New Haven Reads, founded to “share the joy and power of reading,” increases the literacy skills of children to empower their academic success by providing individually tailored one-on-one after-school tutoring, educational family support, and a community book bank, all at no cost to participants.

Programs

One-on-one tutoring
A structured hour of individualized literacy help

Pre-K/Kindergarten
Small classes of literacy instruction twice a week

Book bank
Distribution of gently-used books throughout the community to school teachers, doctors’ offices, soup kitchens, preschools, correctional facilities, etc.

All programs offered are free of charge to participants
We expanded our Saturday tutoring program at Willow Street to serve up to 50 more students every week thanks to funding from The Seedlings Foundation.

Our Book Bank distributed 102,000 books by the end of the year, despite being closed for three months due to the coronavirus pandemic!

We hired a literacy specialist to develop new interventions to support our older students.

We were honored to receive the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce Nonprofit Constellations Award.

Our Executive Director, Kirsten, testified before the State of CT Appropriations Committee supported by NHR families.

The need for NHR: Our community and our state need our children to be able to read. A child who learns to read effectively is more likely to finish high school, go to college, and to get a good job.*

New Haven Reads provides high quality interventions to transform student outcomes: All of our students read below grade level when they join us.” Our program is based on the science of reading and is highly effective.

*55% of students who are not reading by third grade will fail to graduate from high school which translates to approximately $260,000 in lost potential earnings across each individual’s lifetime.

**66% of New Haven third graders read below grade level.

Before the coronavirus pandemic...

we were serving over **570 students** weekly thanks to the dedicated support of over **375 volunteers**.

We hosted over **70 field trips** for local schools at the book bank.

After the coronavirus pandemic began in March...

we pivoted to a **successful distance learning model** that maintained the most successful features of our in-person model, including the fact that it is still one-on-one.
Our Commitment

In March 2020, New Haven Reads pivoted to online learning due to the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. Although everything changed, our commitment to our mission and sharing “the joy and power of reading” has remained the same. Our students, our families, and our community need us now more than ever.

Online tutoring
We redesigned our tutoring model to work online, retrained our volunteers, and served almost 200 students during the remainder of the school year. We served almost 300 students during the six-week summer session.

Providing technology
Working with community partners and donors, we provided technology to students who needed computers and internet access.

Book distribution
We distributed between 500 and 850 gently used and new books from our Book Bank and donors every Friday across the spring and summer at six meal pick-up locations in New Haven, getting thousands of books into the hands of students who really need them.

Our two week campaign to raise money to purchase diverse books for New Haven children was an amazing success! We raised $8,104 that allowed us to purchase and distribute over 3,500 new books to engage students over the summer with books by Black and Brown authors and books in Spanish.
Our Community

New Haven Reads can share “the joy and power of reading” with our students only through the dedicated support of our incredible volunteers who are building a community of readers in the tutoring program and the book bank.

Volunteer Spotlight:

**Lynne Krupa** has tutored at New Haven Reads since April 2016. When describing what led her to volunteer, Lynne responded:

“To be able to share the love of reading and to help students find that on their own is a wonderful thing.”

After four years at New Haven Reads, she wants to spend more time than ever helping others. “My student and I always say that we wish the sessions were two hours or more — I always want to keep on going,” she shared.

Even the COVID-19 pandemic has not dampened her passion for tutoring. Lynne tutors weekly through Zoom, which she described as a fairly easy transition. “The distance learning program is actually really nice,” Lynne explained. “You have to get more creative sometimes,” she admitted. “But my student and I still have a great connection.”

Oftentimes, distance learning provides some unique, exciting experiences. One of Lynne’s students always talks about her dog, Bella, and during one of the distance learning sessions, her student was able to call Bella over to the camera and finally introduce her to Lynne.

After sharing her experiences at New Haven Reads, Lynne ended the conversation with a message for others: “I want to encourage people to tutor if they are considering it; you can be part of something that is being used to better all of our children. It can really help someone. And I could be having the worst day ever, and I walk into New Haven Reads and my mood instantly changes. To be able to help students is a pleasure for everyone.”

We are so thankful for Lynne’s continued dedication to New Haven Reads. Our volunteers make it possible for all of our students to improve their literacy scores year after year and to have a meaningful relationship with a caring adult.

Volunteer Voices:

“New Haven Reads gets it right. They understand the power of connection as it relates to learning. They set a tone of safety, love and support which allows our students to flourish, learn and grow. They make learning fun. The students LOVE to come to NHR!”

– LAURA, TUTOR

“NHR is a genuine "haven" for children who otherwise might feel discouraged and defeated, now have a sense of accomplishment and value. These children are then in a better position to contribute to our community as adults.”

