

Building Community Literacy was a Hallmark of 2024 for New Haven Reads

Building literacy is an achievable community endeavor. New Haven Reads is where the community comes together to leverage powerful partnerships to advance the literacy of our children. 2024 was an amazing year for New Haven Reads and we are so grateful that your support made our mission happen!



Some of our 2024 Highlights...

- **98% of our students increased their literacy scores** with more than half improving their reading by at least one grade level in just 7 months!
- We **opened a new, fifth location** at Fair Haven School.
- We established a **new “reverse field trip” program** called Book Bridge to bring books to classrooms that could not visit our Book Bank. We served 22 classrooms in fall 2024 bringing almost 900 books to children in these classrooms.
- New Haven Reads was **chosen as the Literacy Lead for the New Haven Tutoring Initiative**. We work with 11 community partners and have delivered literacy programming to over 1,000 local students.

Your support and partnership is the reason that NHR can have this incredible impact on our community. Thank you!



A book can't change the world on its own.
But a book can change readers.
And readers?
They can change the world.

-Sarah Mackenzie

Inspire
an
aspiring
reader.



Volunteer
today at  New Haven
READS

Click the link in our bio or visit
newhavenreads.org

Is your New Year's Resolution to get more involved in your community?

Join us to tutor one of the 200 students waiting for a spot in our program!

As a volunteer you will transform a child's life! The commitment is only one hour a week and we provide all the training and ongoing support you need.

Apply on our website. www.newhavenreads.org

NHTI Continues to Expand!

Established in 2023, the New Haven Tutoring Initiative (NHTI) is a collaborative effort to address low reading and math skills in New Haven students from Kindergarten through 8th grade. As the Lead Literacy Organization, New Haven Reads trains and coaches staff and volunteers in a version of our tutoring program at participating after school programs.

The NHTI impact has been tremendous! Not only have the staff, parents and children responded very positively to this program, our data shows terrific impact. 90% of students improved their decoding and word recognition skills by an average of 28%. The program has worked with over 1,000 area students.

This spring, NHR is pleased to welcome two new partners, Chosen Children Afterschool and Elephant in the Room, to our group of 10 other participating after school programs. Volunteers are needed at NHTI locations across the City of New Haven. You can sign up and be part of an incredible effort to support literacy in New Haven.



NHR Mural Transforms Our Bristol Street Location!



Have you been by our Bristol Street location recently?

We have an incredible new mural on the Ashmun Street wall facing Scantlebury Park. It is an amazing representation of the joy and power of reading and all of the potential that reading will bring to our students and our community.

This mural was a true community effort – thanks to everyone who contributed their thoughts and ideas with a special shout out to all of the students and tutors at our Bristol St location who inspired our artist, Marsh.

Thanks to Yale University, the building owners, for allowing us to carry out this project and to The RISEUP Group who helped us create this project.



Scan here to watch our mural video



Student Spotlight: Kimora!



Second grader, Kimora, attends our Science Park location twice a week. Her tutors, Linda and Judy, have been critical in building her confidence with reading and have helped her tremendously.

One of her favorite parts of the tutoring hour is picking out books to read with her tutor. Together, they enjoy talking about what the book is about before they head back to read. You might see Kimora sitting on the beanbag chairs, shoes off, reading and discussing her book with her tutor.

Kimora works really hard and is eager to succeed as a reader. In this photo, she holds her new prize pencil because she has leveled up in her Lexia program! **She told us, "I love coming to New Haven Reads because I got to be a better reader!"** We are very proud of Kimora's hard work and grateful to her tutors for their wonderful support!

Book Bridge, our newest program, reached 22 classrooms this fall!

Because many local classrooms are unable to come to our Book Bank for field trips due to budget and bus issues, we decided to bring the field trip to them!

Our new Book Bridge Program targets first and second grade classrooms. NHR brings 2-3 gently used books per student, new books, and a student activity packet for the classroom teacher. In this way, we are building home libraries and supporting classroom libraries too! Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to returning to these classrooms with more books in the spring.



NHR Winter Numbers

Provided one-on-one tutoring and enrichment clubs for **346** students at **5** locations for **501** hours of programs every week.

Thank you to over **250** volunteers who support our students every week!

Supported **25** Pre-K and Kindergarten students small group lessons with a Structured Literacy curriculum.

We distributed over **5,150** books in December!



Thank you to everyone who supports New Haven Reads - we appreciate you!



Keep in touch by following us!



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