras  
Russ and Kathy Ayres  
Cary Blancett and  
Denise Dufour  
Alice Buchanan  
Christopher B. Carson and  
Maria Kast-Carson  
Roy and Susan Dorrance  
Laurie Graham Shearer  
Matthew and Jane Harbaugh  
David and Kathy Helfrich  
Georgia and Bob Hernandez  
Bryan and Janine Iams  
Kappa Kappa Gamma -  
Delta Xi Chapter  
Mike and Doris Kauffelt  
Pace and Michele Markowitz  
Mark and Suzanne Morrison  
Tim and Jessica O'Brien  
Mark W. Rutherford and  
Melissa B. Dodge  
Ann L. Turnbull

## Series Level (\$250 - \$999)

Anonymous (6)  
Mary Louise and Chester Babst  
Beechwood Elementary School  
Marvin L. Bellin  
Nancy Bernstein  
David Blinn  
Bookstore at Calvary Episcopal  
Church  
Jeff and Sheryl Broadhurst  
Connie Cesario  
Lynne Chadwick  
Rachel Christian  
Mary Denison and  
Christopher Mark  
Tom and Lori Dowling  
George B. Duffey  
Richard and Colleen Earley  
James Elson and Kathleen Ryan  
Anthony Fiorillo

Dawn and Chris Fleischner  
Michelle McCrombie and  
Deborah Fotta  
Ted and Lisa Frick  
Anne and John Gentry  
Lynn Glorieux  
Frank Grebowski  
Hildy Heffernan  
Abass Kamara  
Kappa Kappa Gamma -  
Gamma Epsilon Chapter  
Kappa Kappa Gamma -  
Washington and Jefferson  
Todd and Lois Karran  
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Kilpela  
William S. Kistler  
Stephen E. Kohr  
Florri Ladov  
Fred and JoEllen Leech  
Alan and Sharon Lesgold  
Wendy Lomicka  
Michael and Karen Lyon  
Karen J. Maresch  
Charles and Joan Marsteller  
Mary McDonough  
Wesley Yang and  
Mary Ann McDunn  
Michael and Wanda McGarry  
William D. and Lynn Kent  
McIlroy  
Rodrick and Barbara McMahan  
Tom and Anne Medsger  
R. James Mercer  
Jeff and Jacqui Morby  
Kirk Morrison  
David Rhing and Judy Moser  
Gerard and Carmella Nachreiner  
MSN, RN  
Joel and Liz Nelson  
Susan Nernberg  
Robert and Beverly Ontolchik  
Robert and Lillian Panagulias  
Kathleen Patrinis  
Louis B. Plung  
Frederick and Ann Potthoff  
Andrew Pugh and Kristen Mertz  
S. and Lekshmi Ramalingam  
Michele Organist and  
Susan Regan  
Kim Reilly  
Marc and Ilyssa Ringold-  
Unangst  
Mona and Bob Riordan  
Leonard Silk  
Lee Silverman  
J. Lea Simonds

Joseph M. Smierciak  
Francis Soen  
Steel Valley School District  
Ken Urish  
Ryan Van Fleet  
Jerry Vockley  
Alan Waggoner  
Robert K. Wagner  
Mark Washington  
Tom Worrall  
Mazen Youssef and  
Suzan Obagi

## Novel Level (\$100 - \$249)

Anonymous (14)  
Patricia Alberti  
Jean Alexander  
Marian and Tom Allen  
Jorunn W. Allersma  
David and Andrea Aloe  
Terri Aquilina  
Martin and Joann Aurand  
AXP Political Action Committee  
Dana Cook Baer  
Sydna Beasley Burns  
G. Nicholas Beckwith  
Saul Bendersky  
G. William Bissell  
Jordan S. Blask  
Carolyn Bloch  
John and Susan Block  
Alfred and Dolores Blumstein  
Anna Bogue  
Alec Boright  
Abe and Gerda Bretton  
Chuck and Jill Brodbeck  
Deanna Bronner  
Dr. Barbara Burstin  
David and Denise Burton  
Tiffany Byrne  
Rob and Gail Canizares  
Leah Cillo  
M.F. Cooper  
Valerie Cooper  
Keith Daniels  
Craig Davis  
Margaret DeArdo  
Chris and Stacy Dee  
Nancy Delaney  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society -  
Alpha Xi Chapter  
Thomas Doaty  
Deborah D. Dodds