– URSULA, TUTOR
Our Inspiration

Our students inspire us and bring us joy with their enthusiasm and commitment to becoming skilled and confident readers. For our students, learning to read opens doors to infinite possibilities.

“...not only could I not pronounce many words, I could barely even read,” he shared. One afternoon, his mom said that she was taking him to somewhere to improve his reading ability. “After that afternoon,” Joseph said, “I came back every single week, and New Haven Reads kept on making me better at everything. I’m learning more and more words, and my grades are going up and up.”

Along with improving his reading skills, New Haven Reads has given Joseph a new sense of confidence. He said, “Before, I didn’t believe in myself. Now, I know who I want to be.”

He wants to be someone who helps others in his community, he explained, in part because of the tutors he sees each and every week: “The volunteers at New Haven Reads are good people; they want to help people. So many kids are learning so much, even the little ones! New Haven Reads is growing and growing like a big family every year.”

Joseph has shown enormous commitment and dedication — every single week! We are so proud of him and all that he has accomplished so far. We can’t wait to see what comes next for him!

Parent Voices:

“...My 6-year-old son struggles with reading and writing, and they provide one-on-one tutoring support that has significantly improved not only his reading and writing skills, but also his confidence. He loves going to New Haven Reads and engaging with the tutors and other children.”

– SAMANTHA, PARENT

“My daughter goes twice a week to get tutored. Every time she goes she’s always excited. When I pick her up she can’t wait to tell me how she had a great time and what she learned that day. New Haven Reads is an awesome place for kids who need the help.”

– ANN, PARENT

Student Spotlight:

Sixth grader, Joseph, loves his tutoring sessions at the Bristol Street location and he feels that each session strengthens his English, enabling him to communicate better with others. “I speak Spanish as my first language, and sometimes with English, I get mixed up with the words, and I can’t even pronounce some words,” Joseph said, before explaining that New Haven Reads has helped him in both of these areas — pronunciation and comprehension.
Because of YOU, we are building a community of readers. Thank you.

As a donor, you enable New Haven Reads to transform lives. Thank you for your generous support.

July 2019 to June 2020

$25,000 and up
Carolyn Foundation
City of New Haven
Fovea Foundation
Alliance Foundation
Seedlings Foundation
Ted Snyder
State of CT Judicial Branch

$10,000 to $24,999
Bruce Alexander
Anonymous
Ethel and Eric Berger
Carlson Family Foundation
Pierre Cremieux and
Carlson Family Foundation
Anonymous

$5,000 to $9,999
Thomas and Ginger Scott
New Haven Investment Fund
Daniel and Sharon Milikowsky
Foundation
Lewis G. Schaeneman, Jr.
Kirsten and Jim Levinsohn
Ben Ledbetter
The Eder Family Foundation Inc.
Laurie Desmet and Carol Bailey
Denise Jarvinen
Pierre Cremieux and
Annies

$10,000 to $24,999
State of CT Judicial Branch
Ted Snyder
New Alliance Foundation
City of New Haven
Carolyn Foundation

$2,500 to $4,999
Haven Fund

$250 to $499

$500 to $999
Matt Alexander
Pamela Andrew
Anonymous
Andrew Babiak
Stephen and Rebecca Baldassarri
Mary Barnes
Maggi Bhatt
Sarah Bilston
Carol Boucher
Robert Buckholz and
Anne Elizabeth Fontaine
Anne and Guido Calabresi
Annette and Kerwin Charles
Susan Crampton Davis
Peter and Constance Dickinson
Ethel and Abe Lapidides Foundation
Jennifer and Alan Friedman
Karyn Glavag and Eric Epstein
Carol and Rolfe Gjellstad
Glenmede Trust
Karyn Gilvarg and Eric Epstein
Anne and Guido Calabresi

