

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

The mission of Friends of Literacy is to transform lives through literacy. Our programs help adults, children, and families gain the skills they need to achieve their goals.

404 FAMILIES

and 805 children were served in our Family Literacy and Reading Mentors programs.



PARENTS & GUARDIANS 600+

were provided with tools and resources to help their children become better readers.



1,998 CHILDREN'S BOOKS

were distributed to families for their home libraries.



VOLUNTEERS 60

donated over 2,000 hours of time to help our students achieve their educational goals. Special thanks to our volunteers for finding creative ways to work with students during the COVID-19 pandemic!



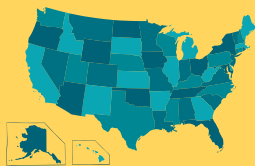
181 ADULTS

improved their literacy and education through our Adult Reading, English Language Learners, and HiSET Prep programs.



15 COUNTIES

in Tennessee, plus 19 other states, are home to the adults, children, and families served by our programs.



FUNDING 92%

directly supports our programming and the people we serve. Our non-program expenses include rent, insurance, and accounting services.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF ADULTS, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES IN EAST TENNESSEE AND BEYOND.



A Story of Perseverance

Neither a pandemic nor her student’s lack of a computer could keep Judy Rice from teaching Sarah to read. Judy has multiple sclerosis and is retired from teaching pre-school, kindergarten, special education, and 4th grade, so she knows about being flexible, creative, and persistent.

She and Sarah initially met face-to-face and got to know each other, which made it easier for them to work together by phone when COVID struck. Judy actually sees a benefit in meeting by phone: “Having only sound forces you to pay attention more, to pick up nuances in words and silence.” Sarah did not know basic sounds of letters but has now completed two steps in the Wilson Reading Program, which Judy has supplemented with additional materials that she has found or created. Judy was surprised by how long and how well Sarah managed without

reading. “I admire people facing something difficult for them—people who have summoned up the courage to learn to read after many years living without that advantage and having been dealt a rough hand.” Judy notes that many older students went through school when there weren't all the services we have now. Judy appreciates that being a tutor enriches her life. MS limits her ability to do some activities she enjoys, but tutoring is something she can do, and it has provided her with purpose and structure during the pandemic. With Friends of Literacy’s programs to help students of all ages learn to read, Judy says, “I’m so glad there is an organization like this!”

WE APPRECIATE THE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO SUPPORTED OUR WORK IN 2020, INCLUDING THOSE WHO CHOSE TO GIVE ANONYMOUSLY.

Laura Allen
Cindi Dickinson Alpert
Lisa Alther
Amerigroup Corporation
Arlene Anderson
Andrew Bogle Chapter, NSDAR
Anne Armstrong
Kendra and Steven Askew
Martha Axford
Anne Backus
Cheryl Barksdale
Patty Barlow
Cheryl Barr
Jessica Beard
Lauren and Andrew Beasley
Robin Bedenbaugh
Elle Benson
Robert Blazer
Kathleen Bohlken
Jackie Booth
Dorothy Bowles
Michael Brinley
Teresa and Ray Brittain
Greg Brock
Angie Brooks

Jeanette Brown
Mary Brown
Brian Broyles
Rebecca Bryan
Laura Bullock
Susan Byrne
Lynn Cardwell
Kathy Carney-Layendecker
Bruce and Irene Carroll
Cayce Chalk
City of Knoxville
Clancy's Tavern
Clarence Brown Theatre
Peter "Doc" Claussen
CNS Y-12
Martha Coleman
Mike Collins
Virginia Cone
Bess Connally
Norma Cox Cook
Chris Craft
Barbara Craig
Ethan Daniels
Jamie and Natalie Davis
Jason Dillon

Patrick Dillon
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Dollywood
Frances Drake
Gretchen Drane
Linda Driver
Maryellen Duckett
East Tennessee Foundation Literacy Endowment
East Tennessee Foundation Cornerstone Fund
East Tennessee Foundation Mount Rest Fund
Tamera Easterday
Egwani Farms Golf Course
Elkmont Exchange
Maggie Elliott
Emily Ellis
Whitney Erickson
Michelle Ewart
Executive Women International
Carolyn Fairbank
Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes
Judy Feagin
Mary Fell
Heather and Michael Floan
Sarah Ford
Kenlyn Foster

Fountain City United Methodist Church

Amanda Fowler
 Gordon and Ellen Fowler
 Bonnie Frame
 Edward Francisco
 Friends of the Library
 Dan and Nancy Gaubas
 Ann Gehl
 Judy Genella
 Linda Giles
 Greg Giuffrida
 Kelly Gleason
 Bruce Gorrell
 Martha Gound
 Doris Gove
 Charley and Susy Gray
 Judy Greeson
 Sue Groves
 Ellie Gunn
 Kristin Hall
 Ham 'N Goodys
 Becky Hancock
 Harvest Land, Sea, & Vine
 Rebecca Hayes
 Fred and Sally Haywood
 Elizabeth Henault
 Jim and Liz Henry
 Kimberly Henry
 William Henry
 Mary Herbes
 Herron-Connell Insurance
 Michael Higgins
 Nicole Hight
 Peggy and Mike Hilliard
 Taylor Anne Hiner
 Theresa Hipsher
 Jillian Hirsch
 Home Inspection Headquarters
 Tom Hood
 Patricia Hope
 Marilyn Hosker
 Hannah Houser
 Leigh Hruby
 Sharon Hubbard
 Ijams Nature Center
 Ann and Dick Ince
 Cyndi Shupp Jeffers
 Mary Jellison
 Rebecca and Richard Jenkins
 John Becker Photo
 Ashley Jones
 Christine Jones
 Vivian Jung
 Kaizen
 Marilyn Kallet
 Jacob Kamer
 Mary and Dale Kangas
 Bob and Ellie Kassem
 Jamie Keith
 Norma Kelley
 Rod Kimmitt
 Joshua Kimrey
 Amy King
 Tamera Kirkland
 Knox County Commission

Knox County Government
 Knoxville Academy of Medicine Alliance
 Knoxville City Council
 Knoxville News Sentinel
 Addison Koella
 Carolyn Krause
 Kroger
 Justin and Jana Lafferty
 David Lamb
 Jessica Lee
 Sherri Lee
 Bob Leggett
 Mark Leitson
 Michael and Nancy Lofaro
 Margaret Lon-Britton
 Lindsay Long
 Katherine Lundy
 Lara Lundy
 Mary Lyster
 Martha Malloy
 Thomas Maloy
 Dan Marra
 Elba Marshall
 Jeremy Martin
 William Martin, Jr.
 Kyra Martinez
 Dave May
 Kristen McBee
 Karen and James McCall
 Rosalyn McKeown-Ice and Gene Ice
 Janice McKinley
 Heather McNeal
 Jill McNutt
 Natalie Metzler
 Mighty Mud
 Beth Miller
 Tory Mills
 Amanda Mize
 Mary Moore
 Carolyn Moore Mooso
 Virginia and William Morrow
 Odel Morse
 Maryann Mulvenon
 Sue Murrian
 Vicki Fogel Mykles
 Teresa Myrick
 Barbara Nicodemus
 Carol Niehaus
 Martha Olson
 Erma Osborne
 Matthew Pamental
 Linda Parsons
 Jalpa Patel
 Thomas Payne
 Ada and Robert Pfohl
 Phyllis and Lewis Phillips
 Pilot Company
 Suzanne Piscitello
 Jamie Platt
 Ponce Metals, Inc.
 Helena Pound
 Cynthia Powell
 Kasey Powers
 Jason Pries
 Terri Pries