Doug and Susan Durham  
Saundra Echtler and Family  
Jeffery Emerick  
Lucio and Frauke Facchini  
Alan and Rebecca Fager  
Joyce Fako  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Fidoten  
Kathy Fine  
Elizabeth Fleischer  
Fox Chapel Area Education  
Supports Professionals  
Association  
Cindy and Joseph Franc  
Nicole Frankhouser  
Jim Gallagher  
Lawrence Gaus  
Melinda Geiger  
Edward Gerjuoy  
Susan Geyer  
William and Margaret Ghrist  
Geoffrey Gibson  
Elliot Gill  
Lisa Giusti  
Shirley Golden  
Thomas B. Grealish  
Susan and Charles Greenberg  
Remo and Maureen Gritz  
Robyn and Tim Gross  
Paula Hall  
William and Melissa Hallett  
Anna Harbin  
Kathryn Heffernan  
Richard and Sue  
Herchenroether  
Thelma Herlich, MD  
Ed Holland  
Jeffery A. Hritz and  
Ann D. Kelton  
Tim and Wendy Husni  
Jonathan C. Iams  
Philip Joyce  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Jukes  
Natalie Kaplan  
Kappa Kappa Kappa -  
Gamma Rho Chapter  
Katie Kirkpatrick  
Matt and Norna Kissane  
Virginia Lambeth  
Marilyn and Earl Latterman  
George Latulippe  
Judith R. Lave  
The Leech Family  
Bettsy and Tom Leib  
Claire B. and Lawrence Levine  
H. Kennedy and Hope Linge  
John Lovelace

"They enjoy bringing their books back to school and reading them to the entire class."

Irene Luchinsky  
Louise Lytle  
Lawrence Marcello  
Janet Markel  
Kimberly Martin  
Brian Martin  
Sandra McAnallen  
Jim and Joan McAnulty  
Alison McGee  
Kevin McGrath  
Margaret J. McKenna  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Carol  
Meese  
Ann M. Metzger  
Louis Harry Miller Jr. and  
Michelle L. Miller  
Janet Misko  
Anne Mlecko  
Ronald Moehler  
Matthew McK. Mohn  
Laurin Moore  
David L. Morrison  
Laurie S. Moser  
Mary Anne Murphy  
June Nimick  
John Oehrle  
Lee O’Nan  
Elliott Oshry  
Eugene and Saundra O’Sullivan  
Donna Ottoviani  
Arthur Pang  
Robert and Barbara Park  
Gary T. Patterson DMD  
Gabe Pellathy  
Pittsburgh Banksville K-5  
Ed and Amy Platt  
Joe and Amy Pohl  
Gregory P. and Patricia C.  
Polansky  
C. Politano  
Jacqueline M. Primas  
Daryl Putman  
D. Raja  
R.T. Ramsay  
Constance R. Rapp  
Emily Renciewicz  
Guy Reschenthaler  
James H. Rich  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Richardson  
Cynthia and Jerome Richey  
John Rieck  
Liz Roberts  
Frank Brooks and Jean  
Robinson  
Shawn Robinson  
Julie W. Rost  
Melaine Rothery  
Nancy and Farrell Rubenstein  
Jim and Louisa Rudolph  
Susan M. Rudzki  
Mary Lou Ruttle

Gregg Schmidt  
Theresa A. Schrecengost  
Robert Sclabassi  
Jesse and Aurora Sharrard  
Rev. Marion Silbert  
Marty Silverman  
Mark Silvey  
Marvin A. Sirbu  
Peggy Snavely  
David Sogg  
Mel and Marcia Solomon  
Patricia Staley  
Gary and Charlene Stanich  
Rich Steinman and Vicki March  
Suzanne M. Steitz  
Kathy Kahn Stept  
Rona and Gary Sterling  
Kimberly Stinson  
Thomas and Linda Sukitsch  
Patricia Swedlow  
Dana Tomcanin  
Triangle Tech Group  
G. Richard and Rae H. Tucker  
John Turcic  
Neil and Hannah Van Horn  
Sybil P. Veeder  
Katy Vernacchia  
Rachel Walton  
Joe and Kelly Wargo  
Victoria Werner  
R. Stanton Wettick and  
Nancy S. Hazlett  
Marianne and Philip Wion  
Ms. Karen Woelfel  
Keith Wolters  
Alice Young  
Richard Zahren  
S.J. Zoerb

