

President's Message

Dear Friends,

The Reading Team is committed to helping New York City's most vulnerable children learn to read to meet the challenges of their schooling today and for years to come.

Reading changes everything.

It breaks the cycle of failure that derails academic development by opening young minds to ideas and to their own imagination. Boys and girls who read build strong vocabularies, learn how to think critically, and better understand the world around them. Importantly, they stay in school.

Each year, about 80 percent of third through fifth graders in Harlem fail the New York State English Language Arts Exam. By contrast, 80 percent of Reading Team children pass this test. Our alumni are thriving in school and are attending outstanding academic programs.

The children we serve don't stand much of a chance without us. Poverty robs them of the language development support that is so crucial in their earliest years. The schools our children attend cannot rectify the situation.

We do.

Our progress relies on partners and supporters who believe, as we do, that reading is a basic right of all children. We hope you will join us in working to change the life trajectories of the children we serve.



Maureen Rover
President



Sisters Maram, 9, Gharam, 8, Aryam, 7, and cousin Layaly, 7, attend our After-School Program five days a week.

Your Support Means a Better World

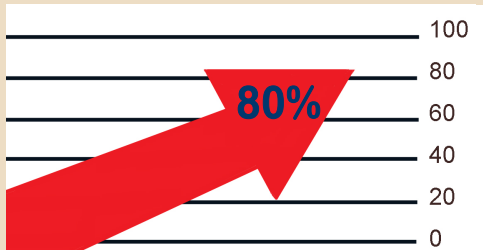
Aryam, Gharam, and Maram have overcome a lot of hurdles in their young lives. Three years ago, they came to the U.S. with their mom from Yemen to reunite with their dad, who had come here before them to prepare a better life for his family. Layaly and her family joined them this year.

Unable to read, write, or speak English, the girls found themselves adrift academically and socially until their school principal referred them to the Reading Team.

Ms. Gloria, our Reading Specialist, worked one-on-one with the girls until they could participate in their regular reading groups. Today, they read critically, write persuasively, and speak eloquently about their school, friends, family, favorite games, and more—as if English were their native language and they its chief exemplars.

Beaming with confidence, these smart and amiable young girls recognize themselves as effective learners, able to meet challenges and compete equally with their peers.

Your donation makes it possible for us to offer free programs that help children develop the cornerstone language, literacy, and cognitive skills they need to meet the challenges of their schooling and succeed in a complex world.



80% of our children pass the NYS ELA*

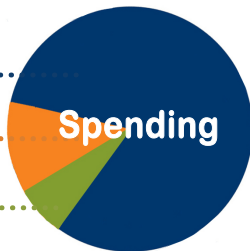
8,500
books distributed
each year to Reading
Team children



88% Programs

8% Management

4% Fundraising



26
Day care, Head
Start programs, and
elementary schools
served



27
Literacy Mentors
and Reading
Specialists



*The New York State English Language Arts Exam is a test given annually to public school students in Grades 3-8 statewide.

Detach here

The Reading Team is a Harlem-based non-profit organization that is dedicated to enabling young children who are at high risk of reading failure to become strong and enthusiastic readers, writers, listeners, and speakers and to develop the skills, habits, and behaviors that will support their success in school and in life.

Name _____

I am interested in automatic quarterly credit card deductions \$ _____

Address _____

Credit card number _____

City/State/Zip _____

Expiration date _____

Email address _____

Day-time telephone _____

My company's matching gift form is attached, along with my tax deductible contribution.

Authorized signature _____

Contribution by credit card: please charge my

Contribution by check:
Attached find my check, made payable to the Reading Team, Inc. \$ _____

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The Reading Team, Inc.

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The Reading Team is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible. Federal tax ID: 13-4125884

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Our Core Programs



Preschool Program serves four- and five-year-old children from 11 day care centers and Head Start programs at our main program site, equipping preschoolers with early literacy skills and concepts needed for success in elementary school and beyond.

School-Day at PS 36 Program serves four- to seven-year-old children, enabling them to develop key skills and concepts to thrive in their regular classrooms.

After-School Program serves children in Grades K-5 from 18 elementary schools at our two program sites in Harlem. Teachers refer children to us whose obstacles to learning and language development hamper their ability to succeed in school.

Bridge Program (*New this fall!*) prepares Reading Team alumni in Grades 6-8 for entrance into a college prep program in ninth grade. This project-based program takes place four hours each Saturday through the school year.

The Reading Team conducts associated programs for the children's parents and teachers.

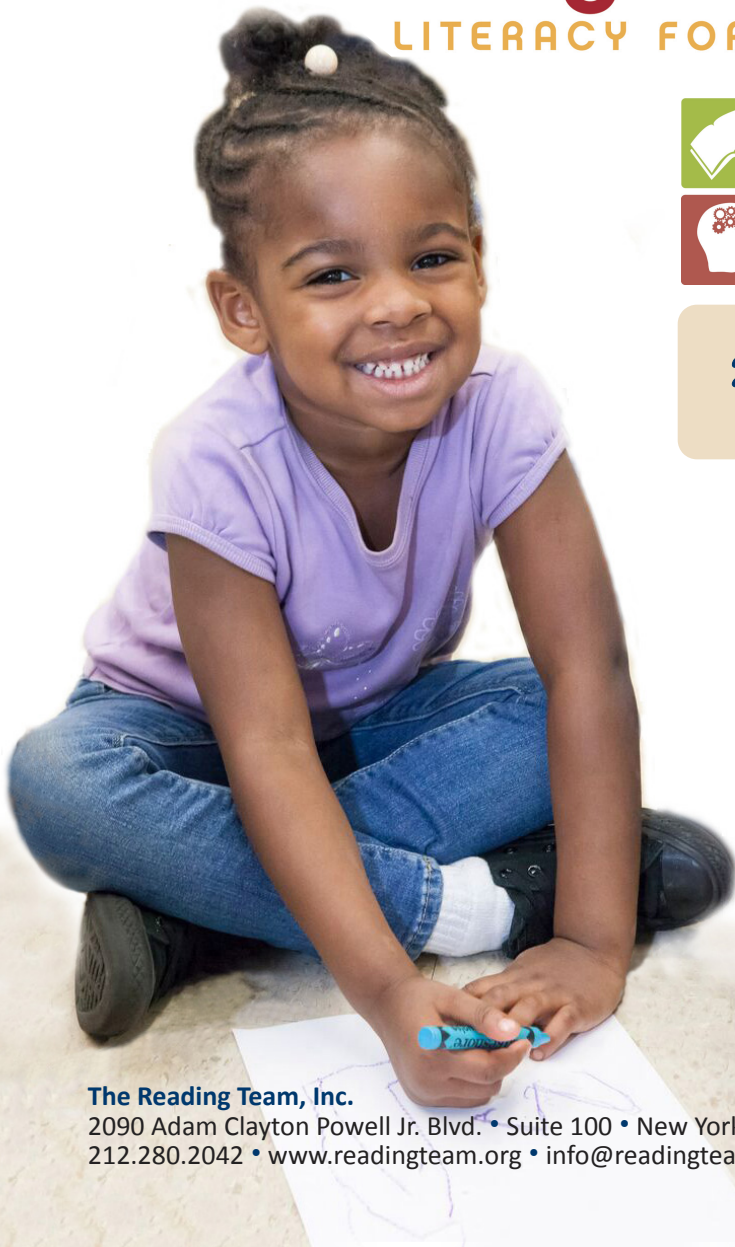


THE ReadingTeam

LITERACY FOR LIFE



2016



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