



# Read to a Child

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022



Read to a Child ([readtoachild.org](http://readtoachild.org)) is a national literacy and mentoring non-profit that fosters a love of reading, improves literacy skills, and supports socio-emotional well-being in students from under-resourced communities. Research shows that reading aloud to children is the single most important activity for eventual success in reading, a key factor for success in school, work, and life. Read to a Child's **Read Aloud Mentoring Program** utilizes thousands of volunteer reading mentors who read regularly to elementary students at under-resourced schools in the greater metro areas of Boston, Detroit, Hartford, Los Angeles, and Miami.

# DEAR FRIEND OF READ TO A CHILD:

2022 was a challenging, yet successful year for Read to a Child as we continued to rebound from the effects of the pandemic. While some of our volunteer reading mentors were still working remotely, others began returning to the office. The result was that the Read Aloud Mentoring Program was truly hybrid during the school year. At the end of the school year, teacher-provided evaluation results indicated that both methods were extremely successful in improving literacy and socio-emotional skills and fostering a love of reading.

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Kaela Mento  
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Program Management

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Lily Andrews  
Greater Hartford  
Executive Director

Gloria Jolley  
Greater Los Angeles  
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Luisana Kinaj  
Greater Miami Director,  
Development

Judy Tipton  
Metro Detroit  
Development Consultant

Linda Winin  
Greater Boston  
Director, Program

We now have two types of program staff – those who work within the schools, who escort children to their mentor in a safe reading space where our book cart awaits, and those who manage the program on Zoom, greeting all virtual mentors and students, providing access to electronic books shared on screen, and checking in to ensure all sessions are running smoothly.

This embrace of technology has led us to adapt our hiring and training procedures and has led us to seek out grants to provide Chromebooks, headsets and in-school WiFi access to every reading pair in our program that requires them. A big thank you to the Guru Krupa Foundation, who provided us with a \$20K grant to cover many of our technology purchases. And thank you to all of our employees who have adapted and evolved with the needs of our program and its students.

As we continue to grow the Read Aloud Mentoring Program back to our pre-pandemic numbers and beyond, we have maintained very healthy financial and cash positions. All of this was accomplished by a truly amazing group of passionate professionals on staff, along with support from 55 inspiring members of our national and regional boards.

Despite myriad challenges, our success was also enabled due to the unwavering support of volunteer reading mentors across the country, as well as by government, corporate, foundation and individual donors who, in many cases, increased their support. Please read through this annual report to see some highlights of the hard work supporting children from under-resourced communities across the country, some of the impressive outcomes for children in our programs, and to join us in thanking our incredible supporters.



*Peter Necheles*

Peter Necheles (National Board Chair)



*Paul Lamoureux*

Paul Lamoureux (CEO)

# MISSION

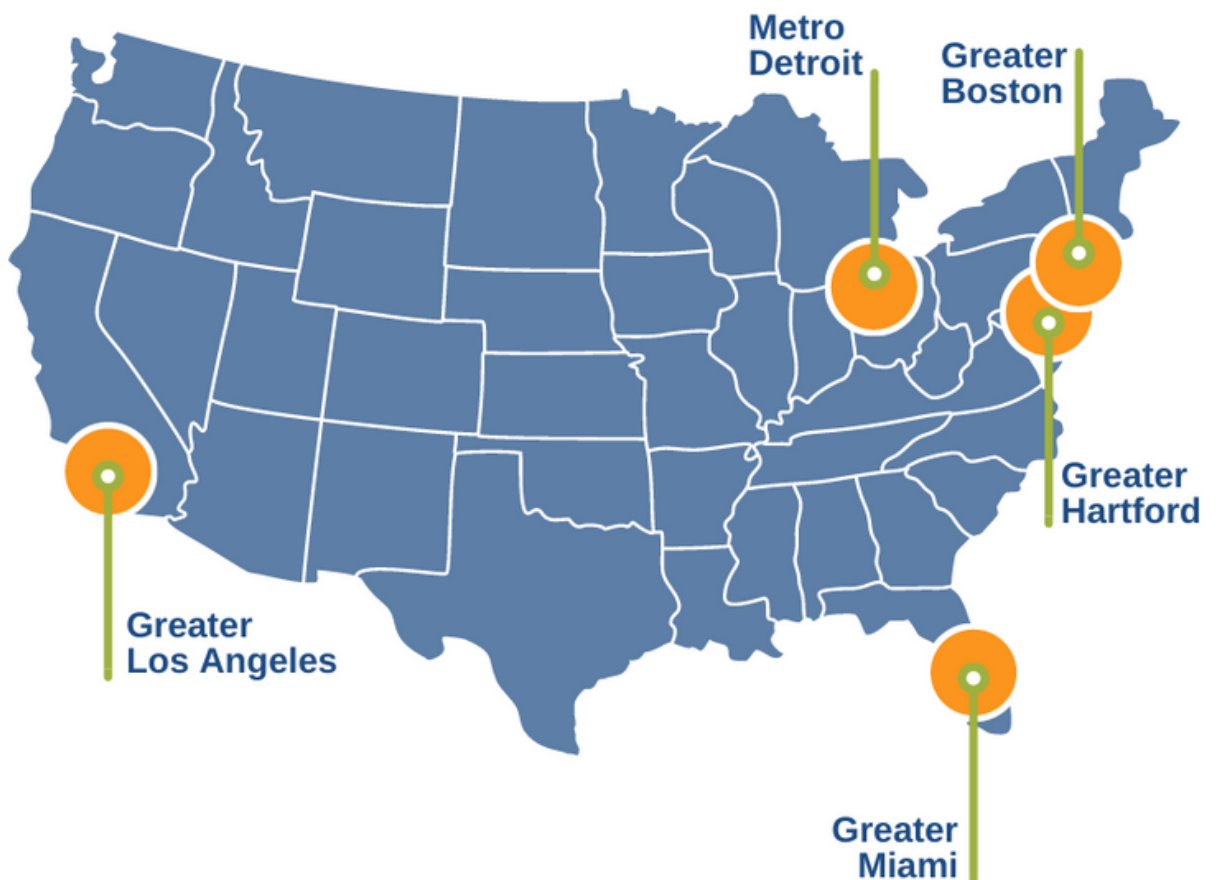
Our mission is to foster a love of reading, improve literacy skills, and support socio-emotional well-being in students from under-resourced communities.