### Chapter Book Level (\$50 - \$99)

Anonymous (8)  
Gary Adams  
Christy Allison  
Claire Ashkin  
Margie Bachman  
Matthew Bachman  
Louanne Baily  
Joe Balaban  
Rhonda Bennett  
Tracey Bernard  
Sue Bialostosky  
Mrs. Max L. Bluestone  
Allie Bonidy  
Alfred Bortz  
Alex Botkin  
Bernadette G. Brenkus  
Dr. Klaus and Lois Bron  
Ellen Brosnan  
Sidney and Sylvia Busis

Michelle B. Butler  
Eliott Calig  
Randall and Cheryl Casciola  
Dyan Centofanti  
Jerry and Janet Cholewinski  
W.J. Choyke  
Kevin Christie  
David Clarke  
Susan Cohen  
Laurence Comden  
Kathleen Coppula  
Dennis and Jane Covert  
Carol and Gary Cozen  
Peter D. and Renee Crespan  
Heather and Tom Delaney  
Jackie Dempsey  
Robert and Gene Dickman  
June and Barry Dietrich  
Jay Thomas and Barbara Dixon  
Jim and Sharon Drake  
Veronica M. Dristas  
Joan Ewing  
M. Fitch  
Roslynn Fitzgerald  
Jane Fleischauer  
James T. Frantz  
Patty and Nick Galizia  
Michael Golia  
Scott Leib and Cindy  
Goodman-Leib  
Kevin Gormly  
Jan Grice  
Norma J. Hahn  
Marshall and Eleanor Hershberg  
Margaret M. Hill  
Jane Hitchins  
Jennifer Hollinger  
Mr. Edgar Holtz  
Rick Homistek and Family  
John Hotz  
Mary Ellen Hoy  
Roger Humphries, Jr.  
Mark Incorvati  
Donna Isaac  
Larry Jacobson  
Heather Jakub  
Linda Juhascik  
Terry Kalna  
Joseph and Susan Karas  
John Kokales  
Monica Kolasa  
Donald Kosy  
Kenneth Kotovsky  
Mr. and Mrs. Mario Lanna  
Jill Leahy  
Trina Litterini  
Jay and Kathy Lutins  
Patrick Lynch  
Neil and Ruth MacKay  
The Malone Family  
Jim Maloney

Barbara Marryshow  
Hilary Masters’ Estate  
Ariane May  
Robert and Janet McCartney  
Karen Merrick  
Linda Merriman  
Jenny Michaux  
Kevin Miles  
David and Momoko Mills  
Tamra Minnier  
Karen and Chuck Moellenberg  
B. N. Moore  
Elizabeth Morgan  
Janet Moritz  
Carol Mueller  
Terry Murphy  
Amy Nixon  
Daniel and Lisa Nydick  
Dominic Palombo  
Scott and Kate Parker  
G. D. Pasterak  
Marisa Pompeo  
Judy and Allan Press  
Marirose and John Radelet  
Pamela M. Roberts  
Susan Roberts  
Susan Rockman  
Abby Ruttenberg  
Christine Salera  
Larry and Jan Sargert  
Barbara Scruggs  
John Shimkus  
Paul and Mary Beth Sklar  
Sue Sloan  
Walter C. and Marisa Smith  
Suzanne Smolin  
Judy Smydo  
Dave Solano  
Michael Sweeney  
The Ellis School  
Albert Treger  
Katherine Vargo  
Jane Werner-Rutkowski  
Arthur Westerberg  
Greg Winokur  
Dorothy F. Wriedt  
Barbara H. Wright  
Paul and Ann Wynblatt  
Elise R. Yanders  
Donna Yohe  
Zach Young  
Kathleen Ziolkowski

### Picture Level (\$25 - \$49)

Anonymous (9)  
Nancy Abulencia  
James Adair  
Reynaldine Alexandre

“They have some of the best books in the world.”

