"It takes a village"

Depending upon your political views, you may either have a positive or negative reaction to the following statement: “It takes a village to raise a child.” However, if we leave politics out, we know that it does take a village to make a long, lasting impact in our communities. As we celebrate the New Year, I want to reflect again on the past 15 years of Reading and Beyond’s existence by sharing the foundation that has served as pillars for the organization. While we might not have had a clear roadmap from the beginning, the following pillars have always been a part of our vision:

- Any services offered to families would be long-term commitments, which would better address their needs.
- Provided services need to produce the results envisioned. As a result, we strive to implement evidence-based programs and evaluate our progress.
- Our services must be beneficial to the population we serve. If we listen and observe the families we are helping, we will discover what they need and what works for them. This strategy has led to the development of many of our programs.
- As long as we provide quality services, the organization will not struggle financially.
- Engage parents from the start. Anyone can refer children to us but only parents can enroll their children in our programs.
- Embrace a holistic approach, which means we work with the whole family when providing direct services as well helping those we serve find their voice to effectively advocate for equitable policies and systems.
- This year, we add one more pillar: “Whatever it takes”. We will not give in or give up when obstacles arise, no matter how insurmountable they may seem.

Without the actions of the “villagers,” these pillars would be just words. Therefore, I want to recognize and thank members of Reading and Beyond’s village - starting with our past and present Board members, former and current staff members, and past and present volunteers.

Without the dedication of these villagers, going above and beyond expectations, thousands of children in our community would not have hope of better days for themselves and their families. If you are not part of our village yet, I hope you will join us by sharing your wealth, knowledge, and experience to bless others in our community during this New Year as we set the goals for the next 15 years.

Blessings,
Luis
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Executive Director
Founder
Reading and Beyond

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University Business Center
Craig School of Business
CSUF

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CEO - Stewards, Inc.
Clerk of the Board of Education
Bakersfield City School District
With a dedicated staff, Reading and Beyond has been able to make a positive, lasting impact on families throughout Fresno County for the last 15 years. A special thank you to all the current and former employees for their time and service. Here they are, listed by the year they started:

**1999 - 2004**
- Luis S
- Kao S
- Matilda S
- Leticia M
- Vang K
- Carlos G
- Jennifer B
- Gona Y

**2005 - 2009**
- Cynthia C
- Jesus G
- Brittany B
- Mai X
- Mai Y
- Linda S
- Robin T
- Donna S
- Rachael S
- Arasely L
- Lynn H
- Maria C
- Alisa K
- Maria R
- Laura R
- Yer V
- Mai V
- Mai Y
- Anna R
- Vicki C
- Alfredo D
- Eva C
- Sandra V
- Teresita G
- Elaine C
- Jonathan C
- Vanessa Q
- Reina M
- Jennifer O
- Rafael A

