BOOKS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL • 2013 ANNUAL REPORT





We prepare and motivate children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to those children and families who need them most.

RIF DISTRIBUTED A TOTAL OF

3,248,095 BOOKS TO CHILDREN IN 2013

BOOKS	STATES	ВООК
208,014	Montana	6,47
3,790	Nebraska	3,15
76,295	Nevada	24,22
47,160	New Hampshire	2,03
288,253	New Jersey	36,25
65,875	New Mexico	17,30
64,254	New York	157,81
64,480	North Carolina	63,31
8,080	North Dakota	4,06
151,022	Ohio	47,45
51,821	Oklahoma	17,75
631	Oregon	31,69
33,774	Pennsylvania	166,52
3,812	Puerto Rico	3,51
202,781	Rhode Island	25,48
43,242	South Carolina	35,87
6,944	South Dakota	12,82
18,916	Tennessee	51,82
38,545	Texas	578,19
32,700	Utah	8,59
8,357	Vermont	7,17
49,187	Virginia	150,57
85,895	Washington	59,86
51,794	West Virginia	6,62
16,541	Wisconsin	41,79
47,587	Wyoming	90
17,029	TOTAL	3,248,09
	208,014 3,790 76,295 47,160 288,253 65,875 64,254 64,480 8,080 151,022 51,821 631 33,774 3,812 202,781 43,242 6,944 18,916 38,545 32,700 8,357 49,187 85,895 51,794 16,541 47,587	208,014 Montana 3,790 Nebraska 76,295 Nevada 47,160 New Hampshire 288,253 New Jersey 65,875 New Mexico 64,254 New York 64,480 North Carolina 8,080 North Dakota 151,022 Ohio 51,821 Oklahoma 631 Oregon 33,774 Pennsylvania 3,812 Puerto Rico 202,781 Rhode Island 43,242 South Carolina 6,944 South Dakota 18,916 Tennessee 38,545 Texas 32,700 Utah 8,357 Vermont 49,187 Virginia 85,895 Washington 51,794 West Virginia 47,587 Wyoming

BEYOND THE BOOK

RIF's 2013 Multicultural Book Collection gets kids hooked on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math). With Macy's support, RIF programs received 600 book collections featuring 40 children's books, plus activities to extend the reading experience.

RIF is working hard to prevent the summer slide. This past summer, we provided 176,000 books along with reading activities to kids in 15 states through the Innovative Approaches to Literacy grant from the U.S. Department of Education.



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

BOOKS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES.

We've seen it happen time and time again, and our commitment to ensuring that every child deserves the chance to be educated, inspired, and emboldened by the written word remains steadfast and unwavering.

Sadly, two out of three of the 16 million children currently living in poverty in the United States have no books to call their own. But RIF continues to work at righting that wrong. To date, we have delivered more than 410 million new, free books to underserved children across the country.

Our accomplishments would not be possible without the passion and dedication of our many supporters, volunteers, and fellow book lovers. They help us achieve our day-to-day and long-term goals, and remind us that we continue to meet a critical need and make a significant impact.

This year, the Department of Education reaffirmed its commitment to childhood learning with a generous \$4.18 million grant in support of RIF's effort to combat young students' summertime learning loss. Through the new initiative, RIF will provide books to 22,000 students in schools across the country—in districts where at least one-quarter of the students are living below the poverty line.

RIF also continues to benefit from the many wonderful contributions of our star partner Macy's. Over the past 10 years, Macy's has helped us raise nearly \$30 million in support of children's literacy. And this year we celebrated our decade-long partnership with Macy's by distributing our 10 millionth book to a child in need, with \$3.9 million raised this past summer alone.

RIF has been changing lives one book at a time for nearly half a century, and we have no intention of slowing down. We know that our work makes a real, lasting difference in the lives of children who need our help. With your continued support and encouragement, we are helping create a more literate America—one filled with promise and a brighter tomorrow.

JACK REMONDI

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President and CEO

Carol L. Rasci



PARTNERSHIPS

MACY'S

In 2013, Macy's and RIF's Be Book Smart campaign achieved its biggest milestone to date—raising enough funds over the past decade to provide 10 million books to underserved children.