Erin Allen	Craig Fiduccia	Dennis P. McManus	Carole Sye
Christopher and Darlene Allen	Scott and Celeste Fischer	Derek and Melinda Millan	K. J. Talerico
Tom Allison	James Fogarty	David Miller	Lewis Thomas
Jamie Altman	Edmund and Laurie Foster	Johnnye Miller	Brittany Traynor and Margeaux
Sahar Arbab	Dana Freeman	Susan Miller-McGee	Everhart
Harry Back	Dennis Friend	Theodore Moon	Philip and Carol Urban
Kyle Bahr	Laurie Gourdet	John and Teresa Moore	Joseph and Diana Varosky
Ralph Bangs	Karen Griffith	Alex and Elsie Murray	Aubra Venurini
Justin and Susan Bann	Arlene Grubbs	Stephanie Myler	Michael and Clare Vranesevic
Claudia Barber	Kelly Guinnane	Harvey and Esther Nathanson	Daniel and Judith Wessels
Ron Barchfeld	Kelly Hahn	Hoa Nguyen	Helen Wigger
David and Denise Barr	Ashley Heckert	Ross and Katerina Nugent	Mark and Amy Williams
Patricia Bauccio	Robert and Shelia Heckla	Cara Olshanski	Daniel and Elizabeth Wilson
Patti and Sandy Berman	Linda Hedin	Nancy Ott	Jill Winters
Rose and Ed Berman	Keith Henning	Joann Owens	Tobey Wolken
Lindsay Ann Aston Bisking	Janice Henry	Elaine Parker	Elijah Wynkoop
Nick Bolias	Alfredo and Jamila	Gerard and Diane Patterson	Johanna Yoho
Ronald and Amy Bottorff	Alkaifi-Hercules	Joyce Pearl	
Jaime and Julianne Brace	Joe and Sue Herman	Heather Perinis	
Ed and Donna Brett	Patricia Hester	Jane Perry	
Chuck and Laura Broff	Bradley and Rachel Hoffman	Shawn Phelan	
Jessica Brown	Abby Holland	Katie Phillips	
William and Julie Browne	Steve Irwin	Mary Jane Platt	
Alma Bucher	Gloria Janavitz	Robert and Cynthia Potter	
David Busch	Joseph and Sharon Janosik	Brian Rahuba	
Michelle Cadwell	Celeste and Bob Janosko	Patrick and Melissa Ravas	
Jacquelyn S. Cain	Jay and Dolores Jarrell	Barbara Raymond	
Kevin and Tina Card	Mr. and Mrs. Justin M. Johnson	Lynn Rayvid	
Ron Carmassi	Lisa Juarbe-Alexander	Lee and Barbara Reichbaum	
Wesley and Douglas Hunter	Jim Judkis	Michael and Carrie Renfer	
Carmichel	Susan Kam	Barb Rester and	
Corry Casperson	Ann Karayusuf	Dominic Cittadino	
Orrean Chew	Alexis Kearney	Laraine Rodney	
Matthew and Krysta Steines	John and Barbara Keremes	Gerald Rosenfeld	
Clark	Erin Jean King-Carey	Amber Rosol	
Patricia M. Coghlan	Lorraine Kirkpatrick	Mary Kay Roth	
Kevin Coghlan	James Kockler	Joyce Rothermel	
Meredith Colaizzi	Katelyn Krayner	Leslie Salinetto	
Tina Colarusso	Mark and Darlene Krynicki	Michael Saluga	
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Colen	David and Cynthia Kwasigroch	Diane Salvati	
Michael and Traci Conlon	Luann and Annamaria Lacava	Barton and Linda Schachter	
JoAnn Cox	William and Dianne Laughlin	Ellie Schoenberger	
Dave Crawley	Pattie Laxton	Esther Schreiber	
Margaret Curry	Anton and Tashika Lewis	Joseph Schreiber and	
Jessica Dakin	Lifang Lin	Mary Walsh	
Edward Dearolf	P.M. and M.S. Lock	Elysa Schwartz	
Edward and Lauren Deithorn	James and Tricia Long	Nancy and Ed Sheehan	
Ardeth Devlin	Michael and Andrea	Aaron and Kristin Short	
Joyce Diamondstone	Lowenstein	Larissa Silver	
Thomas and Elizabeth Diecks	David Lyle	Marjorie Silverman	
Marly Dimase	Norma Sue Madden	Sharon Smalls	
Lu and E.J. Donnelly	Matthew Maier	Kathleen Smith	
Timothy and Vicky Dopp	Bernard Mallinger	Howard Snyder	
William and Marybeth Douglass	James Marchetti	Jessica Sollner	
Thomas Dressman	Dr. and Mrs. Martin Markowitz	Ricci Lynn Spadacene	
Phyllis Dreyfuss	Nora Martinez	Ryan Steinbock	
Bridget Duffy	Kathy Matesic	Leslie Stokan	
Kaitlyn Duling	Sarah McDaniel	Thea Stover	
Joanne Dunne	Margaret McDonald	Gene B. Strassburger	
Sandra Early	Patricia E. McGuirk	Curtis Stuck	
Adrian and Geri Fenton	Suzanne and Andrew McLaren	Jane Susack	

