

The Book Fairies



Mission Statement

The Book Fairies is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that collects reading materials for people in need throughout metropolitan New York. The reading materials foster literacy and academic success, provide a respite from personal struggles, and nurture a love of reading across age groups.

Dear Friends,

Wow, where to begin. 2020 was a year that challenged us in ways we have never seen in our lifetimes. When the Coronavirus shut the country down in March, every aspect of our lives changed. As tragedy struck our homes, schools, communities, and world, it was easy to feel a lack of control over our circumstances.

At The Book Fairies, we knew that together we had to find a way to make a difference in the lives of the children suffering the most from this crisis. COVID-19 presented an enormous challenge – to assist teachers and community service providers across Long Island and NYC in mitigating the damage wrought by the pandemic. Following 20 weeks of school shutdowns and summer break, school reopening's in the fall ran the gamut from fully remote to fully in-person to hybrid models. This was often changing on a weekly basis, making it even harder for children to feel a sense of stability. In all instances, books became an even more vital resource, especially when teaching the most vulnerable.

Our staff and volunteers developed additional ways to source and distribute books that worked within pandemic restrictions. Through this unimaginable tragedy, superheroes emerged. Individuals ran contactless book drives in their homes and offered to pick up or drop off books at our warehouse. Teachers came to pick up books and brought them home where they cleaned and personally bagged the books for delivery to their students' homes. Volunteers helped to sort books 2-3 people at a time to ensure we were all safe. By the end of June, just three months into the shutdown, we had distributed an astounding 68,000 books. By the end of 2020, we had gotten 453,678 books out into the community, reaching 372 unique schools and community organizations.

While our dedicated volunteers and partners helped keep books moving, events and donations kept our doors open. The suspension of in-person events forced us to be creative, and our "Once Upon a Read-a-Thon" virtual fundraiser was conceived. By promoting reading and raising awareness, this event had a strong mission alignment, and it also allowed us to engage with supporters. We are grateful to all of the sponsors and participants, especially Ken and Kelli-Ann Cerini who played a vital role in getting this event off the ground.

We thank everyone who recognized the importance of our mission during these challenging times. Books are ESSENTIAL to children, both as an educational tool to combat illiteracy and now as a respite from this crisis.

Our team is eager to move forward into 2021 and work with our partners to find the best ways to meet the evolving needs of our community. We hope to see more of you in our warehouse and look forward to working with you on book drives and events.

With sincerest appreciation,

Eileen Morogiel



2020... A Year of Firsts

A FIRST: Formulating Safety Procedures to keep books in the hands of children in need in the midst of a pandemic.



OUR COVID SAFETY PROCEDURES

The Book Fairies is incredibly pleased that we have been able to distribute over 250,000 books since COVID hit in March. We have had to make changes to our procedures, so please read below for how to donate books, volunteer, or receive books!

Making Book Donations:

--Our Book Drop is open for donations. It is emptied on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This is the best option if you have 100 books or less to donate. Books are dropped in a few at a time and do not need to be in boxes if you use the drop box. **DO NOT** leave books outside the drop box if the drop box is full. We have lost many beautiful books to rain this way.
 --If you have multiple boxes of books to donate, book donation drop offs are BY APPOINTMENT ONLY so we can ensure social distancing. Email info@thebookfairies.org to sign up for a drop off time. All books must be in boxes that have lids or dose.
 --We can pick up on Long Island if you have 5 or more boxes to donate. Email us at info@thebookfairies.org to get on our pickup schedule.

Volunteer Sorting in the Warehouse:

--Due to COVID restrictions, we can only host 5 to 6 volunteers in our warehouse per day. We are in need of volunteers Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 2pm who can lift, move, and pack boxes up to 30 lbs. If you would like to be added to our volunteer schedule, please email us at info@thebookfairies.org.

--We are also in need of volunteers to help with transporting books from our Freeport warehouse to locations throughout NYC. If you have a vehicle that can fit 15 boxes or more, you are able to lift 30lb boxes and you would like to help, please [register here to volunteer!](#)

Distributing Books to those in need:

--Sadly, due to COVID restrictions, we cannot hold our usual Community Book Fairs to distribute books. Teachers, administrators and nonprofit professionals working with high need populations can pre-order boxes of books for pickup at our Freeport warehouse. We can also deliver the pre-ordered boxes to locations on Long Island. Contact sherry@thebookfairies.org to register and submit an order.

A FIRST: Entry in the TCS New York City Marathon with 5 Charity Runners. Postponed until 2021 due to Covid-19.



A FIRST: Virtual Read-Thon to Raise Awareness Promote Literacy, and Fund the Mission of The Book Fairies

Reading is Essential... it starts with a book!