$250 to $499
A1 Toyota
Denise Acampora
Summer Adams
Danielle Antin-Ozerik and
Eric Baum
Bill Babcock
Paul and Joanne Bailey
Franco Baseglio
Benevly Community Impact Fund
Shirley Benjamin
Fiona and Mark Bradford
Susan Bryson and Larry Nadel
Burt Law Offices
CAPS Woodworking and
Home Improvement
Mary and Richard Casden
Constance Clement
Craig Machado
Claire Criscuolo
Phyllis and Joseph Crowley
Eve Cumberbatch and
Ari Kauffman
Dennis Curtis and Judith Resnik
David Goldstein Foundation
Deke's Solid Wood Furniture
Christopher and Barbara Dixon
Eric Emanuelson and
Margaret Moreau
Sharon Emmons and
Brianne Johnston
Mark and Colleen Entenman
Harvey and Susan Feinberg
Mary-Christy Fisher
William and Deborah Friedman
Alexandria Garino and
Frank Sintern
Patricia Wehner
Lawrence Gebhauer
Carol and Mike Gordon
Elizabeth Gray and
Alain Organschi
Guilford High School National Honor Society
Jennifer Heath and Peter Lamothe
John Horkel
Frederick Horstman
Catherine Horton
Michael and Lesa Huget
Rona Johnston
Kerri Kelshall-Ward
Katherine Krechevsky
Jean and Nick Lamont
Emma Ledbetter and Mark Iscoe
Rick and Debbie Lifton
Henry Lord
Mark and Gretchen Lytle
Bruce and Renee McIntyre
Constanza McNeils
Marinda Monfilston
Allegra Pankratz
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Science Park Development Corporation
Fiona Scott Morton and
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Robert Shulman and
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Jane and Gregory Smith
Timothy Snyder and Marci Shore
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Stephanie Teplin
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Kevin Hoffmann
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Dean Vallas and Debra Perlstein
Richard and Patricia Vancil
Rhonda Vegliante
Chris Vertefeuille
Jacob Wasserman
Richard Weiss and
Lynda Rosenfeld
Nancy Whitney
Madeline Wilson

$100 to $249
Myles and Nancy Alderman
Alpha Phi Alpha
Chris and Jill Ammann
Warren Andiman
Anonymous (3)
East Rock Coffee
Catherine Egan
EleMar New England Marble and Granite
Eln Campsus Partners
Michael and Ilona Emmerth
Mary Estabrook
Stephanie Fitzgerald and Frank Cochran
Ann Flanagan
Patti Flynn
The Fortin Family
Future Leaders of Yale
Adrienne Gallagher
Tamar Gendler
Bradford and Eugenie Gentry
Chris and Toddie Getman
Stephane Girard
Suzanne and Josh Gold
Linda Goodman
Paul Goren and Gwen Mascia
Darlene Gost
Karim Gould
Greater New Haven Community Chorus
The Greek Olive
Sarah Hallowell
Hamden Library
Harold Hasell, Jr.
Janet Hatton
Charlene Heffernan
Emma Henry
Letitia Hill
Emily Horning and David Zukowski
Douglas Housladen
Sarah Hsieh
Alice and Michael Ivy
Reggie Jackson
Michael and Katherine Jenkins
Jewish Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Rosemary Kamei
Evelyn Kannatt
Ellen Kannatt-Groen and Fred Groen
Rick Karl
David and Stacey Katz
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Susan Kerley
Charlotte Kinsella
George and Meghan Knight
Steve Kops
Leslie and Harlan Krumholz
Marilyn Lands and Robin Cozby
Ellen Lange
Susan Leff
Levey Miller Maretz, LLC.
Matt Levy
Whitney Lewendon
Lucilbeo’s Pastry Shop, Inc.
Lindalea Ludwick
Peg and Jim Lynch
James and Kaye Maggart
David Mandelbaum
Maria Markham and Andrew Putnam
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Bill Massa
Edward Mattison
Tom and Jamie McCauley
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Betsy Sledge
Stacy Spell
Meredith Startz
Beverly Stearns
Wilma and William Summers
Swords into Plowshares
Honey and Candies
Joe Tagliarini and Lois Pan
Dean Takahashi and Wendy Sharp
Jaideep and Kristen Talwalkar
Kendall Teare
Deborah Tenney
Denise Terry
Alison Theuer
Susan Thompson
David and Lisa Tolman
Melanie Wassmuth
Jerry Waxman
Jeyna Weinreb and Anton Bures
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Watjen Music Memorial
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2018–19 AUDITED FINANCIALS
Annual cost to run New Haven Reads: $877,648

REVENUE 2018/19
Contributions
67%
Non-government grants
9%
In-kind
15%
Administration
4%
Fundraising
4%
Government Grants
15%
Other
5%

EXPENSES 2018/19
Program
81%

All programs offered free of charge to participants
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Abrams Publishing  
Carlson Family Foundation  
City of New Haven  
Claire’s Corner Copia  
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven  
The Eder Family Foundation  
First Niagara Bank Foundation/KeyBank  
Lewis G. Schaeneman, Jr. Foundation  
NewAlliance Foundation  
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New Haven Investment Fund  
Science Park Development Corporation  
Seedlings Foundation  
State of Connecticut  
The Study at Yale  
United Illuminating Company  
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Woman’s Seamen’s Friend Society of CT  
Yale British Art Center  
Yale University

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