



## Our Shelves to Yours Impact Report 2020-2021



*“We are very thankful to Kids Need to Read for sharing Highlights and classroom books with us during the COVID 19 pandemic. Charlotte has approximately 60,000 children living in a book desert and every book we receive brings us closer to building a book rich city. Promising Pages distributed over 105,000 books to almost 28,000 children in five months and KNTR supported our efforts. We look forward to working with them again in the future!” - Kelly Cates, Deputy Director of Promising Pages (9/2/2020)*

From Our Shelves to Yours is not a flashy program. We rarely see pictures of the books being used, or even hear back from those we serve once we have sent them books. But the need is very real and very serious. The words and phrases that are most often used are: “desperate,” “children do not have access to books outside of school,” “the students need books,” and “we do not have many resources.”

Kids Need to Read was created for this very need. We are honored to answer the call and excited to share the joy of reading and the power of a literate mind with the vulnerable children we serve.

Stand out projects include the opportunity for Kids Need to Read send books to a brand-new library that was built by hand by community members in Idaho. We were told that, “The students of Council do not have much materialistically in comparison to others their age. They make do with what they have with little complaint, but they need more. More books, more knowledge, more motivation to search out what lies beyond their mountains. This project would allow the students of Council to glimpse the world outside their mountains and encourage them to reach past economic and geographic boundaries.” (Council Elementary School, Idaho) To be a part of this community wide project was an honor and a privilege and we were grateful that we could help.

From Our Shelves to Yours is a program that witnesses, encourages, and supports innovation when it comes to getting books into the hands of children. The program answers grant applications for books needed in every state; Kids Need to Read has helped to maintain Little Free Libraries in Utah, brought books to classrooms in Alaska. Libraries have built teen summer reading programs in

New Hampshire and Medical centers in Montana give books during checkups because of grants received from Kids Need to Read.

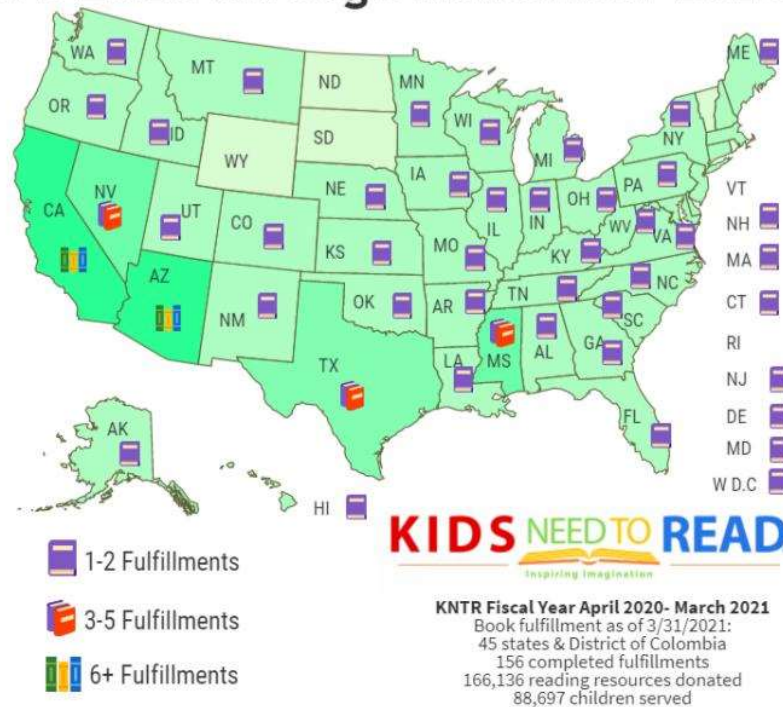
These project that serve children are why Kids Need to Read's lineup of popular and interactive literacy programs will always revolve around one simple core commitment: getting books in the hands of children who desperately need them. From Our Shelves to Yours.

We all know that this is a year that is unlike any other. The pandemic has wreaked havoc on book availability as well as creating budget cutbacks which impact school systems, funding for libraries is often one of the first things cut, leaving many schools unable to buy new books for their students . . . and leaving our children in danger of losing their way.

But those shelves need not stay bare. Nor will they with our combined commitment. Kids Need to Read was established to help reverse this disastrous trend by providing exciting new books to underfunded libraries, school systems, and independent literacy programs. Through the tireless generosity of our donors, volunteers and staff, we have already returned hundreds of thousands of books to those once bare shelves, and countless smiles to the faces of disadvantaged children in our nation's most underprivileged areas.



