



A literacy program helping incarcerated parents stay connected with their children

IN THE NEWS

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"Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope." —Kofi Annan

Thank you
all
for your
continued
generous
support of
Remain in Touch!



- **Individual Donors** who continue to support our program — even in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- **Keswick United Methodist Church** through its "mission of the month" offering
- **Green Brick Foundation** with a gift of \$500
- **Brilliant Books** in downtown Traverse City for creating the virtual giving tree on their website. It generated donations of over 100 books during the holiday season! Brilliant Books has been a partner since our program's inception, and we deeply appreciate their continued support!
- **Leland's Women's Civic Club** for the invitation and opportunity to share information about our program via Zoom
- **Meijer**, repeating its support with a grant this year of \$500
- **Proceeds from the sale of The Legend of the Cherry Queens** - \$600 thanks to the generosity of the author & illustrator
- **Everyone** who has taken the time to include words of appreciation along with their contributions, those who offer book suggestions, and those who continue to encourage the expansion of the **Remain in Touch** program into other jails in the Northwest Michigan region

Announcing a new partnership

Remain in Touch is thrilled to announce its newly established partnership with **Bay Books** in Suttons Bay. For the second year in a row, **Bay Books** donated numerous new books for our program, and the store now offers shoppers the opportunity to view our book list and purchase book donations at a 20% discount. What a great opportunity for local patrons to shop nearby and support **Remain in Touch** at the same time. Thank you Bay Books!



For more information, visit baybooksmi.com.

While we follow the progress of COVID vaccinations across Northern Michigan, we look forward to resuming our program and building on our own progress in the jails as soon as it is safe to do so.



191

incarcerated parents have selected and recorded books for their children.



322

children have received new books and recordings from their incarcerated parents.



1006

brand new books, along with recordings, have been delivered to children of incarcerated parents.



- Children develop literacy skills long before they read.
- Young children who are read to regularly have a larger vocabulary, a stronger foundation of language awareness, and literacy skills at a younger age.
- Children who are read to regularly by family members experience social-emotional gains and an increased likelihood of overall school success.

A sweet, sweet story ... Two little girls; Two big hearts



For the past few years, a Remain in Touch contributor and her two granddaughters—now in Kindergarten and 3rd grade—have made it a tradition at holiday time to go shopping for a book to donate to the Remain in Touch literacy program. This year, with the restrictions of the pandemic, holiday shopping was not an option.

To Grandma's surprise, the two little girls did not let the tradition slip by unnoticed. They were deeply disappointed that they could not visit the bookstore, look at the children's books, and choose one to donate to our program.

Determined to carry out the tradition, the two girls opened their piggy banks and scraped together \$10 each! The combined \$20 (a whopping sum for children of any age!) was enthusiastically hand-delivered by the girls to our founder with instructions to purchase a book on their behalf.

What a remarkable example of selfless giving from two so very young! They are spreading love and joy to families and children of incarcerated parents — and to us!



and



Instagram

Individual donors play an important role in our ability to stock our book carts, purchase packaging, and mail new books and recorded CDs to children of incarcerated parents. Thank you to all who have supported our efforts!



And remember, if you are shopping online, you can continue your support of **Remain in Touch** by designating us as your nonprofit recipient through smile.amazon.com. Thank you so much!

Visit our [website](#) for:

- a complete list of our partners & supporters
- the latest news about Remain in Touch
- a description of our program
- numerous ways that you can help
- secure online donation via PayPal
- a link to our complete booklists for ages 0-12 and 13-18 at Brilliant Books

Donate

Your generous support provides hope for incarcerated parents and their children! Please invest in a better future by donating online at www.remainintouch.org or make your check payable to *Remain in Touch* and mail it to the address below.

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