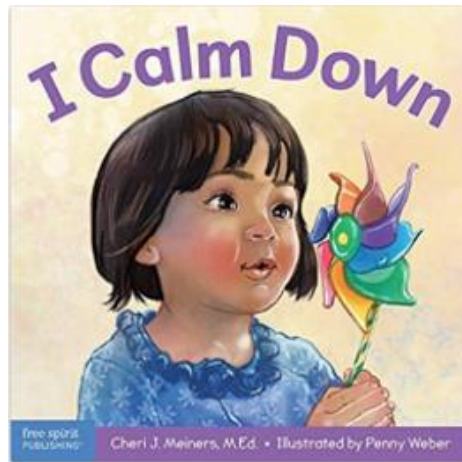


Hello

This letter is in lieu of a regular newsletter this summer to let you know how the BookStart program is doing—and to ask for your support. It has been sent as an email to many donors and friends, but I do not have your email address, so I'm printing it for you.

During these past months the nine BookStart partner agencies have been finding creative ways to deliver or drop off books to their client families. For many of the recipient families, receiving the beautiful new board books from their social worker is a bright spot in this difficult time. Here's the latest book they have received:



And here's what a staff member at Charis House, the Rescue Mission's shelter for women and children, wrote to me about this book:

"I Calm Down has been a wonderful book for this time. So many have struggled with BIG feelings and this book has been a great tool for moms and kids as well as staff!"

Donations

YES, I'm asking for donations to help pay for more books! This spring several long-time generous donors made their gifts in tribute to a mother in their lives. Special thanks to these four friends of BookStart:

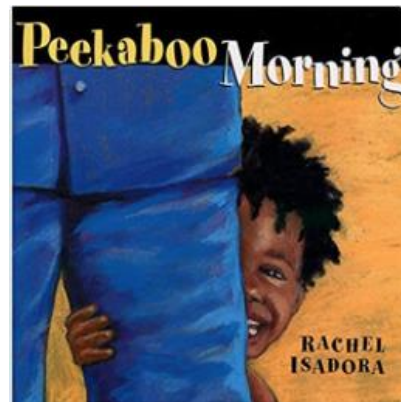
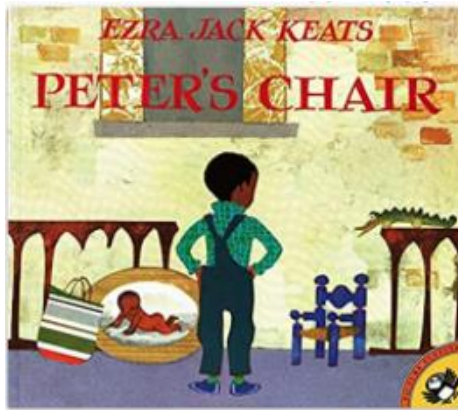
Donors	Honorees
Mary Voors	Jess Throop-Voors
Shannon Hardiek	Jane Hicks Snow
Karen Schwichtenberg	Jennifer A. Dillon
Chris Rupp	Amanda Gossett, Julie Rupp, Sarah Rupp, Corina Rupp, Meghan Rupp

How can you donate? Go to the Community Foundation website (cfgfw.org) and click on Donate. Scroll down to "3:Donor Advised" and select BookStart Fund. Thank you!

Or mail a check (payable to Community Foundation of Greater FW with "BookStart" on the memo line) to CFGFW, 555 East Wayne St, FW IN 46802. Thanks, again!

The Books

Since BookStart began in 2014, I've ordered almost 42,000 books, at a cost of \$104,000. Since January 1, 2020 those numbers are 4,000 books and \$9,000. It's time to order more soon—about 300 copies of each book, and I have some great ones selected. Here are two of them:



It is a basic principle of the BookStart Fund to provide books featuring children of color, since traditionally, most children's picture books show only white children. Not only is it helpful for children of color to see themselves in books, but also, we believe, it is important for white children to see people of color in their books!. This may be a small step towards bringing us all together. Please join me in doing this important work by making a donation to BookStart today!

The BookStart Partners

The books go to children and their parents at so many places that I suspect that most of you do not realize which local agencies' clients your donations are helping, through this one program. Here's a list, with links to their websites:

- BrightPoint Early Head Start: <https://mybrightpoint.org/index.php/get-help/children-youth/early-head-start>
- Children First Center/Healthy Families: <https://www.childrenfirstcenter.org/healthy-families>
- Healthier Moms & Babies: <http://healthiermomsandbabies.org>
- SCAN (multiple programs): <https://www.scaninc.org>
- Young Lives: <https://www.facebook.com/younglivesfortwayne/>
- Charis House: <https://therescuemission.net/about-the-mission/our-houses/charis-house>
- Just Neighbors: <http://www.ihnfw.org>
- Vincent Village Transitional Shelter: <http://vincentvillage.org>
- YWCA Women's Shelter: <https://ywcanein.com>

The first five are large programs serving many families, while the last four are homeless shelters, with smaller numbers of families but a big need for the book gifts and guidance they receive. What the families have in common is poverty and young children, and in most cases, lack of education and few or no books in the home. After the BookStart program reaches them, they have lots of good read-aloud books. One agency wrote: "I believe that we definitely have instilled a love of books and how important early literacy is for all of them."

Thank you, from Ginny Clark, BookStart Fund Manager