## Book Fulfillment April 2020 through November 2020

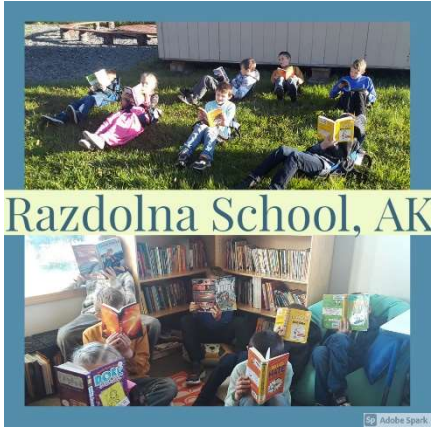


### Major Funding Contributors

Kathy and Jerry Wood Foundation

### Major In-kind Contributors

Animal Welfare Institute  
 Arizona Renaissance Festival  
 Barnes & Noble Chandler Fashion Mall  
 Barnes & Noble Desert Ridge Marketplace  
 Barnes & Noble Surprise  
 Bookman's Entertainment Exchange Mesa  
 Elks Foundation III  
 GreaterGood.org  
 Highlights for Children  
 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt  
 PetSmart Charities/PetSmart Christown Spectrum Phoenix



Razdolna School, AK

*I just wanted to write you a little thank you note for your generosity in providing our class with books to read. My students were so excited to see our classroom bookshelves full when they arrived this school year. The books you sent were perfect for their ability and interest levels. Your organization has played a huge roll in the love of reading that is now instilled in my students. The books are being read and used frequently. Students even have the opportunity to check them out to read at home which is a great privilege as most don't have any books in their homes. We are forever grateful for your gift and treasure the opportunity to fill our shelves with great books. -Cori Szynskie Razdolna School, Alaska*

## Our Shelves to Yours Recipients

### **Alabama**

Wedowee Middle School

### **Alaska**

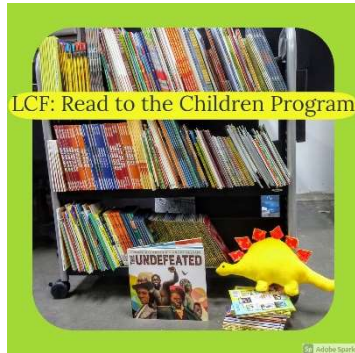
Razdolna School

### **Arkansas**

Greenland High School

### **California**

St Hope PS & Elementary



LCF: Read to the Children Program

### **Colorado**

Limon Correctional Facility  
Rifle Correctional Center Library

### **Connecticut**

Read to Grow Inc.

### **Delaware**

Caesar Rodney School District

### **Florida**

Christmas Comes True INC  
Lealman Innovation Academy

### **Georgia**

Crawford Long Middle School

### **Hawaii**

Kealakehe Elementary School

### **Idaho**

Council Elementary School

### **Illinois**

Indian Springs School Dist. 109

### **Indiana**

The Very Early Childhood Education Center

### **Iowa**

1st Congregational Church UCC

### **Kansas**

Western Kansas Child Advocacy

### **Kentucky**

UK Gen Ped

### **Louisiana**

Caddo Heights Elementary School

### **Maine**

Bangor Regional Therapeutic Day Program

### **Maryland**

KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program)  
Operation Pathways

### **Massachusetts**

McGlynn Elementary PTG  
Giving Back Together

**Michigan**

The Crescent Educational Foundation of Detroit

**Minnesota**

Casa Lake Bena Middle School

**Mississippi**

B. F. Liddell Middle School  
Earl Nash Elementary School  
Noxubee County High School

**Missouri**

Care  
STL Health  
Parents As Teachers

**Montana**

Florence Crittenton Home

**Nebraska**

Skinner Magnet Center

**Nevada**

Keystone Development Center

**New Hampshire**

Belmont Public Library

**New Jersey**

Belmont Public Library

**New Mexico**

Career Guidance Institute

**New York**

Urban Assembly School for Leadership and Empowerment

**North Carolina**

Promising Pages

**Ohio**

DECA Prep  
Gallia County Local Schools

**Oklahoma**

Muskogee Public Library

**Oregon**

Hillsboro Online Academy

**Pennsylvania**

Mon Valley School

**South Carolina**

Dreams With Open Arms

**Tennessee**

Knoxville Police Department

**Texas**

Storybridge  
North Side High School  
Marti Elementary School

**Utah**

4th East Community Garden

**Virginia**

The Free Book Bus

**Washington**

Communities in Schools of Puyallup

**Washington DC**

Mary House

**West Virginia**

Helvetia Public Library  
Southern Area Library

**Wisconsin**

Central City Cyber School



# Testimonials

Gabrielle Gaines CEO/President, Keystone Development Center, North Las Vegas, Nevada  
August 6, 2020

