Why your gifts matter.

when the book is re-



IMPROVING READING SKILLS IS OUR MISSION

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

Thanks to you, **177 scholars** in Georgetown and Horry Counties received one-to-one literacy tutoring, free books for their home libraries, and personalized public speaking training.

The Reading Lab FALL: 17 Scholars* / 17 Tutors SPRING: 20 Scholars* / 20 Tutors SUMMER: 16 Scholars* / 16 Tutors

In-Person Sessions

FALL: 67 Scholars* / 50 Tutors
SPRING: 54 Scholars* / 48 Tutors
SUMMER: 52 Scholars* / 52 Tutors

*A total of **1,596 books** were distributed to our scholars to help build their at-home libraries!

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 2022, we celebrated twelve years of inspiring today's youth, one book at a time! One of the best experiences of 2022 was the development of our newest program initiative called Knights for Knowledge. Knights for Knowledge is a one-hour, once weekly program that deploys a group of trained tutors (Knights) to established organizations where children gather to help with homework and read with young people on their level. CEO Dr. Bailey envisioned Knights for Knowledge as a new branch of our community service tree allowing us to begin expanding our work to other areas and organizations in need of our assistance. Last year was a year of growth. We look forward to soaring to new heights in 2023!



Success Story

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

Former Freedom Readers' scholar Mark Rush's story spans over a few years. Mark started with Freedom Readers when we were located at Seaside Elementary pre-Covid. His mother, Dana, had heard about Freedom Readers and asked if he could attend our Sessions. Dana felt that Freedom Readers could help Mark with some of the challenges he was having in his reading class. Mark was with us for two Sessions. His tutor noticed, almost immediately, that Mark was becoming more confident with reading and speaking in front of the group.

The Sessions were progressing well when overnight Covid struck and all the Freedom Reader sites were shut down for over two years.

In June of 2022 Freedom Readers began to re-open sites. The Bay Pointe Apartments site had a slow start. It was difficult acquiring tutors and Scholars. We were very surprised to hear from Dana Rush. She wanted to join our site as a tutor! Dana told us that she felt Mark, who was now in Fourth Grade, benefitted so much from the program that she wanted to become a Freedom Readers tutor. Her sixteen-year-old daughter also volunteered as a tutor.

On Proud Day of that first Summer Session we were thrilled to have a surprise guest! Mark! He came to tell his story to the group. He wanted them to know that Freedom Readers help him to develop his love of reading. He also donated some of his favorite books to the site.





"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/2022-donors/



2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tracy S. Bailey, Ph.D. - Founder/CEO Jamia Richmond, Ph.D. - Board Chair Liz Gallo - Board Secretary & Fundraising Chair Sylvia Hickman - Board Treasurer Carolyn Ellis, Board Member Jeremy Alford, AIA, Board Member Debra Renee Manhoff, Board Member & Assessment Coordinator Dr. Dianne Mark, Board Member Jacinta Moultrie, Board Member

Get in touch: P.O. Box 30548, Myrtle Beach, SC 29588 • 843.331.8526 • www.freedomreaders.org