**2010 - 2014**
- Erica O
- Melanie D
- JoAnne E
- Timothy L
- Nakia V
- Patricia G
- Nayeli S
- Ashley O
- Yemedith A
- Jessica A
- Ana R
- Terrence C
- Lisa L
- Heather J
- Lorraine C
- Nikki N
- Nou H
- Lilya K
- Stacie H
- Leta H
- Adriana C
- Patricia V
- Jennylee F
- Delgids D
- Lucia F
- Paul B
- Brooke F
- Francisco M
- Maritza C
- Bee Y
- Guadalupe C
- Manuela A
- Lupita Z
- Ann O
- Demitri G
- Ashley M
- Pao X
- Sandra M
- Gabriel R
- MeSu V
- Maria A
- Frankie S
- Barbara W
- Genoveva R
- Leslee W
- Mai L
- Sandy H
- Ana G
- Tiffiny R
- Chrissy M
- Gianna E
- Maykue Y
- Emily M
- Miriam P
- Concepcion R
- Cristina O
- Javier M
- Evelyn F
- Michelle F
- Natalie A
- Earl O
- Brenda Q
- Shaunteil K
- Chao Y
- Samrin K
- Richard C
- Alexandros A
- Salvador A
- Dianne P
- Jessica S
- Jose R
- Jillian A
- Sara R
- Laura P
- Bhupinder V
- Susana V
- Teresa F
- Vilma P
- Melissa B
- Diane T
- Brittany R
- Blia V
- Harry F
- Amy V
- Jerry S
- Miriam C
- Ka V
- Robin N
- Carmelita D
- Adela C
- Maribel M
- Ernest P
- Jessica C
- Maria C
- Adalinda M
- Ruby R
- Joshua C
- Deisy Q
- Sarah F
- Yadira H
- Leslie G
- Irma L
- Lily C
- Chloe M
- Anna C
- Wulmer C
- Amaprith P
- Sarita C
- Raul C
- Chia V
- Sophia T
- Ah Y
- Alma J
- Katherine K
- Micelya C
- Israel R
- Jonathan R
- Jason M
- Lisseth Y
- Ben F
- Melissa G
- Michael M
- DesJhon F
- Sherrie Y
- Felicia M
- Michelle H
- Gabriella D
- Stormy S
- Roseann C
- Stephanie B
- Khambye C
- Samantha K
- Portia H
- Vang M
- Kelly B
- Denise G
- Leopoldo L
- Yonathan S
- Michael W
- Stacey H
- Benjamin V
- Gina B
- Gloria A
- Shireen E
- Wang L
- Raul L
Spring 1999: Members of First Covenant Church called together community leaders to explore prospective solutions for helping neighborhood students who were struggling in reading.

August 1999: Literacy tutoring and parent programs were launched with 30 families matched with 30 volunteers, most from First Covenant Church.

Mooselodge Club

Ewing Elementary

Storey Elementary

Aug. 2004: Expanded our Literacy Intervention/After-School program to include over 500 additional students at five school-based sites.

1999

Spring 1999: Luis Santana was asked to lead the endeavor as Executive Director.

March 1999: Fresno Covenant Foundation (now Reading And Beyond) was established as a 501(c)(3) with $20,000 seed money from First Covenant Church. (Photo: 1999 Board of Directors.)

2000

Fall 2001: With a grant from Fresno Unified School District, we expanded our literacy tutoring program, adding four new sites to our original site at First Covenant Church.

El Encino

2001

Oct. 2003: Received funds from U.S. Dept. of Education for the first time, to expand our parent program and launch our Early Childhood Education program.

2002

2003

2004

March 2004: Purchased a specially designed recreational vehicle (RV) to serve as our Mobile Classroom for parent outreach and parent workshops.

2005

2006

Past 15 years

2007:
- Dec. 2007: Announced our new name: Reading and Beyond.

2008:
- Oct. 2008: Held an open house to celebrate our relocation to Southeast Fresno.
- Aug. 2008: Partnered with Butler Mennonite Church to operate Small World Preschool.

2009:
- June 2009: Executive Director Luis Santana was honored with The James Irvine Foundations Leadership Award.

2010:
- May, 2010: Fresno Bridge Academy launched.

2011:
- Oct. 2011: Through a partnership with the City of Fresno, RAB moves into the Mosqueda Community Center.

2012:
- Aug. 2012: Through a partnership with the City of Fresno, RAB expands programming at the Dickey Youth Development Center.

2013:
- Jan. 2013: RAB and Partners visit the Harlem Children’s Zone in New York.

2014:
- March 2014: Geoffrey Canada is the guest speaker at RAB’s 15th anniversary event.
Our Mission: To Empower Children and Families to Achieve Productive Self-Reliant Lives

SCHOOL READINESS
Reading and Beyond Preschool

SCHOOL SUCCESS
Community-Based Sites
School-Based Sites (ASES)
Supplemental Educational Services (SES)
Summer Academy

COLLEGE+CAREER READINESS
Southeast Youth Success
CRADLE-TO-CAREER PIPELINE

CAREER SUCCESS
Fresno Bridge Academy

FAMILY STRENGTHENING
Family Navigators (or Promotoras)
Supervised Children’s Rooms

ADVOCACY
Educational Equity
Program goal:
To prepare young children to be academically, socially, and developmentally ready to begin school.

