

Annual Report 2016-2017

Project READS is an organization dedicated to helping K-3 students achieve grade-level reading goals.

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In the Space of One Hour

"The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving." - Albert Einstein

Without getting too technical, Albert Einstein's concept of space and time blurring—becoming one—seems to have taken hold in scientific circles. That concept goes beyond most people's ability to grasp. And the idea relates to physics and words many people cannot understand, let alone pronounce.

The concept can also be applied to the mind, however. The phrase "in the space of an hour" is used colloquially to designate a duration of time that is easily understood.

Whether or not people buy into Einstein's idea, they nevertheless experience the reality of the world they live in.

Project READS offers volunteers a slice of reality for one hour each week. That slice occupies space: the space where students and mentors meet, a Media Center or Multi-Purpose Room being most common.

But the truer space is the area taken by student and mentor when they get down to work.

During the hour session, that space becomes filled with voices: young voices sounding out new words, and older voices providing encouragement. The hour also holds expressions: wide, wild eyes when awareness occurs in a young one, and smiles on the older face as a result.

Finally, the space delivers peace to both student and mentor when the hour runs its course and both return to their homes to share or reflect upon what they recently experienced.

All of that in the space of an hour.



Student Achievement—2016-2017

137 students completed the program
97% of students showed improvement
83% improved by 4 or more reading levels
39% graduated from the program by reading at or above grade level

Project READS operated at 19 Student Sites in Allen County

132 community volunteers received training and provided their time and energy to help students discover the joys of reading

Project READS distributed 1,502 books

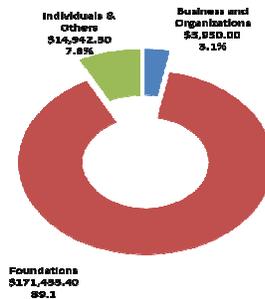
Books donated (2000-present): 105,213

Dollars & Sense

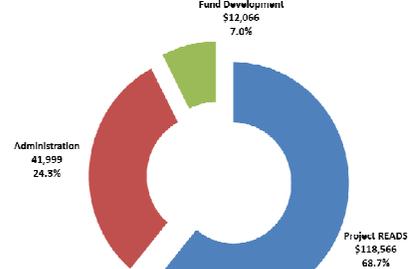
The value Project READS brings to the community varies.

Last year, volunteer tutors recorded 2,682 hours in the program. That translates into over \$67,000 saved by parents who might otherwise have hired a private tutor for their child.

Revenue 2016-2017



Expenses 2016-2017



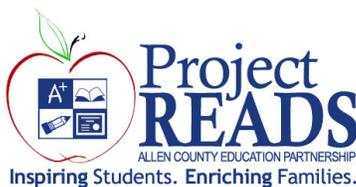
The impact of literacy development extends throughout the community. Follow the Reader is a quality on-line resource that provides guidance and easy-to-understand concepts for anyone interested in enriching children's lives through books.

Project READS supports Follow the Reader. Learn more about the program by visiting our website—www.abouteducation.org.

Support for Project READS comes in many forms. For a list of Financial Donors, please visit our website—www.abouteducation.org.

2016-2017 Project READS Staff

Follow Project READS on Facebook



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Deb Dutton	Program Manager
Craig Nix	Projects Manager
JC York	Bookkeeper/Office Coordinator
Toma Davis	Program Assistant

Our vision is that all Allen County children will read at grade level by the completion of third grade.