



Fact Sheet

ABOUT	Raising A Reader is a 501c3 charitable organization that began program implementation in 1999 to provide resources and guidance for families to implement home-based literacy routines for children ages 0-8 through an evidence-based program offered by local affiliates nationwide. More than 1.7 million families have been served by the program to-date.
MISSION	Help families develop, practice and maintain literacy habits that are critical for a child's success in school and in life.
AFFILIATES	A network of more than 300 community partners that comprise more than 3,000 locations across the country have implemented the Raising A Reader program. Partners include public school districts, public libraries, community agencies, faith-based organizations, migrant programs, subsidized housing programs, teen parent programs, afterschool programs and other organizations both public and private.
PROGRAM	The Raising A Reader program helps families develop, practice and maintain home literacy routines. Each week children bring home a book bag filled with award-winning books; the books are exchanged the following week for new ones with more than 100 books rotated through the home during the year. The program also trains parents on engaging their children in reading and connects families to local libraries to sustain the habit of borrowing and reading books after completion of the program.
RESEARCH	Research shows family engagement significantly affects academic achievement. There is a direct and proven relationship between parent involvement and the academic growth and development of children. Additionally, 39 independent evaluations have proven Raising A Reader significantly improves language and literacy skills, school readiness, family reading behavior and parent-child bonding.
KEY EXECUTIVES	Michelle Torgerson, President and CEO Rebecca Armstrong, AVP Program and Affiliate Stewardship
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