

A note from the Executive Director

This year at BookSpring was full of significant milestones, and I'm delighted to share them with you.

First, we successfully navigated through the pandemic to help young readers stay hopeful and engaged, delivering over 200,000 diverse, high quality print books throughout our Central Texas community.

Second, we launched Books Beginning at Birth, a new program that mails books directly into the homes of families with children from birth through age 4 across Texas. This program also provides video tips and access to digital library to help parents and caregivers feel more confident reading together with their young children.

Third, we were honored to receive over \$850,000 in contributions towards a capital campaign, securing a new facility on June 1, 2022. This former bank building will make a cozy but solid headquarters for BookSpring to process books and host volunteers for many years to come.

While some activities have changed out of necessity, new opportunities arise. We continue to focus on children and families with low socio-economic status throughout early childhood, and we hope you will support this ongoing work to improve early literacy outcomes for all.




Emily Ball Cicchini
Executive Director



Our Mission

BookSpring builds early literacy in children and families through healthcare, education, and the community.

Our Vision

A world of families reading and succeeding together.



BOOKSPRING HOME CAMPAIGN

↳ In Gratitude ↳

Donors who have made our new home possible through their generous support

Andrew Delaney Foundation

Claire & Carl Stuart

Karen & Andy Esparza ● Bergman Family

The Campbell Foundation ● Lindsey Stuart & Nathan Damweber

Andrea & Jack Angelo ● Kaye & Randy Patterson

Susan Patterson ● Gary & Elizabeth Hallmark

Deena Perkins & Madison Jechow ● David Rice

Anonymous ● Ginger & Fred Weber ● Anonymous

David & Michelle Roe ● Arthur Johnson

Pan American Round Table of Austin

Marcia Del Rios ● Carrie & Chance Conner ● Sarah Ruttan

Mindy & Marc Gomillion ● Emily & Ron Cicchini

Rob & Lisa Lowrey ● Matt Rester

Many thanks for opening doors to a bright future

Programs in Action



Mother reading her child a board book she received from BookSpring as part of our **Early Books for Me** program.



Teacher and class showing off their books they received as part of BookSpring's **Summer Success** program.



Another cohort of parents from Todos Juntos Learning Center completing BookSpring's **Parent Book Club**.

Partner Spotlights

BookSpring partnered with **Austin Voices for Education and Youth** to serve the community at Hopefest in October. At Hopefest, families could drive through or walk up and receive resources to help their families. BookSpring distributed 1,590 books to children and families who might not otherwise have access.



We also partnered with **Community Action of Hays County** to give away books and resources throughout our community through the various parent and family assistance programs in Hay's county.



Central Texas Reading Survey

The 2022 Central Texas Reading Survey, in its sixth year, offers great insight into the changes happening in our community and provides us a snapshot of reading habits over the past year.

Children's books owned at home went down significantly from last year, 20+ books decreasing to 16% from 24% in 2021. BookSpring sees this



Two children at Overton Elementary picking books to take home with them as part of our **Books for Me** program.

decline as unacceptable, as research still indicates that children learn better from print books, particularly in their early years. Even with over half a million books distributed since the beginning of COVID, we are not moving the needle

enough across our wider community.

Interestingly, more families are reporting that they read aloud with their children at least once a day, and 87% of families reported reading with a child using a digital device. The

pandemic has changed the literacy landscape for children and families. It is encouraging, however, that parents and caregivers surveyed still feel that reading is important for their children's happiness and success, as well as their own.



Children and families participating in story time and receiving books from BookSpring at Playdates In the Park hosted by the Austin Parks Foundation

Moving to South Austin

After nearly 22 years at our "blue portables" on the Blanton Elementary Campus, it is time that our books, staff, partners, and volunteers have a more robust work environment from which to perform our mission. Making this move will enable us to have better access to our space, take extra precautions for safety and security, and make repairs and improvements promptly when needed, or be more flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of our growing programs.



Literacy Metrics Achieved

Total Children Served	Total Books	Hours of Activity	Total Families Served
137,213	205,541	14,091	29,566
Child Attendance 0-36 months	Child Attendance 3-5 years	Child Attendance 6-12 years	
34,864	32,364	69,985	

Main Partners

- YMCA of Austin
- People's Community Clinic
- Manor ISD
- Literacy First
- Del Valle ISD
- Child Inc.
- Community Action of Hays County
- CommUnity Care
- Bastrop ISD
- Austin Voices for Education and Youth
- Austin ISD
- Austin ISD Prime Time
- Texas Association for the Education of Young Children

Books Distributed by Program Area



78,024



103,254



24,263

Volunteer Appreciation

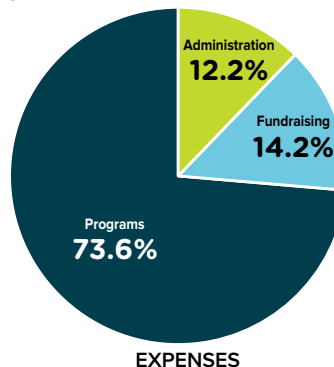


We could not do all that we do without our volunteers who contributed hundreds of hours of service. Thank you to everyone who took part in volunteering this year. Volunteers play a key role in our book distribution. Without their help so many children would not be able to experience an enriched world of reading.

BookSpring Financial Highlights

Fiscal Year 2022* Audited Financials

Total Revenue	\$2,247,486
Programs Expense	\$1,132,913
Fundraising Expense	\$217,846
Administration Expense	\$187,786
Total Expenses	\$1,538,545
Ending Net Equity	\$1,745,857
Prior Year Equity	\$1,036,916



* The complete audited financial statements for BookSpring can be obtained by visiting www.bookspring.org or by requesting a copy at 512-472-1791 x 100.

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