## Other Level (<\$25)

Anonymous (4)  
 Annie Battles  
 Joshua Benedict  
 Edith Blattner  
 Ashley Blum  
 Cindy Bostick  
 Renee and Patricia Brawdy  
 Don and Katie Ciccone  
 Kimberly Currykosky  
 Helene Czarnecki  
 Michael and Mary Rose Devine  
 Sharon Marie English  
 Jennifer Faulk  
 Mimi Frey  
 Kimberly Garman  
 Lynanne Goncher  
 Abby Jo Hash  
 Elmer Herman  
 Diane Iamondo  
 A.J. Koury  
 James and Amy Kramer  
 Gordon Maize  
 Lindsay McDonald  
 Cynthia Miller  
 Michael Oliphant  
 Patricia Pannella  
 Gilbert and Staci Pohodich  
 Marlo Reese  
 Jerome and Shoshana  
 Rosenberg  
 Frank and Charlotte Sadofsky  
 Jeffrey and Andrea Sirianni  
 Colleen Smith  
 Jason Travis  
 Michael Werner  
 Lauren Zagorac  
 Kristin Zientek

“Children need to develop a love for reading. This program definitely supports it.”

# FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS

Alcoa Foundation  
Allegheny Foundation  
American Eagle  
Babcock Charitable Trust  
The Bank of New York Mellon  
Bayer USA Foundation  
Birmingham Foundation  
The Buhl Foundation  
The Burke Foundations  
Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)  
CS McKee  
Darlene Harris (CDBG)  
Dominion Foundation  
Donald and Sylvia Robinson Family Foundation  
Eat 'n Park  
Eden Hall Foundation  
Emerson Charitable Trust  
EQT  
Gertrude E. Hellerman Charitable Trust Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Gismondi Family Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
The Goldstone Family Foundation  
The Grable Foundation  
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The Margaret Ritchie R. Battle Family Charitable Fund

Macy's  
McAuley Ministries  
McSwigan Family Foundation  
NOVA Chemicals  
The Office of Mayor William Peduto (CDBG)  
Philip Chosky Charitable & Educational Foundation  
The Pittsburgh Foundation  
PNC Charitable Trusts  
PNC Foundation  
Poise Foundation  
PPG Industries Foundation  
Robert and Elizabeth Mertz Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
Rubinoff-Dunham Family Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
Shannon Wilson Charitable Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Sheetz  
State Employee Combined Appeal (SECA)  
Tocqueville Society of United Way of SWPA, Senator John Heinz Award  
Union Railroad Company  
United Way Of Southwestern PA  
UPMC Health Plan  
US Steel  
W.I. Patterson Charitable Fund  
William F. Matlack Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
William 'Wil' Matthew Morrow Memorial Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Allegheny County Early Literacy Team  
Allegheny County Library Association  
Be a Middle School Mentor  
Beverly Jewel Wall Lovelace Afterschool Programs  
Beverly's Birthdays  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh  
Boys and Girls Club of Western Pennsylvania  
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
Children's Museum of Pittsburgh  
Citiparks  
Communities in Schools

Department of Human Services  
Family Foundations Early Head Start  
Family Resources  
The Fred Rogers Center  
Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council  
Greater Hazelwood Initiative  
Hill District Education Council  
Homewood Children's Village  
Hosanna House Inc.  
Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh  
Kappa Kappa Gamma  
KEYS Service Corps

Mattress Factory  
The Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern Pennsylvania  
Mt. Ararat Childhood Activity Center  
New Hazlett Theater  
Office of Child Development  
PAEYC  
The Pittsburgh Project  
The Pittsburgh Promise  
Pittsburgh Public Schools  
Propel Charter Schools  
Public Allies Pittsburgh  
Read to a Child  
Reading Is FUNdamental, Inc.  
Ready Freddy

Saturday Light Brigade  
Snapology  
Sprout Fund  
Union Project  
The University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development  
Uptown Partners of Pittsburgh  
Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh  
Rep. Jake Wheatley  
WQED

"I get way more books on my bookshelf and become a better reader by reading the books I get."



# VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who donate their time to  
RIF Pittsburgh each year!

*Listing includes individuals who volunteered between 6/15- 5/16*

Joy Abbott	Jonathan Claire	Matt Groff	Tangerine McDaniels
Aerion Abney	Denise Clayton	Sandy Grote	Karen Merrick
Moses Agaba	Kevin Coghlan	Lee Haller	Jim Mesloh
Elizabeth Allison	Meredith Colaizzi	Randy Hauer	Jim Michaels
Nancy Baime	Kellie Collier	Hildy Heffernan	Jenny Michaux
Shannon Baker	Michele Cooper	Kathryn Heffernan	Inez Miles
Sue Balcer	Tiffany Costa	Ashley Hendzell	Larry Miller
Tricia Baldrige	Kyle Cunningham	Janice Henry	Katherine Mills
Christine Balsley	Tom Cuomo	Aleita Hermanowski	Anne Mlecko
Marcia Bandes	Sarah Dalton	Kirk Holbrook	Laurin Moore
Alicia Barnes	Keith Daniels	Diane Holohan	Mark Morrison
Tonya Baronti	Jillian Davern	Bliss Hou	Judy Moser
Kathryn Bashaar	Beth Davis	Mary Ellen Hoy	Debra Moyers
Cynthia Battle	Lauren Deithorn	Celeste Janosko	Eileen Mullen
Ellen Baylis	Rachelle Demoskoff	Traci Johnson	Jeffrey Naftal
Joanne Beckman	Alyssa Dervin	Ed Johnston	Willie Neiswanger
Hillary Bedeian	Ardeth Devlin	Marge Johnston	Kathleen Newmeyer
Rachel Beers	Pam Dotter	Kristin Kalson	Amy Ogren
Bud Bender	Sharon Drake	Erin Kander	Michael Oliphant
Coralyn Benhart	Janice Duchene	Laura Kaplan	Connie Orient
Rhonda Bennett	Zandy Dudiak	Joseph Karas	Tina Packer
Jordan Blask	Kaitlyn Duling	Lois Karran	Sandra Palmer
Ashley Blum	Barb Eichenlaub	Maria Kast-Carson	Mary Parker
Alec Boright	Elyse Eichner	Barbara Kengor	Sarah Pierce
Mimi Botkin	Melvin El	Andrea Ketzell	Allyce Pinchback
Donna Brett	Pam Evans	Jean Kirby	Shannon Plush
Ed Brett	Peter Fernie	AJ Koury	Ann Poliziani
Catlyn Brooke	Emily Ferri	Mary Adele Krolkowski	Kate Porigow
Karen Brown	Peggy Findle	Sarah Labarre	Carrie Powers
Lilah Buchanan	Mary Fine	Mike Lambert	Kim Reilly
Margaret Burley	Jennifer Finkelstein	Audrey Lane	Laura Reynolds-Carmichael
Sydna Burns	Roslynn Fitzgerald	Ari Lattanzi	Cali Riley
Sheri Buzza	Lamar Foster	JoEllen Leech	Renee Robinson
Jennifer Cairns	Cindy Franc	Nancy Lepore	Laraine Rodney
Jennifer Caldwell	Deborah Friss	Ann Lewis	Jack Rowley
Linda Campbell	Anne Marie Gebhardt	Arielle Lilley	Claudia Saitz
Josie Cellone	Jim Gemperle	Bob Linden	Liz Salisbury
Kimberly Chamberlin	Denise Gill	Linda Loar	Paul Scherrer
Alicia Chatkin	Stephanie Glenn	Kathy Lutins	Cathie Schmidt
Anqi Cheng	Lynn Glorieux	Lisa Macesich	Theresa Schrecengost
John Cheng	Shirley Golden	Kathy Matesic	Andre Scott
Carla Chow	Caity Gonano	Matt Mauclair	Carol Scott
Kevin Christie	Cindy Goodman-Leib	Kalee McClure	Mary Scott
Leah Cillo	Sue Goodwin	Sarah McDaniel	Bridget Sedlock

"[My reading buddy is] a good reader, she loves me, and I can talk to her about anything."