# VISION

Our vision is that every child has the opportunity to thrive in school and beyond through inspirational mentoring and read aloud experiences.

# 5

# R E G I O N S



# 2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

A HYBRID APPROACH TO CHANGING LIVES



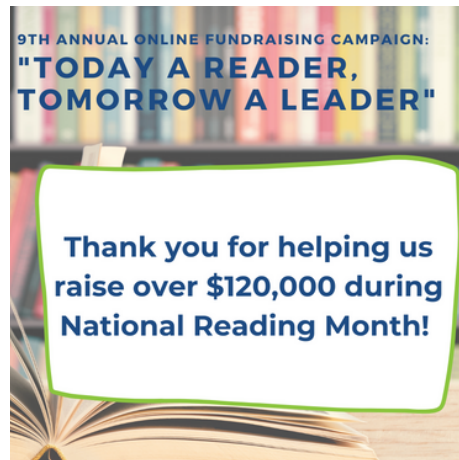
Volunteers had the option of participating in-person or virtual. Having a virtual platform offers flexibility and convenience and has shown to be equally effective with regard to improved self-esteem and enthusiasm for books and reading among students.



Read to a Child earned a 2022 Platinum Seal of Transparency with GuideStar from Candid. Read to a Child provided Candid with a voluminous amount of data to be completely transparent about how we strive to achieve our mission.



On January 20, 2022, all five regions of Read to a Child came together to host its second Virtual Gala: **Turning Pages**. On this night, attendees heard from community and corporate partners, school principals, passionate volunteers, and literacy champions, and came together to raise **\$220,000** to support the growth of our Read Aloud Mentoring Program!



National Reading Month is held every year during the month of March. In honor of National Reading Month, Read to a Child hosted the 9th Annual Online Fundraising Campaign: **Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader**. Thanks to the generous contributions of our supporters, we raised **\$120,000** for our Read Aloud Mentoring Program!



Greater Boston hosted its first in-person **Team Trivial Night** since the beginning of the pandemic, on June 9, 2022. Teams gathered at Game On Fenway to compete to take home the coveted trophy all while raising funds to support the Read Aloud Mentoring Program in Boston. Board Member Vicki Newberry Sullivan and her team took home the trophy! Trivia Night raised **\$20,000!**



# PROGRAM IMPACT

## 2022 READ ALOUD MENTORING PROGRAM NUMBERS



99%

Year after year, 99% of volunteers tell us they would recommend the Read Aloud Mentoring Program to a friend or co-worker.



### ACCORDING TO THEIR TEACHERS,




96%

of our students improved in **ENTHUSIASM FOR BOOKS AND READING** since the start of the program year



95%

of our students improved in **SELF CONFIDENCE** since the start of the program year



91%

of our students improved in both **VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT** and **READING PROGRESS** since the start of the program year

### MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTNERS



78%

of participation in the program was virtual.

