



#20YearsInTheBooks

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND EMPOWERING STUDENTS FOR 20 YEARS AND COUNTING



1 SCHOOL
~20 VOLUNTEERS

25 STUDENTS
30 STUDENTS

1999

Mary Wright Shaw, Molly McCrory, & Jean Bacigalupi begin to recruit community volunteers to provide literacy tutoring to students who were behind in reading at Belle Haven Community School in Menlo Park, CA in Silicon Valley.



2001

Our founders recruit a dedicated group of volunteers to tutor students at their local elementary school.

YES Reading is incorporated as a 501(c)(3).



YES Reading expands to serve schools in the Oakland/East Bay Area, CA and its operating budget reaches \$1M in revenue, with the backing of advocates and supporters.

2007

330 STUDENTS

2008

472 STUDENTS

YES Reading expands to serve San Francisco, CA schools.



Reading Partners expands to Los Angeles, CA.

2009



Reading Partners is awarded its first AmeriCorps grant and expands to Washington, DC, our first expansion outside of California.

Reading Partners celebrates its 10th year anniversary, growing from a small organization serving 30 students to one that serves more than 1,200 students.

2010

1,240 STUDENTS

Reading Partners begins serving students in Sacramento, CA.

24 SCHOOLS
1,800 VOLUNTEERS

2011

Reading Partners is selected as a Social Innovation Fund and Edna McConnell Clark Foundation grant recipient.

2012

3,395 STUDENTS

Reading Partners expands to New York City, NY.

2013

Reading Partners expands to Tulsa, OK, and Charleston, SC.

2014

6,885 STUDENTS

Reading Partners expands to serve students in Seattle, WA.

2015

Reading Partners expands to serve students in Twin Cities, MN, and Charlotte, NC.

Gold-standard research, conducted by leading national education research firm, MDRC, found that Reading Partners' program had a positive and statistically significant impact on student reading proficiency, and is effective for a diverse population of students.

Reading Partners has been a literacy game changer for New York City... I am very proud to have been a part of bringing Reading Partners to NYC and I am eager to see Reading Partners serve even more of this city's kids in the years to come.

Stephanie Cohen, national board member 2010 to 2017, national board secretary 2015 to 2017

APA, a leading national education research firm, found that students served by Reading Partners (and particularly English Language Learners) showed significantly greater improvement in their literacy skills than comparison students not served by the program.

The Library of Congress Literacy Awards program honored 15 organizations (including Reading Partners) for outstanding work in the field of literacy and implementation of best practices in literacy promotion.

2017

Reading Partners celebrates its 20th anniversary and adopts a new logo reflecting its continued commitment to a future where all children in the US have the reading skills necessary to reach their full potential.



216 SCHOOLS

~12,000 VOLUNTEERS

2019

Receiving the Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grant via EMCF in 2011 truly changed the game for Reading Partners. Their capacity building grant enabled Reading Partners to upgrade financial systems, staff training, fundraising, and program research. EMCF staff presence on the board helped the organization consider best practices. In the years of the SIF grant, Reading Partners grew in terms of the number of students and communities served and received validation of our students' results via the multi-year MDRC study. SIF provided the resources to launch Reading Partners from a regional organization to a national leader in literacy.

Cathy Cockrum Dean, national board member 2009 to 2015, national board chair 2013 to 2015, SF Bay Area regional board member 2012 to present

In our first 20 years, Reading Partners partnered with schools across the country to bring thousands of young students and volunteer tutors together to practice reading. We proved, with carefully tested results, that we can help all kids 'learn to read so that they can read to learn'. As exciting as it has been to build this foundation, I am even more excited about the decade ahead as we build a national movement dedicated to making literacy the right of every young student in our country.

Dan Carroll, national board member 2013 to 2016, national board chair 2016 to present