Cynthia Shay  
Suzanne Sheets  
Sonja Simonson  
Dennis Smith  
Michael Smith  
Timothy Smith  
Verris Smith  
Peggy Snavely  
Kiersten Snyder  
Maura Spodek  
Jody Spolar

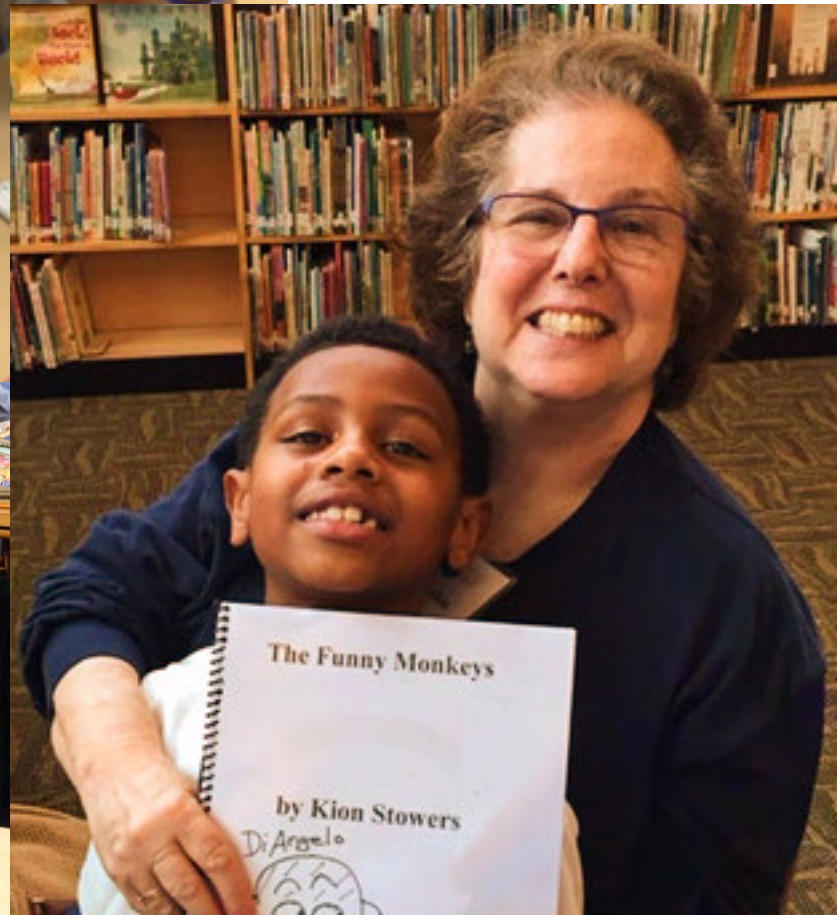
Bryan Stephany  
Patricia Stover  
Lisa Streif  
Natalie Tanaskovic  
Amanda Thomas  
Ted Todd  
William Tolliver  
Joyce Trew  
Karel Ulizio  
Ashley Varrato  
Beatrice Vasser

Christelle Vaugues  
Katy Vernacchia  
Karen Viggiano  
Karen Wagner  
Deb Wallman  
Elizabeth Warheit  
Camara Watkins  
Abigail Wengerd  
Laura Wengerd  
Kelsey West  
Helen Wigger

Anita Williams  
Jordon Williams  
Maureen Wiloughby  
Mary Wilson  
Alex Wingfield  
Sarah Wissinger  
Fred Workman  
Mark Yost  
Micaela Young  
Janet Yuhasz  
Mary Zerjav

**\*Everybody Wins! Corporate Partners**

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Confluence  
Fred Rodgers Company  
Innovation Works  
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh  
Management Science Associates  
Pittsburgh Public Schools  
PPG  
Reed Smith  
SMS Siemag  
Tucker Arensburg



"They love having a reading buddy and look forward to seeing them each week."