Read-a-Thon
The Book Fairies

30 MINUTES for 30 DAYS in AUGUST

1 in 4 children can't read
let's change children's stories!

Kids & Adults of all ages welcome!

<https://give.classy.org/2020-read-a-thon>

Join Our Virtual FUNdraining Event and Make A Difference in the Lives of Individuals Who Don't Have Access to Books!

Celebrity Guests, Prizes, Giveaways, & more!

About the Read-a-Thon...

- 📖 Go to the link above & sign up
- 📖 Make a commitment to read
- 📖 Create your page and start a team or join one
- 📖 Ask your friends & family to donate
- 📖 Check out calendar of events on social media/website!

Follow the excitement on social media and join in the fun all month long!

Facebook: /TheBookFairies
Instagram: @thebookfairiesny

\$61,391 Raised Allowing Distribution of 241,000 Books

THE CHALLENGE

DANGERS OF ILLITERACY



1 in 4 children in New York will grow up without learning how to read.



Children whose parents have low literacy levels have a 72% chance of having low literacy levels themselves.



Two-thirds of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare.



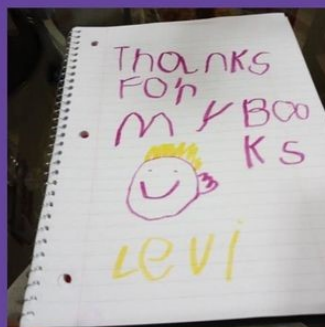
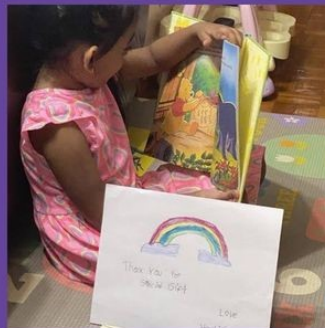
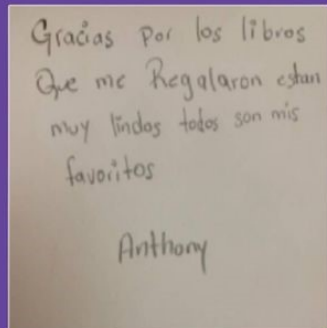
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Reduced income earning capacity and social costs are to blame for the financial impact of illiteracy



55% of adults with below basic reading comprehension did not graduate high school

Our Successes...



DISTRIBUTION



By the numbers...

In the Midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic

Books Distributed Year To Date: 453,678

Books Distributed since 2012: 2,614,307

Unique Schools/Organizations Receiving Books: 372

Total Book Drives including Contact-less: 110

Who we serve:



275 Deliveries to Community Organizations

Totaling 111,328 Books



545 Deliveries to Academic Institutions

Totaling 264,090 Books



4 Deliveries to Overseas Partners

Totaling 78,260 Books

Where our books are going:



41% Long Island
187,585 books



41% NYC Metro
186,353 books



18% Overseas
78,260 books

PROGRAMS

School Book Fairs

With Covid-19 restrictions still in place and many children home schooled without access to books, we continued to provide books to teachers via personal pickups and deliveries. Through this process educators were able to set up book distribution events within their schools Covid-19 guidelines including home delivery of the books to their students.



affected by mass incarceration, gun violence and trauma.

Global Literacy Initiative

While the ports were having issues, The Book Fairies still sourced, sorted and packed books for distribution to our partners at US-Africa Children's Fellowship, who coordinated shipment of their containers to Africa, working through any issues the pandemic had caused.

Total books distributed overseas in 2020: 78,260.

Community Distribution

The Book Fairies supported community outreach programs with our ongoing public bookshelves and special deliveries. They included hospitals, correctional facilities, homeless shelters, and community organizations working to ensure children and adults who were isolated had access to books. An example of a recipient is friends at Silent Cry Inc., who received 23 boxes of books that went directly to help individuals



It is no surprise that when the Penguin Random House employees were in the warehouse, they powered through all of our boxes waiting to be sorted. Their knowledge of the books was a huge help in weeding through what should be kept, sent overseas or recycled. **Total number of recycled books: 11.62 tons**

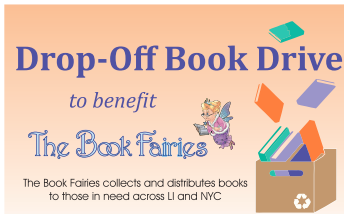
SPECIAL NEEDS PARTNERSHIP

How do we transport our books? Through our partnerships with Special Needs Organizations such as Developmental Disabilities Institute, Life's WORC, ACLD A-1 Universal, and many more. These AMAZING volunteers are essential to our mission and made an impact in our community. Our partnership provides productive daily activities for individuals to give back to their neighbors while helping to distribute almost 500,000 books annually.

