

challenge

53% of our third graders are not reading proficiently at grade level. Children who cannot read at grade level by the end of third grade are four times less likely to graduate from high school.*



OUR GOAL

MAKE SURE ALL CHILDREN ARE ON TRACK TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

strategy

Learning to read starts at home

We know the best opportunity to influence a child's future is in the first five years, a critical window when 90% of brain development occurs. We are promoting early literacy skills by supporting the expansion and programming of Reach Out and Read Partners – Fox Cities. Through Reach Out and Read, pediatricians give a free book to patients ages six months to five years and, at the same appointment, educate caregivers on the benefits of reading to their children.

big picture

In 2017, we supported **11** programs with **\$712,632** for early learning opportunities.



Donna VanVreede,
Children & Youth
Impact Volunteer

*Annie E. Casey Foundation