School Readiness

Total of Students:
52

Outcome achieved:
Based on scores and developmental profiles, about 85% of students who graduated were ready for kindergarten.

Program Flashback:
In 2003, the U.S. Dept. of Education provided funding for the first time to RAB, which helped to launch our Early Childhood Educational program.

“I never finished school, so I work in housekeeping. My husband just works part-time. I know we’re a little bit poor. We’re low-income parents, but I still want my kids to get a good education. I want to see my kids graduate college. I want my kids to be someone in life. Reading and Beyond has given my kids that key to survive in life. They’ve changed our life already.”

~ Alejandra Mendoza, a preschool parent
Program goal:
To help students achieve academically through literacy tutoring, after-school programming, school day reading intervention, summer programming, and recreation.

Literacy Intervention Programs
Reading and Beyond operates literacy tutorial programs and morning and after school programs at school and community-based sites throughout Fresno.
17 Sites
Total of Students: 1,464
Students who improved: 92%
Students who improved by one grade level: 71%

Summer Academy
The Summer Academy provides academic and enrichment programming to ensure students do not experience summer learning loss.
5 Sites
Total of Students: 230
Students who improved or maintained their reading levels: 50%

Supplemental Education Services
The SES program offers in-home, one-on-one reading tutoring for 1-8th grade students.
8 Districts
Total of Students: 49
Students who improved: 98%
Students who improved by one grade level: 71%

Overall:
Total of Students: 1,743
Students who improved: 92%
Students who improved by one grade level: 71%
Program goal:
To help youths and young adults be ready for college and career.

Program Flashback:
In 2007, RAB launched a college-prep program for high school students.

Southeast Youth Success
Enrolled: 26

In the Spring of 2014, Reading and Beyond partnered with Focus Forward and Fresno Barrios Unidos to provide youth services in the southeast Fresno area through the Southeast Youth Success program. The program works with youths, ages 16-24, who have had previous contact with Fresno County’s Juvenile Justice Campus and are in need of guidance and support to stay on track with their education and career goals. The program provides mentoring, case management, tutoring, workforce development, restorative justice, and more.
Program goal:
To help adults achieve self-reliance through employment or better employment utilizing job resources and training.

Fresno Bridge Academy
First class ended
March 2014: 87 people
Found employment: 83%

Community On-Ramp: 95 people

In partnership with the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board, participants received orientation and prescreening for pre-apprenticeship training.

Current class ending
March 2015: 183 people
Found employment after starting program: 75%

Drought Relief Retraining Project:
* 36 enrolled for free solar training.
* 29 completed training and obtained their OSHA-10 certification.
* 22 were hired full-time by First Solar.

Program Flashback:
In 2003, the Parent Involvement Program began. The following year, the program started utilizing a specially designed recreational vehicle for parent outreach and workshops. In 2007, when the program ended, 2,431 parent workshops have been delivered, serving over 5,000 parents.

"Elsa Rodriguez, a single mother of three who speaks only Spanish, worked seasonally in the fields. With guidance from her Career & Family Navigator, Elsa applied and was accepted into the solar training program with West Hills College. She excelled in training and was hired to work on new solar farm project in Mendota."

- Family/Career Navigator
Program goal:
To Strengthen families through educational workshops and community-resource connections, and to ensure every student has access to college and career success.

Family Navigators (or Promotoras):
Family Navigators connect with children and parents at school and home. Navigators also assist families in connecting with and learning how to navigate the resources within the community.

186 parents and 309 children participated in home visits. As a result:

- 58% of the children aged 0-5 years received assistance in enrolling for school-readiness services.
- 92% of students in K-3rd grade and 58% of students in 4th-12th grade were connected with academic-support services either in school or out of school.
- All students have access to health care, which is a key indicator of succeeding in school.