From June 21 through July 21, Macy's stores across the country raised more than \$3.9 million for RIF. Each time a Macy's customer purchased a \$3 coupon, they received \$10 off their purchase of \$50 and put a new book into the hands of a child in need.

Macy's unparalleled support also helped give 600 Multicultural Book Collections to RIF programs in our nation's impoverished communities, and helped launch two new interactive eBook apps focused on science and the arts.

Additionally, Macy's dedicated sales associates and store managers continued to demonstrate their commitment to children's literacy through a variety of in-store events and volunteer efforts. Macy's has helped RIF raise nearly \$30 million since 2004!

BARNES & NOBLE COLLEGE

How do you turn used college textbooks into new children's books? Barnes & Noble College offers students on campuses across the country the option to donating the net profits from recycling their used textbooks to RIF at the end of each semester. This allows RIF to buy new books for children and help set them up for a lifetime of achievement.

DOLLAR GENERAL LITERACY FOUNDATION

Dollar General has generously supported RIF since 2004. This year, Dollar General's contribution to our Books for Ownership program allowed RIF to give nearly 77,000 books to more than 30,000 children in low-income communities across the country. Dollar General also donated \$50,000 for general support of RIF's mission.





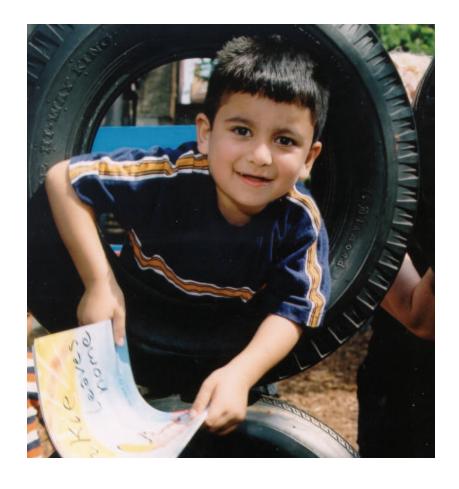
NESTLÉ

Nestlé and RIF have worked together for two decades to build a strong foundation for children's literacy. This year, Nestlé continued their "Share the Joy of Reading" program—donating 10 cents to RIF for every code found inside specially marked Nestlé and Wonka products and entered online by customers. With the support of Nestlé, RIF also launched an art competition called FULL STEAM AHEAD WITH BOOKS that encouraged elementary-school students across the country to express how books have fueled their passion for science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM).

PITNEY BOWES

This year, RIF teamed up with the Pitney Bowes Foundation once again for a successful "Share the Message: Read!" program, developing literacy kits that included activity guides, STEAM-themed books, and craft materials. In April, as part of Pitney Bowes' Global Volunteer Month program, employees visited more than 200 classrooms across the country to distribute the literacy kits and approximately 6,000 books. Two months later, Pitney Bowes and RIF gave away 1,600 books at a Family Literacy Night celebration in Norwalk, Conn., attended by nearly 850 children and parents, as well as federal, state, and city officials.





SALLIE MAE

Through the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, Sallie Mae provided a \$39,235 grant to support 13 RIF programs in eight Sallie Mae communities. This contribution helps put books into the hands of children who need them most.

UGI UTILITIES, INC.

UGI continued their generous 20-year support of RIF programs with a \$169,500 grant that enabled RIF to distribute more than 55,000 brand-new books to elementary school students in Pennsylvania. UGI employees also promoted the company's partnership with RIF by donating their time and energy to help children discover the joy of reading.

USA FUNDS

RIF is excited about our new partnership with USA Funds. This year, they awarded us a \$75,000 grant to provide books and literacy materials to students at elementary schools in Indianapolis, Ind.



IMPACT

SUMMER SUCCESS MODEL

Away from school shouldn't mean away from books—particularly in underserved communities where children are disproportionately susceptible to a summertime drop-off in learning that puts them behind academically.

To combat this "summer slide," RIF has launched a new summer reading initiative that is reaching 22,000 students in 145 schools and 33 school districts across the country. A research project, this initiative should add to the much-needed body of knowledge about reading loss during summer learning in reading. The effort is made possible by a generous \$4.18 million grant from the Department of Education's Innovative Approaches to Literacy program.

