



Reading Is
Fundamental

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2017 IMPACT REPORT

Reading Is Fundamental is committed to giving kids the confidence to strive because literacy opens doors to life. Every child deserves the opportunity to own books, learn how to read, and obtain the fundamental building blocks to achieve their highest potential.

REBOUND FOR READING

Reading Is Fundamental joined forces with NBA Cares, State Farm and the Chris Paul Family Foundation to provide 11,000 books, literacy resources and learning tools to 2,100 middle school students in Houston who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. The partnership kicked off with a volunteer effort to benefit the kids at Null Middle School and King Middle School and included a community book drive, a donation of Chromebooks for the library and a basketball clinic for deserving students led by Houston Rockets Chris Paul and James Harden. RIF created customized content on Literacy Central with supplemental resources aligned with the book titles that students received. The project continues this Spring with the rebuild of King Middle School library.





RIF AND JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON PARTNER TO SUPPORT DC HOMELESS YOUTH

Reading Is Fundamental and the Junior League of Washington (JLW) kicked off a partnership to support homeless families in Washington, D.C. Over the next three years, JLW and RIF will bring books, literacy resources, and family-friendly activities to hundreds of children and families served by the Coalition for the Homeless and Kia's Place. The inaugural event was a festive Fall celebration with literacy games, a STEAM-themed craft station and a read-aloud of the popular book *Lola Loves Stories*. The kids were excited to receive three books each to take home and own.



RIF AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL LITERACY PROGRAMS

As part of Reading Is Fundamental's new matching grant program, RIF awarded 100 grants to literacy programs across the country. With the goal of creating impact while building capacity in communities across the country, RIF's matching grants will benefit over 145,000 kids in 37 states. Ranging from Boys and Girls clubs to schools and libraries, grant recipients will receive a combination of books and literacy resources to implement a Books for Ownership or Read for Success program. RIF's new approach to providing awards to local stakeholders seeking greater literacy support for their community generated significant interest. Community partners applying for a RIF matching grant defined the specific problem, the proposed solution, how they would align with RIF's mission, and methods for implementation. RIF will continue to support local partners with new grant programs in Spring, 2018.



THANKS, MACY'S!

Since our partnership began 14 years ago, Macy's continues to provide invaluable support for children's literacy and has helped RIF provide books and educational resources to 12 million children in more than 850 communities across the country. Thanks to Macy's support this year, RIF created Literacy Central, a digital destination with thousands of free literacy resources for students, parents, and educators to increase interest, comprehension, and frequency of reading among children. From Lexile-based reading passages to crossword puzzles and STEAM focused educator guides, Literacy Central features resources for varying grade levels at RIF.org/literacy-central.