

We Shall Read

FIRST HALF OF
2023



DONOR IMPACT REPORT

weshallread.org

PO Box 785
Farmington, MI

We Shall Read

Donor Impact Report **First Half 2023**



Dear Friends of We Shall Read,

Two-thirds of America's children are struggling to read. For too long we've told ourselves a story that it was the fault of the parents, the teachers, society or even the children. Most never considered the root of the problem was the way children were being taught to read. Widely used curriculums that don't align with reading research have handicapped teachers and failed to train children's brains to read and spell well.

This problem isn't solving itself. Just like in the children's book, The Little Engine that Could, I climbed what seemed a formidable mountain co-authoring the Brain Friendly Reading™ program in 2019 and establishing We Shall Read in 2021.

Today our team has trained hundreds of educators impacting the education of thousands of children. Our work in school districts is resulting in systemic change. Training tutors and helping them launch their small business supports everyone: families, teachers and most importantly children.

Can you envision a world where 95% of the children are eager learners and capable readers? I can. Will you join me?

Kristin Dwyer

Founder and Executive
Director



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We Shall Read seeks to train and mentor teachers, tutors and parents in brain friendly instructional strategies that improve children's reading, spelling and writing regardless of their age, ability or background. Our vision: 95% or more of children reading on grade level.

How We Achieve Our Mission-

- MentorMe! Reading Training Program
 - 30-hour BFR™ training program with a dedicated one-on-one mentoring support
- School Professional Development
 - Training teachers and administrators how to implement an evidence-based instructional approach with BFR™ strategies
- Classroom Coaching
 - Supporting teachers in their classrooms by modeling how to plan and deliver a BFR™ lesson along with 1:1 consulting
- Virtual Group Coaching
 - Weekly Q&A and mentoring for MentorMe! Reading Training program graduates, current trainees, teachers and parents
- Tools in 10
 - Bite-size professional development for teachers and tutors
- Tips for Tutors
 - Business skills training course for new tutors to support them in establishing and growing their new business
- Summer Literacy Series
 - Intensive training of BFR™ strategies for a global audience
- Parent Workshops
 - Supporting parents in growing their children's literacy skills
- Community Education and Outreach
 - Helping community members to understand the needs of struggling readers



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An overview of the impact of We Shall Read's programs in the first half of 2023.

- MentorMe! Reading Training program:
 - 42 graduates from two in-person trainings
 - 31 trainees in the asynchronous course
 - 16 WSR Certified BFR™ Interventionists
 - 3 more trainings scheduled for 2023
- 120+ teachers trained to utilize BFR™ strategies in their classroom benefitting over 3,000 students annually
- 750+ hours of 1:1 mentoring offered for teachers and tutors to bridge the gap from theory to practice
- 300 registrants for the two week Summer Literacy Series with 13 Michigan teachers receiving 8 continuing education credit (SCECH)
- 21 Monday Night Coaching calls with an average of 25 people on each call



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Funds raised for 2023 programs so far:

An enormous thank you to our community in sharing our vision, and for allowing We Shall Read to continue our work with your generous donations, time and effort. Thank you.

Thank you to our donors for their generous contributions funding 2023 programs:

- Bill and Kristin Fenech Family Foundation
- Car Dealers Care
- Dearborn Library Foundation
- Dearborn Public Library
- Gillikin Family Marian Peace Fund
- Pathways Foundation

\$68,040 given out in scholarships to MentorMe! participants

Additional Contributions from Individual Donors:

WSR ran a "\$5 by 5/5" fundraising campaign at the end of April, which generated 55 new individual donors with \$1327.27 raised. The largest donation level of the campaign was \$100, with five people donating at that level during the campaign.



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Reading Training

Winter 2023 MentorMe! Reading Training Programs

We Shall Read completed two 30-hour MentorMe! Reading Training programs; one at the Dearborn Public Library and one at the Southfield Office. 54 people were admitted, with 42 graduating the programs.

- Southfield: 4 sessions, with one optional makeup due to weather. 23 trainees started the program, with 21 completing the training. 6 trainees are now certified.
- Dearborn: 11 sessions. 31 trainees started the program, with 21 completing the training. 10 of the trainees are now certified.
- 96% of participants in both trainings identified as women.
- Trainees self-identified as: 2% American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% as Asian, 9% Black or African American; 4% as Latinx; 22% Middle Eastern; and 57% as White; with 4% preferring not to identify.

WSR is in the process of supporting trainees in completing the certification process to demonstrate mastery in all skills. Trainees have six months to complete the process which includes a practicum. Trainees receive support through individual mentors, Virtual Monday night group coaching calls on Zoom, and additional in-person sessions held casually at the library and other locations.

