



TOPLINE NEWS FROM READ TO ME PROJECT

DECEMBER 2024

What An Exciting Few Months...

We are pleased to report that we are currently serving 91 classrooms in Monterey County for the 2024/2025 school year. With five additional classes in Tehama County, our total impact has grown to an impressive 96 classrooms—a 35% increase over last year!

In Monterey County alone we are reaching more than 3,500 students and siblings in King City, Greenfield and Salinas. By coaching students on The 9 Best Ways to Read to Young Children and providing specially curated books for them to regularly read to their preschoolaged siblings, Read to Me Project is helping little ones develop crucial pre-literacy skills and a love for reading, while older students improve their own reading fluency—and have fun in the process!

We offered our class for teen parents again this fall through South Monterey County Joint Union High School District and are exploring further collaborations for our parent education classes in King City and Salinas.



Community Connections - Ohana

Read to Me Project was invited to lead a class for dads at Ohana last month. Organizers and participants deemed it such a success that Read to Me Project will conduct another class this week.

"We had an incredible evening with nine dedicated dads at Ohana, all of whom are diving into the journey of early literacy with their children under the age of three. The group engaged fully with the discussion on the impact of reading at this stage, sharing experiences and supporting each other's growth. The positive energy and strong outcomes from the session have already led to an invitation to return! The evening highlighted how meaningful these sessions are for dads, with some expressing how books have transformed not only their children's lives but their own as well. The lasting value of early literacy engagement continues to shine through this new initiative, and we're excited to see where these sessions lead."

Jason Little, Executive Director Read to Me Project



Community Connections - MPC's Family STEM Day

Books are a wonderful way for curious young minds to dive into the exciting world of science while building pre-literacy skills. We engaged with many families, connected with other community organizations, and even interacted with mascot Louie Lobo at MPC's Family STEM Day last month.





Community Connections - Greenfield Fun Run

Read to Me Project coordinators met a lot of wonderful families as they stopped by the Read to Me Project table at Greenfield Union School District's Annual Fun Run Day at the end of October. One local mother, Stephanie Garcia, proudly shared the following with us:

"Read to Me Project is a big deal in our house! My sons, from 19 down to 14 have all been through the program at Oak (Avenue Elementary, Greenfield), and in a

couple of years my second grader will be reading to my new granddaughter!"

Next Up

Annual Book Wrap Events

Starting this week, Read to Me Project coordinators are leading our popular annual book wrap events in our 13 schools for the next few weeks. Students will have the opportunity to select and wrap a new book as a gift for the little one they are reading to at home.

A Collaboration with MPUSD

Beginning in the new year, Read to Me Project will pilot an after-school program in Monterey Peninsula Unified School District. This initiative is a true community effort, with Community Partnership for Youth's (CPY) skilled staff facilitating the program alongside Read to Me Project's literacy support, providing a strong, enriching environment for students. By joining forces with MPUSD and CPY, we're laying the foundation for a comprehensive after-school program that fosters literacy and empowers young learners. This partnership is set to make a meaningful difference in the lives of students and their families as we kick off the new school semester together! Stay tuned for more details...

Thank You!!

A big BIG thank you to all of you who have helped us raise thousands of dollars so far through Monterey County Gives! this year. We are incredibly fortunate to have so many generous supporters who commit to donating to us each year.

If you haven't had the chance yet, what better day to give than today **GIVING TUESDAY!**

By donating to Read to Me Project you are ensuring that local children from low-literacy families have the skills to be successful in school.

School Success. Stronger Communities. Donate Today!

DONATE TODAY



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Donations received now through December 31st will be increased by a percentage match from Monterey County Gives! Campaign Partners





Every Child Entering Kindergarten Prepared to Succeed

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