Through the generosity of our partner organizations and individual donors, Raising Readers in Story County was able to achieve its mission in 2020: to 1) improve language and literacy development in children from birth to age eight and 2) nurture healthy parent-child relationships.

Check out RRSC’s 2020 highlights below!

**BOOKS ABOUND**
RRSC purchased 15,980 books for families and programs.

**GENEROUS SUPPORT**
$18,830.88 was donated to our Endowment Fund. $256,930.60 was contributed to our operating costs.

**DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS**
Our outstanding team of 427 volunteers donated 4,480 hours to read with and tutor children, manage public reading corners, distribute gift books, support parents, evaluate programs, and assist with events for families.

**FLEXIBLE PROGRAMMING**
In response to COVID-19, RRSC moved several programs online and added parental literacy support to address the challenges created by school closures in the spring.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RRSC!**
In August we celebrated 20 years in Story County.

**SERVING FAMILIES**
RRSC provided 24,750 people in Story County with vital literacy tools, books, support, or programming.

**STOPPING SUMMER SLIDE**
139 kids participated in Harrison Barnes Reading Buddies, with 94.7% improving or maintaining current reading levels.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL KIDS**
In an effort to better serve the underserved and empower all members of our community, RRSC established a diversity committee to ensure that both our books and practices are equitable.

**A NEW HOME**
Thanks to the generous, nonprofit-friendly rates at North Grand Mall, RRSC moved to a new, expansive office space in August.

**OUR NEWEST PROGRAM**
RRSC is launching STARS: Sing, Talk, and Read for Success. This program utilizes the powerful LENA software to measure speech in a child's environment and provide feedback for guardians to help them create a literacy-rich environment.

**THANK YOU** for supporting families in our community and helping to build a future in which all children are given the chance to thrive! For more information or to donate, visit: [www.raising-readers.org](http://www.raising-readers.org)
**StoryPals**
*A fun-filled program that provides additional reading experiences to children ages 3-5*

- **94 children served**
- **94.3%** children who maintained or improved proficiency in literacy

**Step Into Storybooks**
*Our annual family literacy event to inspire increased reading activities at home*

- **1,531 families served**
- **34 stations featuring fun literacy activities**

**Children served in other RRSC programs**

- **29 Harrison Barnes Reading Academy After-School Program**
- **21 Story Time**
- **27 ACPC Reading Buddies**

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Harrison Barnes Summer Reading Buddies**
*Our FREE K-3rd grade summer tutoring program to promote literacy skills and prevent "summer slide"*

- **99,128 minutes read in summer programming**
- **139 children served**
- **95%** of summer reading buddies improved or maintained their guided reading level

"Thank you, sincerely, for making such a difference in an area of his life I wasn’t sure how to ever improve. I am incredibly grateful."

— HBRA Summer Reading Buddies parent

**SuperK**
*Prepares students to learn on the first day of Kindergarten and promotes the importance of reading daily*

- **80%** of SuperK parents read 20 minutes or more per day with their children

"I highly recommend this program and I am so grateful to Raising Readers in Story County for providing it. It was an insightful and rewarding experience for our child as well as for us as parents."

— SuperK parent

Visit us online to learn more about our excellent selection of programs and the experiences of our participating families: [www.raising-readers.org](http://www.raising-readers.org)
MEET OUR FY19-20 PARTNERS & FUNDERS

Reach Out and Read Sponsors

6 Months:
Ames Morning Rotary

12 Months:
US Bank

15 Months:
Ames Lions Club
Story County Medical Center
Sue & Don Seaton

18 Months:
Jennifer and Brian Dieter

2 Years:
Rotary Club of Ames

3 Years:
Julie and Harold Pike

4 Years:
Workiva

5 Years:
Kiwanis Club of Ames
McFarland Clinic

Program Lead Sponsors

ACPC Reading Buddies:
Fight for Literacy

Little Free Libraries:
Prairie Meadows

Story Times, Baby Bump & Beyond:
Ames Town & Country Kiwanis

Harrison Barnes Reading Academy: After School Tutoring + Summer Reading Buddies:
Harrison and Brittany Barnes Community Fund

Funders

Ames Optimist Club
Ames Kiwanis Club (Noon)
Ames Morning Rotary
Ames Women’s Club
City of Ames
Collegiate Presbyterian Church
Golden K Kiwanis
Iowa State University Student Government
McFarland Clinic
Memorial Lutheran Church of Nevada
Nevada Rotary
Pi Beta Phi
Rotary Club of Ames
Story County
Story County Community Foundation
Story County Community Giving Circle
Story County Medical Center
United Way of Story County

Partners

Ames Community School District
Ames Community Preschool Center
Ames Public Library
Ballard Community School District
Boys and Girls Club of Story County
Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
Collins-Maxwell Community School District
Colo-NESCO Community School District
Gilbert Community School District
Mary Greeley Medical Center
Mid-Iowa Community Action
Nevada Community School District
Nevada Kiwanis
Nevada Public Library
Primary Health Care, Inc.
Roland-Story Community School District
United Way of Story County
Volunteer Center of Story County

THANK YOU to the many individuals who have given their support to RRSC and Story County kids! You make a difference.

Click here to see a full list of our fabulous donors!

CONTACT US!

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