

# Why your gifts matter.



**Freedom Readers**

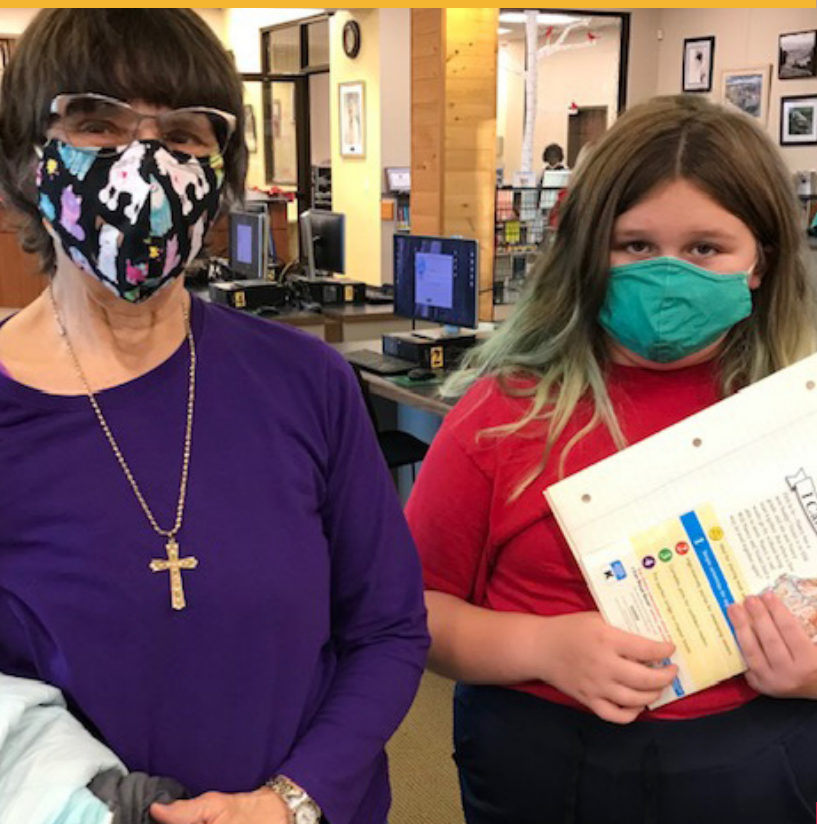
INSPIRING TODAY'S YOUTH ONE BOOK AT A TIME

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

IMPROVING  
READING SKILLS  
IS OUR MISSION

*Your gifts prepare children  
to become competent readers  
and confident leaders.*

Thanks to you, **144 scholars** in  
Georgetown, Williamsburg, and  
Horry Counties received one-to-one  
literacy tutoring, free books for their  
home libraries, and personalized  
public speaking training.



Your gifts help scholars in our K-5 program  
build their home libraries with books they  
love, and middle school scholars improve  
their lives through goal setting and  
academic support.

In 2021, we celebrated eleven years of inspiring  
today's youth, one book at a time! One of the best  
experiences of 2021 was the partnership established  
with Horry Georgetown Technical College and our  
Reading Lab program. Students of HGTC served in  
the spring and summer sessions as virtual tutors by  
way of completing their class experience credit. The  
students were able to gain experience working with  
children that they might have missed out on in  
classrooms due to the pandemic. Scholars were  
provided with the opportunity to learn about college  
from their student tutors and several of the tutors  
became valuable mentors. It was a win-win for all!

Despite the twists and turns faced, Freedom Readers'  
staff and tutors rose to the challenge and created  
unique, memorable learning experiences for our schol-  
ars. We look forward to reopening our in-person sites  
in 2022 while continuing to offer our virtual program.

---

### Here's a reflection on how your gift impacted a scholar's life:

Freedom Readers scholar Ella Brode meets in-person  
with tutor Ardelle Mason at the Waccamaw Library  
in 2022. Ella & Ardelle began virtual tutoring last fall  
through **The Reading Lab**, but started meeting in  
person once Ardelle transitioned to her winter home  
along the Grand Strand. These meetings have helped  
Ella strengthen her reading skills, even through family  
illness and the Covid-19 pandemic.



## Spring Session: The Reading Lab

69 Scholars\*

65 Tutors

---

## Summer In-Person Session

*In partnership with the*  
Gullah Preservation Society of Georgetown

24 Scholars\*

18 Tutors

4 Sites

---

## Summer Session: The Reading Lab

31 Scholars\*

31 Tutors

---

## Fall Session: The Reading Lab

20 Scholars\*

20 Tutors

---

\*Each scholar received six books for their personal library — **a total of 864 books!**



"Once you learn  
to read, you are  
forever free."

- FREDERICK DOUGLASS

# WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE OUR TOP DONORS OF THE YEAR

See all donors at: <https://freedomreaders.org/become-a-partner/2021-donors/>



THE CHAPIN FOUNDATION



Tamsberg Foundation

Zibby Owens

Matthew Brittain

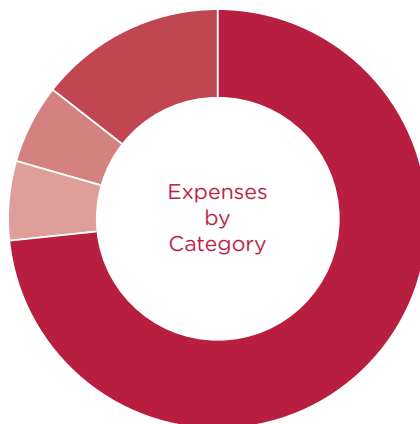


## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Total Revenue  
**\$268,230**

Total Expenses  
**\$164,413**

Net Income  
**\$103,817**



Payroll Expenses: 73.46%

Operations: 6.12%

Facilities: 6%

Miscellaneous: 14.40%

Financials are available upon request.

## AMBASSADORS

**Ambassadors** help us spread the word about our tutoring program, fundraising events, and other important information as it pertains to our mission.

The **Ambassador** group is made up of local influencers, community groups, businesses, and everyday people who believe in the vision of Freedom Readers.

The 2021 inaugural group of **Ambassadors** pledged to link arms with Freedom Readers and help us spread the word about our work with their audiences throughout the year.

Geneva Coleman

Sunny Fry

Mary Jo Freemon

Tara Hill-Starks



## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tracy S. Bailey, Ph.D. - Founder/CEO  
Jamia Richmond, Ph.D. - Board Chair  
Cassandra Jackson - Board Vice Chair  
Sylvia Hickman - Board Treasurer  
Liz Gallo - Board Secretary

Gloria Robinson-Cooper  
Carolyn Ellis  
Hala Sadek, Esq.  
Debra Renee Manhoff