James Proud
 Publix Super Markets Charities
 Marilyn Mae Randall
 KaDonna Randolph
 Liz Randolph
 Allison Reagan
 Candee Reaves
 Leslie Reeves
 Regions Bank
 Jae Resendes
 Todd Reynolds
 Judy Rice
 Katherine Roberts
 Anna Robinson
 Jay Robinson
 Perry Robinson
 Margaret Rogers
 Patty Rucker
 Kim Rush
 Mary Russell
 Katie Rymer
 Salsarita's
 Deborah Scaperoth
 Frances Scheidt
 Nancy Seely
 Sohrab Sharghi
 Catherine Shepherd
 Nedra Shultz
 Becca Skinner
 Barbara Smith
 Janet Smith
 Natalie Smith
 Rob Spalding
 Jennifer Stamps
 Laura Stephens-Reed
 Rosemary Stewart
 Sticky Rice Café
 Wade Stonebrook
 Frances Story
 Candice Strickler
 Jay Strozier
 Jessica Strutz
 Edward Sullivan
 Janet Swift
 Tako Taco
 Amanda Taylor
 Barbara Taylor
 Michael Taylor
 Judith Teasley
 Kathy Tedford
 Tennessee Theatre
 Peggy Terpstra
 The Lisa Libraries
 The Reading Club
 The Shed/Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson
 The Thompson Charitable Foundation
 Brenda Thoms
 Wendy Thrasher
 Melinda Tilley
 Hannah Tippett
 Susan Tipton
 Paige Travis
 Tyler Trimnal
 Suzy Trotta
 Diane Trusley

United Way of Greater Knoxville
UT Battelle
Tanya Vargas
Vivian Vega
Sam and Mary Ann Venable
Alicia Verlinde
Sherry Vermillion
Georgiana Vines

Mark and Laura Walker
Martina Ward
Angie Warwick
Rusty Webb
Erik Wiatr
Tracey Wiggins
Helen Wilkins
Mary Willgrubs

Rose Williams
Patricia Wilson
WNOX
WVLT
Kristin Yarnell
Elan Young
Sharon Youngs

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR HELPING US TRANSFORM LIVES IN EAST TENNESSEE.

Alpha Pi Omega - UT
Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy
Beaumont Magnet Academy
Belle Morris Elementary
Bridge Refugee Services
Center for English
Christenberry Elementary

Dogwood Arts
Essential Ed
Green Magnet Academy
Knoxville Leadership Foundation
New Hopewell Elementary
Pregnancy Resource Center
ProLiteracy

Scholastic
SHADES of Development
Spring Hill Elementary
TriStar Reads
Trotta Montgomery Real Estate
UT College of Nursing
Voxy

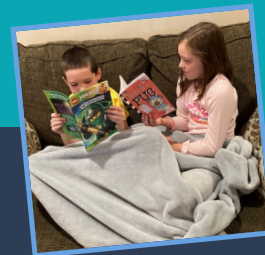
THE REVIEWS ARE IN. OUR FAMILY LITERACY AND READING MENTORS PROGRAMS ARE A HIT!

"This program is so amazing! My kids look forward to getting the books. I've seen a huge improvement in their enthusiasm to read!"

"Love this program!"

"My favorite part is getting books to read! My 8-year-old gets books from the library, but he feels like a king when he gets books to keep in his home library."

"The literacy practices for home are awesome. Allowing my 8-year-old to help set up his daily schedule boosted his confidence and awareness of how to self-advocate. He's asking to be independent in more areas of his life. Also, his cozy spot for reading is decidedly right beside mom. I love sneaking in some cuddle time."



2020 WAS GOOD, BUT WE STILL HAVE WORK TO DO.

Less than half of Knox County 3rd graders read on grade level.

The number of books in the home and the amount of time spent reading with parents directly impact a child's reading scores.

Adults need support as well—for themselves and for their children and community. Parental literacy has a direct impact on the academic success of their children. Literacy lifts up everyone in the family!