## Read Aloud Mentoring Program

730

Volunteers Engaged

655

Students Served

115

Corporate Partners

28

Schools

## FIVE YEAR IMPACT

2018 - 2022 School Years

3,082

Students Served

3,415

Volunteers Engaged

78,253

Total Sessions Held

# REGIONAL HAPPENINGS

## Greater Los Angeles

With the continued and generous support of corporate partners including Capital Group, Lockton Insurance Brokers, Kirkland & Ellis, Alston & Bird, Ernst & Young, and Winston & Strawn, the Greater Los Angeles Region continued to serve students virtually at partner schools. We were also excited to launch and welcome our newest school partner, Vine Street Elementary in Hollywood, where volunteers from Netflix, Tala, and the community helped create impact.

All volunteers were given access to Jamia Wilson's book, *Young, Gifted, and Black*, to read from during Black History Month, and we also created two inspiring Remote Read Aloud videos through a special partnership with Rebel Girls. Volunteers read from *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Tales of Extraordinary Women* and *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Inspiring Young Changemakers*. These videos were made available to all students at partner schools for National Read to a Child Day.

It was fulfilling to hear directly from volunteers, teachers, and students about their experience! A teacher at one of our partner schools shared, *"The student in my class, who was in your Read Aloud Mentoring Program, made significant progress in reading. His work with his mentor in the program was part of his success."*



## Greater Boston

As students returned to school buildings following a year of remote learning, Greater Boston's Read Aloud Mentoring Program was welcomed back into the fold. Our Program Coordinators conducted sessions from within the school for mentor-child pairs: some virtual, some in-person. Regardless of format, the program yielded glowing results – in-person pairs were reunited, and virtual connections were enhanced as mentors and children shared books together on-screen.

Our goal of fostering strong mentor-student relationships was of particular importance during this COVID recovery program year, and teachers indicated that 98% of our students benefited from the 1:1 mentoring aspect of the Read Aloud Mentoring Program. Overall, 81% of our students showed improvement in all 8 areas assessed by their teachers. Along with our exciting program results, we welcomed two new members to our Regional Advisory Board – Nikoo Nasr (Cooledge Lighting) and Jim Klapman (Acadian Asset Management).

Our Greater Boston team thanks our Visionary Partners that provide continuous support vital to the success and growth of our program: ArcLight Capital, MAN Group and The TJX Companies, Inc.



# REGIONAL HAPPENINGS

## Metro Detroit

Metro Detroit navigated another year of transitions, returning to in-person volunteering as well as continuing to offer a virtual option. What we thought would be “back to normal” turned into another rollercoaster year of riding the waves of COVID spikes, school closings, and shifts from in person back to virtual learning. Our Program Coordinators and volunteers rose to the occasion, flexing with the school demands. Our dedicated volunteers remain true champions, several reading with more than one student, donating books for our book carts, and helping to recruit new volunteers. They support the students each week with their most precious donation of time and caring interaction.

Our school staff and teachers, too, continue to support our program. One Detroit 3rd grade teacher said of a particular student: “He has made a lot of growth this year. He comes to school excited to learn and I have seen a remarkable change in his attitude. I believe that Read to a Child and his time with his mentor has helped him a lot.”

Thanks to an anonymous donor, every Metro Detroit Read to a Child student received a premium subscription to Epic!, the children’s eBook source. This support was invaluable to our families during another challenging school year.



## Greater Hartford

Read to a Child Greater Hartford experienced massive growth this year! We opened the Read Aloud Mentoring Program at Parkville Community School - our fourth school program - where referrals into the program broke all regional records with an unprecedented 60 students. We continue to match these students with caring reading mentors.

Our program launch at Parkville welcomed Mayor of Hartford Luke Bronin and Hartford Superintendent Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, as well as new funders Ted and Mary Gawlicki of the Gawlicki Family Foundation, Hartford developer and entrepreneur Carlos Mouta, Read to a Child board members, and many volunteer readers. Our overall program has grown by 20% since last year due to a strong call for social-emotional support and literacy mentorship for students by our partner schools.

Finally, we added Program Coordinators Tairiana Lopez and Tanesha Shuler to our team to serve our expanding program. Onward and upward!

## Greater Miami

The Greater Miami Region took a hybrid approach this school year, with mentor-student pairs meeting both virtual and in-person. We were excited to welcome Program Manager, Michele Armstrong, to support our Program Coordinators and work with our Miami Development Director to expand our programming.

Our local community continues to inspire us! During The Miami Foundation’s local day of giving, Give Miami Day, our supporters helped us raise nearly \$7,000 to support our Read Aloud Mentoring Program.

Our program continues to thrive thanks to the generous support of our partners: Assurant, Holland & Knight, The Batchelor Foundation and The Kirk Foundation.