Supervised Children’s Rooms (SCR):
The supervised children’s rooms located at two sites provide a safe, fun, and enriching environment while their parents or guardians are receiving services from the County of Fresno.

- 10,900 children stayed an average of 1 hour per visit.

Results from a survey of county clinicians who regularly refer parents to the SCR:

- 50% of their clients would not be able to attend their appointments if the SCR were unavailable.
- 96.6% said the SCR was “very important to their clients’ ability to receive services.”
- 51.7% reported that if SCR were closed, their clients would not be able to attend their appointments.
Educational Workshops and Events:
• 436 parents participated in educational workshops and events, including advocacy, leadership, resource, and navigation sessions.
• 15 informational workshops with parents to discuss the importance of parent engagement, the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)

Informational and Advocacy Sessions:
An active group of parents and community-based organizations (CBOs) have collaborated to address students’ educational needs. The advocacy goal is to close the gap in opportunity and achievement for low-income students.
• 25 CBOs participated in informational and advocacy planning sessions.
• 12 CBO meetings/actions were conducted, including LCF and LCAP informational sessions, planning sessions, meeting with Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) board members, and attending FUSD board meetings.
• Six specific community recommendations are now a part of Fresno Unified School Districts’s Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).
Thank You, Volunteers!

Total Volunteer: 148
Total Volunteer Hours: 25,059

Without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, Reading and Beyond would not be able to provide the much needed services to the hundreds of children, adults and families who seek out our assistance.

Thank you for volunteering!

Volunteers

The Reading and Beyond (RAB) at California State University - Fresno (CSUF) Project began in the Fall of 2013. This collaboration between RAB and Fresno State grew out of long years of partnership with the Richter Center’s Fresno READS program, which placed Fresno State work-study students at school sites to provide essential services. Through this partnership, CSUF students continue to provide academic support and literacy tutoring. With Fresno State’s support and the service commitment of college students, RAB has been able to help more children become better readers and writers.
In March, Reading and Beyond invited Geoffrey Canada, founder and director of the Harlem Children’s Zone, to speak at its 15th Anniversary Celebration, entitled “Whatever it Takes.” More than 400 people attended the anniversary dinner and listened to Canada speak about making the well-being and education of children a high priority. The following morning, RAB hosted a breakfast wherein Canada shared his “whatever it takes” message with local leaders.
### Assets
- $4,123,411

### Liabilities
- 688,073

### Net Assets
- 3,435,338

### Revenue
- Contributions 19,358
- Grants & Contracts
  - Foundations & Others 447,666
  - Government 2,409,636
- Program Service Fee Revenues 62,371
- Donated Goods & Services 511,824
- Rental Income 94,305
- Fundraising 35,072
- Investment Income 76,505
- Miscellaneous 18,933
- **Total Revenue** 3,675,670

### Expenses
- Wages 2,117,374
- Other Employee Benefits 244,450
- Payroll Taxes 220,165
- Supplies 161,060
- Utilities 74,527
- Depreciation 55,502
- Travel/Conference 31,162
- Consulting 21,000
- Legal & Accounting 19,550
- Special Program Expenses 19,216
- Insurance 19,052
- Rent & Janitorial 15,552
- Printing & Copying 10,625
- Payroll Processing & Bank Fees 9,332
- Telephone & Internet 8,267
- Contracted Instructors 7,201
- Licenses & Fees 5,183
- Dues & Subscriptions 5,092
- Fingerprinting 4,813
- Outreach/Volunteer Retention 3,423
- Miscellaneous 5,279
- In-Kind Expenses
  - Services 479,683
  - Books & Supplies 32,141
- **Total Expenses** 3,569,649

### Pie Chart
- **Program Expense** 83.8%
- **Management and General** 15.9%
- **Fundraising** 0.3%

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