Kiwanis Club of Bald Eagle and Nittany Valleys News Release

July 7, 2020

Kiwanis of BENV Awarded Reading is Fundamental Books Grant

MILL HALL - Kiwanis of Bald Eagle and Nittany Valleys (BENV) will celebrate the power and excitement of reading as a recipient of a 2020 Books for Ownership Matching Grant from Reading Is Fundamental (RIF). Through this grant, the club will engage and inspire reading by providing 200 books to the children in the greater Lock Haven community. Research has shown that when children have access to books that they enjoy reading, they read more. And when they read more, they become accomplished readers. By providing children with choice and access to books and literacy resources, Kiwanis of BENV hopes to create a culture of literacy in its community while working to give each child an opportunity to become a proficient and avid reader.

This Books for Ownership Matching Grant, funded through the generosity of RIF’s partner Macy’s, is part of Reading Is Fundamental’s Books for Ownership flagship reading program which enables children to select new, age-appropriate books to take home and own. The books are supported by resources for parents, educators, and volunteers to create a continuous focus on reading. This program relies on a simple yet fundamental truth: if you allow children choice and access, they will be more engaged readers. Over 53 million children nationwide have had the opportunity to experience the power and excitement of books and resources from RIF. Parents and caregivers can continue to encourage reading at home by visiting https://www.rif.org/literacy-central to find free reading activities, videos, parent guides, and much more.

“Reading Is Fundamental is committed to creating a culture of literacy in communities nationwide and ensure every child has the fundamental building blocks needed to achieve their highest potential. Reading is the necessary foundation for all children that puts them on the pathway for success,” says Reading is Fundamental President and CEO, Alicia Levi. “For over 50 years, Reading Is Fundamental has supported communities with the resources they need to impact children in their communities and we are excited to partner with the Kiwanis Club of BENV to bring this program to their community.” Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) is committed to a literate America by inspiring a passion for reading among all children, providing quality content to create impact, and engaging communities in the solution to give every child the fundamentals for success. As the nation's largest nonprofit organization for children's literacy, RIF has provided more than 416 million books to 53 million kids in all 50 states, inspiring generations to read, learn and grow.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. The Kiwanis Club of Bald Eagle and Nittany Valleys is dedicated to serving the local community through various service projects and childhood literacy programs. We'd love for you to come join us at one of our meetings or at a service project. Please go to our Contact page on our website at [www.kiwanisofbenv.org](http://www.kiwanisofbenv.org) and drop us a line! A member of our Membership Committee will contact you to tell you more about our club and answer any questions you may have. Or contact Membership Chair, Sally Young, at sallygyoung@hotmail.com or (570) 295-7213.

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