**SPECIAL
NEEDS
PARTNERS**



Total volunteer activities for Special Needs Partner agencies engaged in 2020 was 946.



OUR VOLUNTEERS:

- ◆ Run Book Drives
- ◆ Sort at Warehouse
- ◆ Re-stock Book Fairs
- ◆ Deliver Books



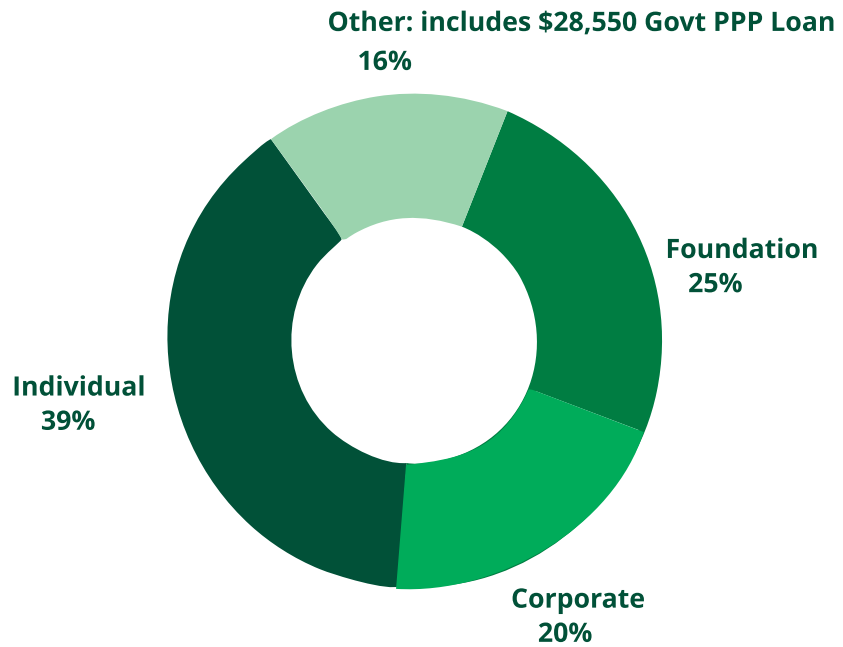
During Covid-19, we implemented contact-less drop-off Book Drives at individual's homes including pre-sorting the books to help us increase efficiency. We will now include the option to pre-sort for all book drives.

While our essential Special Needs partners picked up and delivered books across Long Island, the five boroughs remained one of our biggest transportation obstacles. We had several volunteers step up offering to help move the books, getting them into the hands of the children who were at home without access to books during the pandemic.

Community Solidarity is an organization that distributes food to those in need every week in Farmingville, Hempstead, Huntington Station and Wyandanch. Alene and Helene, Allison and Lloyd brought books to the Community Solidarity's food distributions weekly during the pandemic, helping people to feed their minds and their stomachs. With the help of these amazing volunteers, we distributed nearly 2,144 books at Community Solidarity events since July!



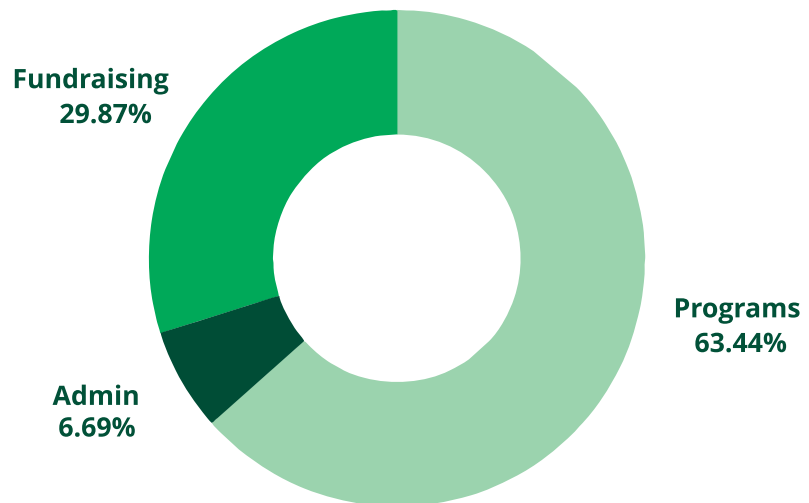
Source of Funds



2020 Revenue \$377,004



Use of Funds



2020 Expenses \$332,044

SUPPORTERS

The Book Fairies appreciates all our donors and would like to recognize the following who have given necessary financial support over the last year:

\$10,000 - \$19,999

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We would like to recognize the following business who provided copious amounts of IN-KIND & PRO-BONO SUPPORT



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