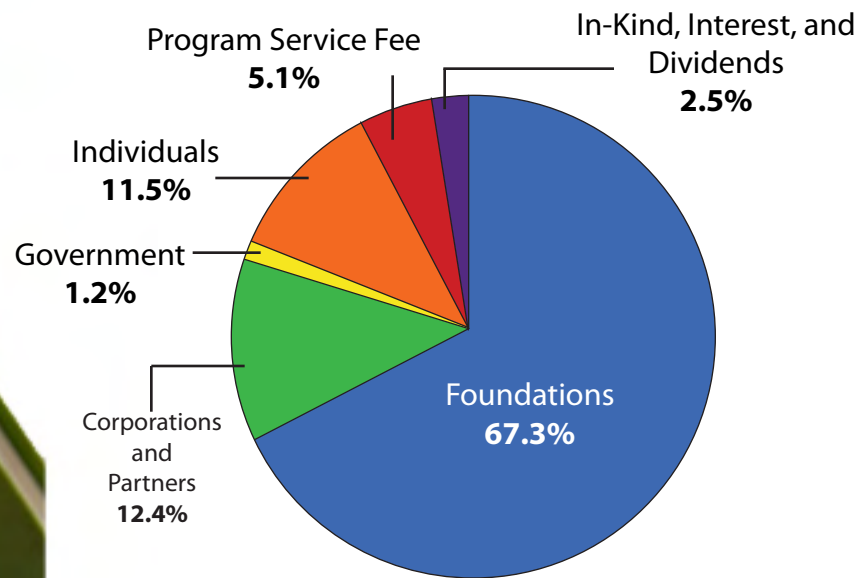
# FINANCIALS

**Total Revenue:**

\$681,615

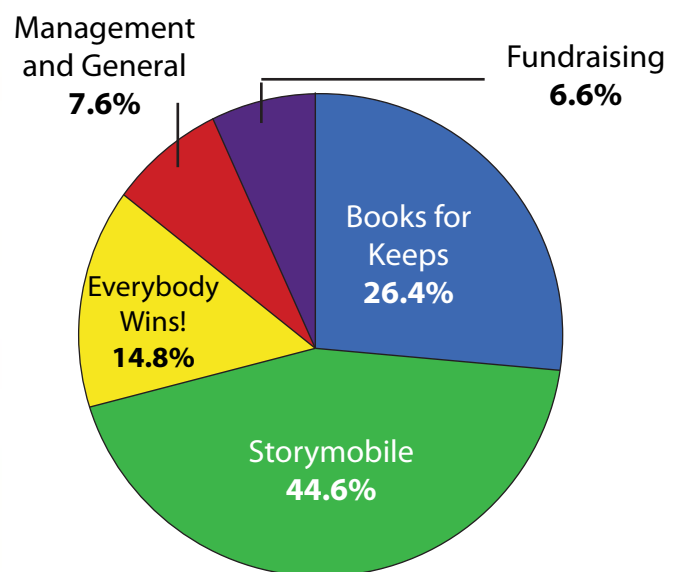
**Adjusted Revenue:**

\$971,615\*



**Total Expenses:**

\$924,537



\*Less future portions of multi-year grants plus cash receipts from prior multi-year grants

"They are excited about the stories they hear and LOVE to select their own book."

# Be a RIF Pittsburgh Book Hero!



Our programs are supported by foundations, corporations, partners, and individuals who believe that all children should have access to resources and programs designed to foster a life-long love of reading. **YOU** can help a child experience the joy of reading!

- Mail a check to our offices at  
10 Children's Way, Suite 300  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
- Go online to [www.rifpittsburgh.org](http://www.rifpittsburgh.org)  
and click on "Donate Now"
- Designate your United Way (#3804)  
or CFC (#78136) contribution to  
RIF Pittsburgh
- Volunteer for one of our programs
- Give us a call at 412-321-8022

Thank you for being part of our mission to inspire a life-long love of reading for the children in our community!



Reading Is  
Fundamental  
**Pittsburgh**



Produced and designed by RIF Pittsburgh

10 Children's Way, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15212 | Phone 412-321-8022 | Fax 412-586-0883 | [www.rifpittsburgh.org](http://www.rifpittsburgh.org)