

MONROVIA READS

MONROVIA READS is a non-profit community organization that had its beginnings seven years ago as the result of discussion and planning involving the City of Monrovia, the Monrovia Unified School District and the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce. Literacy was the topic of discussion and it was determined that this was a concern the community could, and should address collaboratively. A literacy project was begun with a mission to create and support an environment where reading is valued and resources are provided in order that all community members know how to read and do read.

During the past seven years we have inaugurated a number of programs including, but not limited to:

- A twice yearly “Read Across Monrovia” which brings school children and community together in a shared experience with literature. The read-ins are held in October and March between 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM at all the local public elementary schools in Monrovia with community leaders, business people, and volunteers sharing some favorite works from literature with the students.
- A literacy van that provides a circulating library and a daily story and activity time at designated stops in the community where children and their families have little or no access to the Monrovia Library. (In 2007 the literacy van was incorporated into a program for literacy and recreation provided by the City of Monrovia as part of its MAPP program with Monrovia Reads providing support with books and funds as able.)
- A Pro-Active-Tutorial (PAT) program at the elementary, middle and high schools that supports struggling students in after school programs and assists others in college preparatory programs. Many of the tutors are local college students in work-study programs preparing for teaching credentials. Some are community volunteers.
- A program of regular distribution of new books to families with children in poverty or lower socioeconomic status. Twice yearly the clients of the Unity Center (Back-to-School and Christmas Events) receive new books because many of these homes have little or no reading material. Books are distributed to all participants at the Community Services Spring Egg Hunt and at other community gatherings when it seems appropriate. Books are provided to parents in parent education classes that encourage family reading at home and as incentives to school age students to increase their recreational reading.
- Mini-grant program for teachers of the middle school and high school that provides class sets of selected literature books when lack of funding in the school budget prevents purchase. Paperback books provide students with their own copies to help complete reading assignments that may be kept for their own personal libraries.

MISSION STATEMENT – It is the mission of MONROVIA READS to create and support an environment where reading is valued and resources are provided in order that all community members know how to read and do read.

MONROVIA READS – P O BOX 1033, Monrovia, CA 91017

TELEPHONE - (626) 303-6600

WWW.MONROVIAREADS.ORG

EMAIL -