***“200 students were serviced so far. The remaining books will be given away in November during our Give a Kid a Book for Christmas event.... All of the children were excited to receive a free book that they could enjoy. They particularly loved the graphic novels.”***

Jacqueline Navarrete English/Reading Teacher and Student Council Sponsor, North Side High School, Fort Worth, Texas  
August 17, 2020

***“I am beyond excited for your contribution! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!”***

Daniella Birch Library Steward, 4th East Community Garden, Salt Lake City, Utah  
August 19, 2020

***“These books were so important for the kids in the area of this Little Free Library. They are low income children and when in person school was cancelled/postponed, it meant that they weren't provided the one on one learning they need. These books help them keep their reading skills up in the meantime.”***

Hannah Lazar Reading Specialist, DECA Prep, Dayton, Ohio  
August 20, 2020

***“The books we received were very high quality, even library bound books. This is a great start to creating a library for our school. I can't wait to share these books with students once we are back in our school building.”***

Nikki Ketchum Administrator, First Congregational Church UCC, Dubuque, Iowa  
August 20, 2020

***“Such a wonderful program and great to add to our meal for kids that we [serve] year-round but have increased during Covid.”***

Kelly Cates

Deputy Director, Promising Pages, Charlotte, North Carolina  
September 2, 2020 (Picture on page 1)

***“We are very thankful to Kids Need to Read for sharing Highlights and classroom books with us during the COVID 19 pandemic. Charlotte has approximately 60,000 children living in a book desert and every book we receive brings us closer to building a book rich city. Promising Pages distributed over 105,000 books to almost 28,000 children in five months and KNTR supported our efforts. We look forward to working with them again in the future!”***



Stacey Payne Planning & Grants Manager, Knoxville Police Department - Safety City and Safety Education, Knoxville, Tennessee  
September 28, 2020 (Picture Above)

***[Kids Need to Read was] fantastic to work with. [The operations director] made this a very simple process for us and made sure we received the books best suited for the children participating in our programs. The books were in excellent condition. We began giving the books out right away and the children could not be more excited. Thank you ... Kids Need to Read!***



Anna Lineberger Tenth Grade Teacher, Lealman Innovation Academy, St. Petersburg, Florida  
October 19, 2020

***“Thank you, thank you, thank you!! I am so excited to receive these books! My students get sucked into mysteries and love sports, so these are going to be wonderful texts to use in my classroom.”***

**THANK YOU  
from New Jersey**

Erin Kirkpatrick Intern, Fulfill Food Bank, Neptune City, New Jersey  
October 22, 2020 (picture to the left)

***“I wanted to reach out and say thank you again for your recent donation of 800+ books and Highlights to Fulfill. Because of your generous donation we have not only been able to send books to schools but also to local Boys and Girls Clubs and food distribution sites. We are so grateful for your help in changing the lives of the children of Monmouth and Ocean Counties!”***



Cori Szynskie Fourth/Fifth Grade Teacher, Razdolna School, Fritz Creek, Alaska  
October 27, 2020 (picture on page 3)

***“I just wanted to write you a little thank you note for your generosity in providing our class with books to read. My students were so excited to see our classroom bookshelves full when they arrived this school year. The books you sent were perfect for their ability and interest levels. Your organization has played a huge roll in the love of reading that is now instilled in my students. The books are being read and used frequently. Students even have the opportunity to check them out to read at home which is a great privilege as most don't have any books in their homes. We are forever grateful for your gift and treasure the opportunity to fill our shelves with great books.”***

Ann Marie Sager Classroom Teacher, Kealakehe Elementary School, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii  
November 20, 2020

***“Thank you so much for your donation! It is so helpful to have a wider selection of books for my kids to choose from.”***

Wilma Bennett  
Director, Southern Area Library, Lost Creek, West Virginia  
November 23, 2020

***“Your organization is a tremendous help to small rural libraries and schools.”***

Jerianne Davis Director, Helvetia Public Library, Helvetia, West Virginia  
November 23, 2020 (picture to the right)  
***“Thank you, thank you, thank you for your generous book donation to the Helvetia Public Library and the students of Pickens School. Because we are such a small school ... we find ourselves in a unique position which allows us to provide books to each child to have and take home with them. We have also found that the books we provide and give are sometimes the only books they even have in their household! So we thank you, thank you for the beautiful books you sent to our little community!”***