Participating students select eight books to take home, keep and enjoy over the summer with their families and friends. RIF is also providing individual Multicultural Book Collections to each classroom and media center in the 145 schools, as well as activities for teachers, parents, and RIF coordinators to use in helping kids continue to learn and grow during their time away from school. With a focus on informational texts and content connections, these books have been specially selected to help children make rich connections to the world around them.

SOUTHWEST SOJOURN RALLIES BOOK LOVERS

Our April trip to Austin, Texas, was all about reading, writing, and RIF friends and supporters—a series of celebratory events sponsored by Macy's.

The good times kicked off with a special panel discussion of Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers. Lynda Johnson Robb, a founding board member of RIF, explored her mother's legacy with her sister Luci Baines Johnson and the book's author Kathi Appelt and illustrator Joy Fisher Hein.

At a Book People Unite celebration, RIF families and supporters met with children's book authors Chris Barton, Cynthia Leitich Smith, and Tim Tingle, as well as RIF Volunteer of the Year Award winner Kay Gooch. And during a special book distribution at Campbell Elementary School, children delighted in "flying" in a playfully designed cardboard airplane to pick out their books.



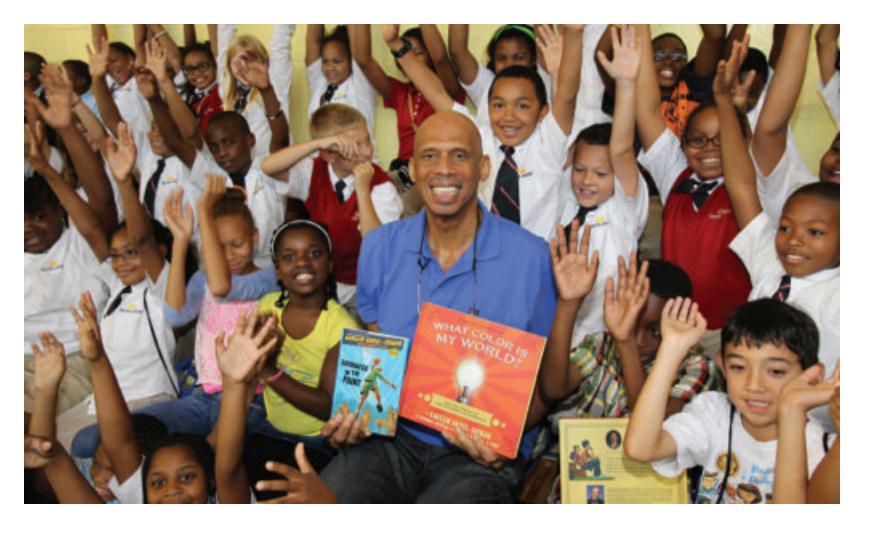


INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS

RIF has launched two new eBook apps designed to educate and entertain young readers with stories and interactive activities that explore science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) themes.

Developed for preschoolers to read and explore with their caregivers, RIF's "Our Book" app comprises six mini-books about the daily adventures of SugarLoaf and her family, as well as a drawing tool that allows kids to create their own stories. RIF's "Water Wonders" app, which is designed for elementary school-aged children, features playful stories about sibling investigators Sydney and Symon, and includes interactive experiments that mirror the characters' experiences.

Produced in partnership with FableVision Studios and the National Writing Project, the bilingual apps feature the work of The New York Times best-selling children's book author Peter H. Reynolds. Both apps are offered free of charge through funding from Macy's and the Verizon Foundation.



INSPIRED READER

Award-winning author and the NBA's all-time leading scorer, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar made two special stops for RIF during his book tour for release of his latest children's book, *Sasquatch in the Paint*, a book about a nerdy eighth-grader who grows so tall that a basketball coach is determined to turn him into a player.

As soon as Kareem stepped into the building at both Ft. Bragg in North Carolina and Joint Base Andrews in Maryland, parents and kids alike were in awe. He casually took center stage and opened up about his life and his passion behind writing his latest book.

