



2024-2025

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

*Promoting
Literacy &
Creating
Potential!*



THIS YEAR BY THE NUMBERS:



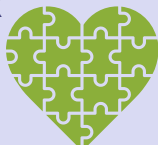
61,736

BOOKS IN THE HANDS
OF CHILDREN



1,187

CHILDREN SERVED
EACH WEEK



812

EVENTS &
SITES SERVED



244

COMMUNITY
PARTNERS



3089

VOLUNTEER
HOURS SERVED

DEAR FRIENDS,

At the South Sound Reading Foundation we envision a world where all children have access to books and are eager and engaged readers, where all families read together daily, and where reading opens new opportunities.

With the support of this amazing community, last year nearly 62,000 South Sound children were able to choose their own books and experience all the wonder that awaited them. That is nearly 1,200 children each week with a book in their hands and learning, page-turning journeys ahead.

To watch a child select a book and light up like a spark, to see them hold that book to their chest and to know that they are going to dive in and explore, and experience, and learn, and grow...well, there is no feeling like it. It is truly magical.

So, thank you for understanding the value and power of literacy and the magic of reading. Together we are bringing the JOY and PROMISE of books and reading to ALL of our region's children.

Gratefully,

and the 1200 kids we serve each week!



OUR PROGRAMS

Books for Kids:
supplies free books
to children &
families



- **Literacy Outreach Visits** - visits low-income housing units, schools, afterschool programs, community events and rural areas to promote reading by distributing 26,000+ free books and literacy materials.
- **Literacy Bookshelves** - stocks 23,400+ books in schools and on bookshelves at agencies serving low-income clients so children can take a free book home to read.
- **Bag O' Books** - packs individual book orders totaling 2,500+ books for families in Thurston and Mason counties, ordered online and picked up at our office.

Family Engagement:
educates families
about the importance
of reading



- **Family Education** - visits parenting groups, support groups, workshops and literacy nights to provide books and discuss reading, literacy, and brain development.
- **Books for Babies** - gives 2,100+ new board books and literacy information to families leaving the hospital with newborns.
- **Born to Read** - partners with medical providers to give board books and information to low-income families at their baby's 6-month checkup.

Reading Engagement:
engages children in
reading and books



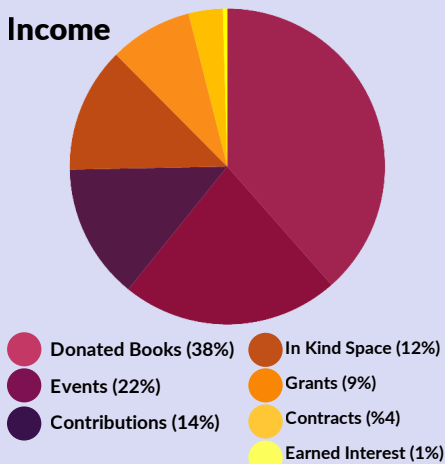
- **Read to Me** - shares story time visits and 7,300+ free books with children ages 3-5 at Head Start and other childcare facilities monthly.
- **Phonics Friends-Direct Reading Support** - matches trained volunteers with students facing challenges in reading proficiency.
- **Reading Maps** - shares fun reading maps with children and families during school breaks to keep children engaged.

FINANCIALS & PEOPLE

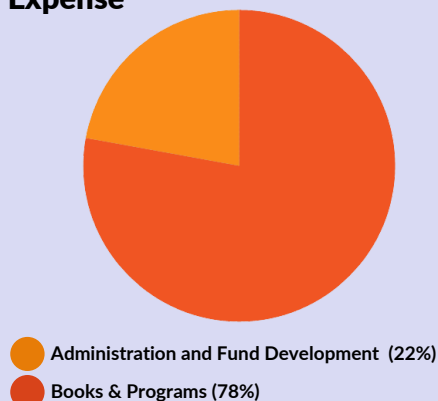


2024-2025 Financials

Income



Expense



Contact Us

South Sound Reading Foundation

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www.southsoundreading.org

www.facebook.com/southsoundreading

www.instagram.com/southsoundreading

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AND ANONYMOUS MEMBERS

**And the hundreds of donors and volunteers who
make our mission happen!**



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BROWERS



HARBOR FOODS



WSECU

OlyFed

BANKING
THAT'S
MUTUAL



Heritage
BANK



Melanie Bakala, Agent



SPECIAL THANKS TO...

North Thurston Public Schools, and all area school districts
and our community partners who work with us to reach the
children, youth, and families we collectively serve.