# FINANCIALS

For the Fiscal Years Ending 9/30/22 and 9/30/21

Read to a Child's FY22 financial notables include an increase in grant income, investments in program and development, and cash in line with our strategic objectives. We are grateful to have received forgiveness of both of our Paycheck Protection Program loans (\$250k each, in FY22 and in FY21).

\* In addition to the large percent of expenses that directly support our Programs, thank you to the 730 volunteer reading mentors who donated their time to Read to a Child's Read Aloud Mentoring Program in FY22.

## Support and Revenue

	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY21</u>
Contributions	\$404,903	\$407,497
Grant Income Without Donor Restrictions	694,296	577,096
Grant Income With Donor Restrictions	209,225	130,991
Special Events Income, Net	228,030	286,862
In-Kind Contributions	113,314	114,097
Other Revenue	255	1,452
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,650,023</b>	<b>\$1,517,995</b>

## Expenses

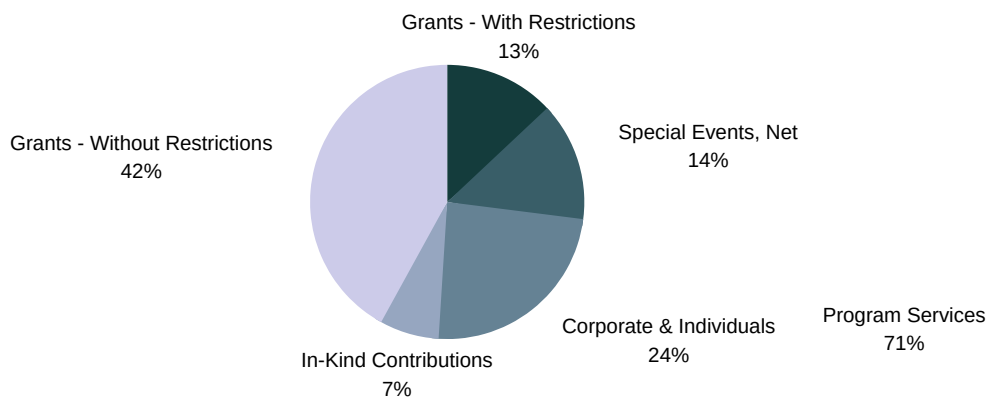
* Program Services	\$1,002,669	\$914,011
Management and General	120,528	133,778
Fundraising	295,981	212,811
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,419,178</b>	<b>\$1,260,600</b>

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$230,845</b>	<b>\$257,395</b>
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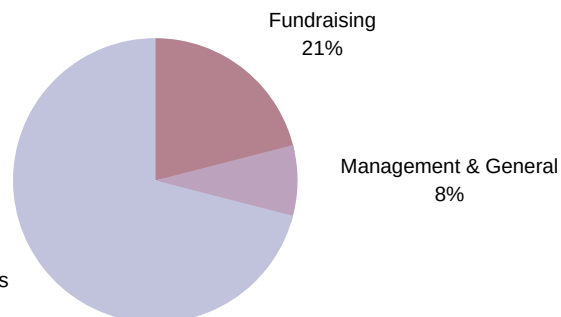
## Statement of Financial Position

	<u>9/30/2022</u>	<u>9/30/2021</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$747,013	\$754,283
Other Current Assets	26,888	43,018
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$773,901</b>	<b>\$797,301</b>
Deferred Income	\$25,000	\$30,000
Other Current Liabilities	38,458	37,770
Current and Long-term Debt (PPP Loan)	-	249,933
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	501,207	346,099
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	209,236	133,499
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$773,901</b>	<b>\$797,301</b>

## FY22 Support & Revenue



## FY22 Expenses





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10/1/2021 - 9/30/2022

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Chief Executive Officer  
Read to a Child

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### **Alexandra Uriarte**

Carrier

### **Brittney Xu**

Holland & Knight

\*volunteer reading mentor

# DONORS

For fiscal year ending 9/30/2022

## CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS

### \$50,000 +

ArcLight Capital Partners\*  
Capital Group\*  
Huntington  
Man Group\*  
Pitney Bowes\*  
The Boston Foundation  
TJX\*  
Travelers\*

### \$49,999-\$25,000

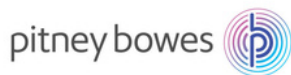
Agero\*  
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### \$24,999-\$10,000

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### Leadership Giving Circle \$9,999-\$5,000

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John Hancock  
Kelly Laffey-Harris and Jayson Harris  
Malibu Wine Hikes  
Rise  
Kendra Scott

\*Volunteer Reader/s

†Volunteer Board Member





“ (My student) enjoys reading now... and I am so lucky to have watched that love unfold over the past few years. She is a better, more confident, more engaged reader because of this program.”





—Mentor, 2022



Read to a Child

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