At Ft. Bragg, where his father was once stationed, Kareem told children that they should follow their dreams — and not necessarily those of their peers. And when asked why did he write children's books after a career in basketball, Kareem responded that his brain was his biggest asset.

FULL STEAM AHEAD ON READING AND LEARNING

RIF kids come from diverse backgrounds and have diverse interests, so it's only appropriate that our 2013 Multicultural Book Collection featured titles with science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) themes.

Each collection is comprised of 40 books for children in K through 5th grade. And each book includes an accompanying set of literacy activities for use in the classroom and at home.

With the generous support of Macy's, more than 600 book collections were donated to RIF programs serving children in low-income communities across the country. These collections are critical to fostering an awareness about oneself and others that can lead to future innovations for the benefit of all society.

BRINGING NEW BOOKS TO NEW ORLEANS

As President of Communities in Schools of Greater New Orleans, Sara Massey was faced with the challenge of replacing all the books lost during Hurricane Katrina. "We had one box of 'donated' books that...belonged in a recycling plant, not a school that had just lost everything," explained Massey. "RIF was the solution, providing thousands of high-quality, brand-new books for our kids."

Massey has been volunteering with RIF for four years now. And after seeing how much young students enjoyed being read aloud to at a RIF book distribution, she was inspired to create reading events that bring parents, children, and teachers together—often for the first time. RIF honored Massey's great work with a 2013 Volunteer of the Year Award.



ENGAGING YOUNG READERS IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL

Throughout the year, RIF and the Junior League of Washington (JLW) delivered more than 33,000 books to underserved public school students in D.C.'s Wards 5, 7, and 8. The initiative was launched as part of JLW's Resolution Read program—an effort to distribute a total of 100,000 books during 2013 in honor of JLW's centennial anniversary.

RIF also awarded Multicultural Book Collections to each of the 21 D.C. public schools participating in the initiative, including 40 STEAM-themed books and related activity sets for parents and educators to use with children.

During an in-school event at DC Prep's Edgewood Middle Campus, 65 5th-grade students were treated to the wit and wisdom of author and singer-songwriter George Ella Lyon, who led the kids in a rousing sing-along rendition of her book All the Water in the World.