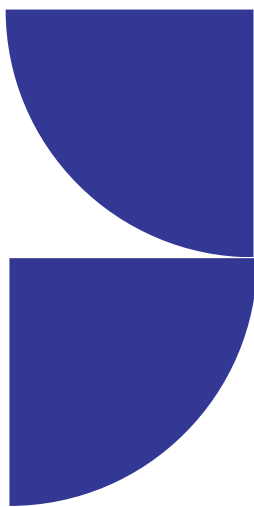


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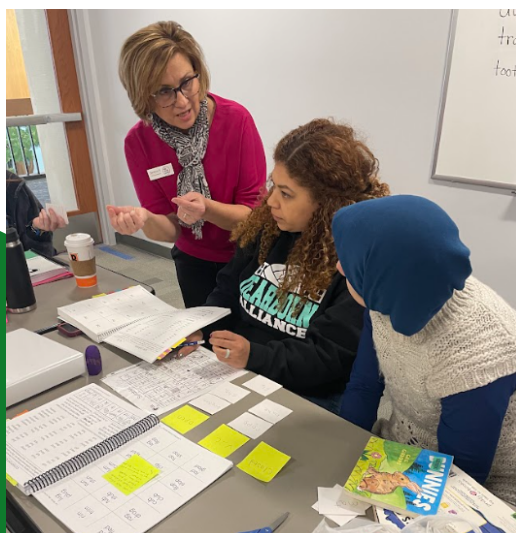
We Shall Read is growth-minded, always looking for BFR™ Reading Interventionists to join our team and give back as mentors, and eventually trainers. This year, WSR created a career path to continue to develop our contractors.



WSR was able to bring on eight new contractors as mentors and promote the growth of our current organization. As of June 30th, WSR has:

- 8 Level 1 Mentors
- 3 Level 2 Mentors
- 1 Assistant Facilitator
- 3 Lead Facilitators
- 2 School Facilitators

WSR has invited eight people to assist in the training for the upcoming Summer Intensive MentorMe! Reading training program to be held in July, with the intent to grow them into facilitators for our future trainings.



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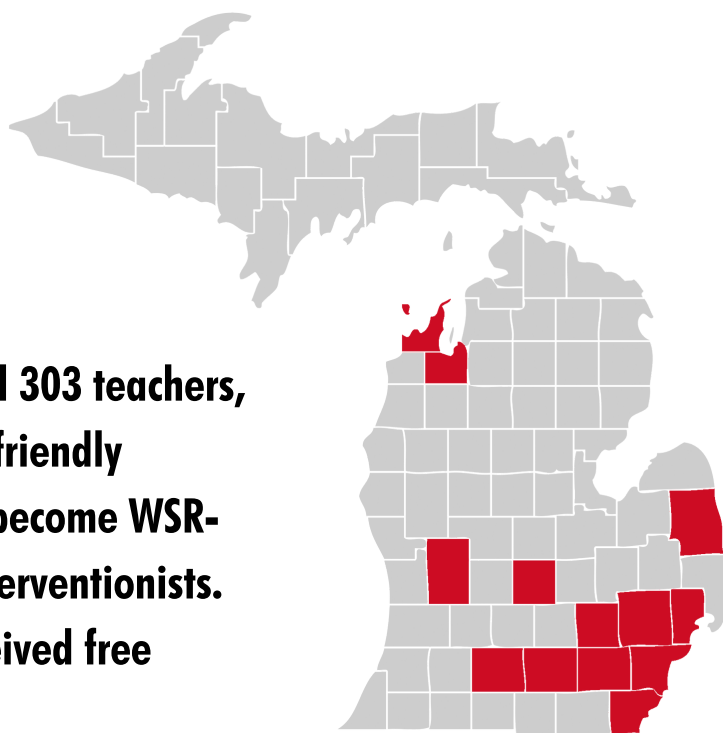
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We Shall Read continues to have an impact with Brain Friendly Reading™ materials and trainings being used by teachers, tutors and parents throughout the State of Michigan and beyond, to all 50 states and internationally into 24 different countries!



Since 2021, WSR has trained 303 teachers, tutors and parents in brain friendly strategies. 31 people have become WSR-Certified BFR™ Reading Interventionists. Over 3000 people have received free materials provided by WSR.



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Supporting We Shall Read:

In 2023, We Shall Read was able to reach 108 trainees through the in-person and asynchronous MentorMe! Reading Training program, thousands of students and hundreds of teachers. But the need is much higher.



Your gift to We Shall Read supports us in reaching the teachers, tutors and parents who are making a difference in the lives of children through literacy intervention using brain friendly strategies.

Please consider giving online, by phone or mail.
Visit www.weshallread.org/donate
call (313) 509-6238
or mail to PO Box 785, Farmington, MI 48332

Other ways to give:

- Company matching donations
- Partnerships
- In-kind donations of space for trainings
- Our Amazon Wishlist

We Shall Read is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization