



**Reading Partners
Mid-Year Progress Report
January, 2012**

Overview:

Introduced by PENCIL Foundation in 2000, Reading Partners recruits community volunteers who share the joy of reading by reading aloud to partnering classroom groups and who work with students who need extra support and tutoring in reading. The program was created in collaboration with Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) with the goal of increasing the reading ability, comprehension and enjoyment of students in grades K-6 who score “below proficient” on the standardized tests of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) in reading.

Evaluation:

The impact of the Reading Partners program is demonstrated by student improvement in reading achievement as measured on MNPS Reading Progress Levels measurements and an improvement of at least two reading levels for each tutored student, and by teacher assessments of improvement in at least one of the following areas: comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, motivation to read, confidence in reading ability, and self-esteem. Student outcomes will be obtained from participating schools in May, 2012, and will be reported to all community stakeholders in July, 2012.

Mid-year Accomplishments:

PENCIL Foundation is pleased to report the following accomplishments to date for the Reading Partners program during the 2011-2012 academic year:

- 267 volunteers and 16 federal work-study students are active in 44 elementary and middle schools.
- Approximately 396 students are receiving one-on-one reading assistance from volunteers, and 729 students are being read to by classroom readers, for a total of 1,125 students served. This number does not include the total number of students receiving one-on-one reading assistance from work-study students placed in schools, as PENCIL has not yet received that information from all of the schools.
- The 16 work-study students representing Aquinas College, The Art Institute of TN-Nashville, Belmont University, and Nashville State Community College have provided approximately 2500 hours of individual tutoring to students at 12 elementary schools and 2 middle schools during fall semester.
- Reading Partners continues to coordinate the educational portion of Mayor Karl Dean’s IMPACT Nashville service project focusing on 6 high-needs schools.
- 27 business, faith-based, and community groups are represented by volunteers, including 26 Metro Government employees.

Program Funding:

PENCIL Foundation’s Reading Partners program is partially funded by:

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