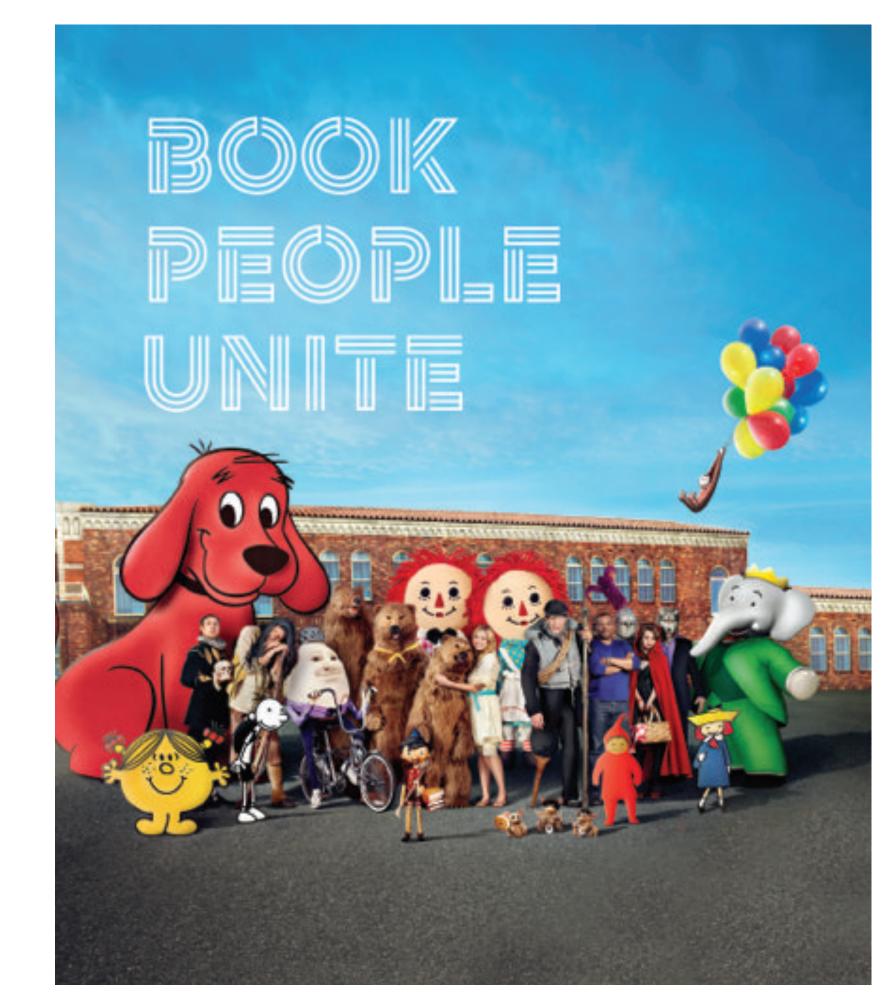
BOOK PEOPLE UNITE

In its second year, RIF's "Book People Unite" campaign continued to raise awareness of children's literacy needs. To date, 20,000 book lovers have pledged their support for RIF through BookPeopleUnite.org. And the campaign's centerpiece—a star-studded, multimedia public service announcement (PSA) featuring LeVar Burton and a slew of notable children's book characters come to life—has reached nearly 120 million adults the nation over. The campaign has proven particularly successful on social media, with our number of Facebook and Twitter followers increasing by 40 percent and more than 480,000 views of the PSA on RIF's YouTube channel.

A WILD NIGHT OF CELEBRATION AND SUPPORT

Maurice Sendak's iconic and award-winning book Where the Wild Things Are came alive in festive fashion at RIF's annual gala event, which raised awareness and funds for children's literacy, and celebrated the 50th anniversary of Sendak's classic tale of Max and his "wild" friends.

Joining us for the special evening of mischief making were more than 350 esteemed guests, including basketball legend and children's book author Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" designer Tracy Hutson as our gala emcee. The event would not have been possible without the generous support of HarperCollins Children's Books and the Maurice Sendak Estate.



CORPORATE, FOUNDATION, **AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORT**

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RIF is fortunate to have many corporate and foundation supporters who continue to give generously each year. These partnerships allow RIF to serve more children with higher-quality books, as well as provide additional literacy services across the country. We are grateful to the following supporters for their commitment to children's literacy and to RIF's mission.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 AND 2012 (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	2013	2012
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,628	\$7,387
Investments	7,385	6,670
Pledges receivable, net	382	626
Receivable from the U.S. Department of Education	761	0
Prepaid expenses and other assets	201	221
Property, net	489	663
TOTAL ASSETS	\$13,846	\$15,567
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,091	\$547
Defered rent and lease incentives	414	479
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,505	1,026
NIET ACCETS		
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	5,451	5,174
Temporarily restricted	6,298	8,775
Permanently restricted	592	592
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12,341	14,541
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$13,846	\$15,567

RIF's financial records were audited by Raffa, P.C. For a complete set of audited financial statements, please write to RIF's Chief Financial Officer, Reading Is Fundamental, 1730 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20036.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 AND 2012 (DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	2013	2012
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
U.S. Department of Education:		
Inexpensive Book Distribution Program	\$ -	\$14,234
Innovative Approaches to Literacy Program	3,259	Ψ1 4 ,254
Contributions	7.368	8,148
Donated public service announcements	14,249	11,131
Investment income	516	1
Royalties and other revenue	21	322
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	25,413	33,836
EXPENSES		
Program Services:		
Literacy Research	3,158	-
Books for Ownership	4,659	16,529
Community Literacy Awareness	15,532	13,470
Literacy Services and Other	1,276	1,241
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	24,625	31,240
Supporting Services:		
Management and general	1,413	1,451
Fundraising	1,576	1,479
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	2,989	2,930
TOTAL EXPENSES	27,614	34,170
Change in net assets	(2,201)	(334)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	14,541	14,875
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$12,340	\$14,541

LEADERSHIP

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

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Senior Consultant

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