Phyllis Robinson Teacher, Crawford Long Middle School, Atlanta, Georgia  
January 2, 2021

***“Due to Covid-19, students are currently virtual. A few will return 16 Feb. This donation will definitely impact my incoming sixth graders.”***





Una Maher

Kindergarten Teacher, Hillsboro Online Academy, Hillsboro, Oregon

January 3, 2021

***“Our students were so delighted with their reading buddies. Parents have reported that they have cuddled, slept with, and read a lot with their buddies over the winter break... Our students and families were very happy with the gifts of reading buddies and books for the winter break. Students started initiating conversations about reading in our virtual class meetings after the drive-through. We LOVE this program and the fact that it provides books and a darling reading buddy for students to start to build their own personal libraries! It inspires a love for reading right from the beginning!”***



Carla Cotter

Reading Specialist, Birdville Elementary School,  
Haltom City, Texas

January 5, 2021 (picture to the left)

***“A giant Texas thank you for giving birth and flight to this wonderful organization. My elementary school was gifted with a huge shipment of books a few years ago. Recently I saw a student with one of the books. It happened to be one about lizards. He LOVES lizards. He has had that book for 3 years I believe. Isn't that cool!!! Those books were used at my school in so many ways. I see them all over our school and in the hands of students. I appreciate and thank you immensely for the hard work you have done all these years. Proud to be your partner in reading.”***

Nadine King

Executive Director, Christmas Come True, Brunell, Florida

January 14, 2021

***“The parents were amazed at the books that their children received.”***

Katherine Ramsey

Librarian, Earl Nash Elementary School Library, Macon, Mississippi

February 8, 2021 (picture page 2)

***“Your books are great. Giving both English and Spanish copies of some books gave my students the opportunity to share books with family members that do not speak English at all.”***

Sharon Stone

Director, The Free Book Bus, Charlottesville, Virginia  
February 8, 2021 (picture to the right)

***“The donation we received from KNTR was wonderful! The books were very high quality, and it was incredibly helpful to have a wide selection of board, picture, and chapter books to give out to all ages. I was especially impressed by the diversity reflected in the books. KNTR helped us in our ongoing efforts to serve the students in our area during COVID. We have given out over 4,000 books and counting since March 2020. Thank you!”***



Shannon Brown

Early Literacy Coordinator/ Children's Lib. Asst,  
Muskogee Public Library, Muskogee, Oklahoma  
February 8, 2021

***“The Highlight magazines had to be the biggest hit ever. The kids got to take them home and do all the puzzles and etc themselves. We actually have parents sign up for a subscription to the magazine.”***

Anna Maria Lineberger

Teacher, Lealman Innovation Academy, St. Petersburg, Florida  
February 8, 2021

***“I am absolutely thrilled with this opportunity. My kids were so excited to receive fresh, culturally relevant, hardback books. They have enjoyed them immensely and I am deeply thankful to you all.”***

Linda Sylvester

Books for Kids Coordinator, Read to Grow, Inc, Branford, Connecticut  
February 16, 2021

***“The books we received were gorgeous, current, and new. Many of the books have already been packed and sent out to programs, service providers, and families. Thank you so much for this generous donation to support Connecticut children.”***

Paula Grimm

Development Associate, Read to Grow, Branford, Connecticut  
February 18, 2021

***“We received your donation of GORGEOUS books early this week. Thank you so much. Linda (our BFK coordinator) has mentioned several times how excited she is by the quality and variety of the books and said they won't last long. Thank you for helping to bring the joy of reading to the Connecticut children who will receive these amazing books!”***

Elisha Ferguson

Site Lead, PS7 Elementary, Sacramento, California  
March 15, 2021

***“Thank you so much for giving our scholars these beautiful, new books!”***

Amanda Steicher

Parents as Teachers Home Visitor, Florence Crittenton, Helena, Montana

March 29, 2021

***“Thank you for the book donation to the Home Visiting Program at Florence Crittenton. We are so excited to be able to give these books to the families we serve in our community.”***

Sarah Frost

Librarian, Belmont Library, Belmont, New Hampshire

April 7, 2021

***“Thank you so much for the thoughtful donation of seven boxes of teen and middle-grade books! This donation will help our summer reading book box program be a success! We are so grateful for organizations like Kids Need to Read. Keep up the good work.”***