

ANNUAL REPORT

July 2008 through June 2009

Books to Dreams, Inc.

A literacy program for children in need
Miriam Stannard Epstein, director

www.bookstodreams.org

312 Ferguson Road, Manchester, CT 06040

In Loving Memory of Richard Charles Martinik

Dear Richard,

Did you know, that because you were on this earth, it is a better place?

You were a dear, kind, wonderful friend and a miracle worker for Books to Dreams.

We miss you, we love you, and we will always remember you.



BTD Director Miriam Epstein, Richard Charles Martinik (1935-2009) and his wife Mona Martinik

Mona & Richard have been our dear friends for these 12 years, and the greatest individual contributors to Books to Dreams, Inc.

Books to Dreams, Inc. completed its THIRTEENTH YEAR

Children's Books Given Since Founding of Program (1996).....312,042

2008-2009 CHILDREN'S BOOKS DISTRIBUTED.....14,595

We are pleased that Books to Dreams, Inc. has now completed **thirteen** years of literacy service to children of poverty. It has been a great joy. Thank you EVERYONE – You *all* have been an amazing blessing for these children !



*BTD Dir., former Spec. Ass't **Joanne Bedard**, Chair. **Joan Dower**, Sec. **Pamela Horrocks**, V. Chair. **Pat Dubiel**, Treas. **Linda Clark** & Bus. Mgr. **Howard Epstein***



*In memory of my dad, **Joseph Edson Stannard** (1911-2001) who always had time to read to me. Books to Dreams, Inc. is dedicated to him.*

NEW TIMES – NEW PARADIGMS

Books to Dreams has now gone in a new direction as of **January 1, 2009**. We now **specialize** in **HEAD START PROGRAMS** where we provide books and literacy programs.

Last year, Books to Dreams, Inc. had expected to receive major funding which didn't happen. We are pleased with our decision, based on these circumstances. We will continue to carry on and focus all of our resources on the very young children in need.

A. BOOKS PROVIDED TO HEAD START PROGRAMS.....5,265

Books to Dreams, Inc. provided books (and literacy programs in Manchester) for **29 Head Start** towns in Connecticut: **Baltic, Brooklyn, Colchester, Danielson, Dayville, East Hartford, East Lyme, Enfield, Griswold, Groton, Jewett City, Killingly, Ledyard, Manchester, Moosup, Mystic, New Britain, New London, Norwich, Plainfield, Preston, Putnam, Salem, Stonington, Taftville, Uncasville, Vernon, Waterford & Willimantic.** *(Many towns have 2 or more prog.)*

HEAD START PROGRAMS	BOOKS GIVEN				(Other) Reading Buddies
	Children's Books	Parent's Choice	Teacher Resource	Libraries	
East Hartford	435	140	20	20	
EastConn	405	85	10	10	
Enfield	275	140	20	20	
Manchester	723	378	59		289
New Britain	545	170	30	25	
TVCCA - Norwich	735	260	47	30	
Willimantic	380	243	30	30	
TOTALS	3,498	1,416	216	135	289

B. BTD PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMS - HEAD START (MANCHESTER)

A total of **16** storytelling programs (**2** programs per classroom) were presented. **272** children were provided with books to keep, along with the themed programs. The themes are farm animals & zoo animals, including books & reading buddies about farms & zoos.

C. BTD SHELTER PROGRAMS – HOLY FAMILY HOME AND SHELTER (WILLIMANTIC)

A total of **10** monthly programs were presented with the assistance of the **Books to Dreams Volunteers**. *Multiple copies of the book featured were given to each family.*

D. BOOKS PROVIDED TO OTHER PROGRAMS

Books include **Children's Books, Parents' Choice, Teacher Resource & Library Books**

1. Books for Shelters (9 Shelters).....1,891

Access Emergency Shelter, Danielson (125); Covenant Shelter, New London), (108); Holy Family Home and Shelter, Willimantic (815); My Sister's Place II, Hartford (103); Phoenix and Genesis House, New London (123); Salvation Army Marshall House, Hartford (103); Thames River Family Program, Norwich (104); TVCCA Homeless Shelter, Norwich (104); Village for Families and Children – Safe Home, Hartford (306). *All books were donated before 1/09 except for **Holy Family** (includes items 1, 3 & 4).*

- 2. Soup Kitchen Book Boxes (located in 5 soup kitchens).....2,569**
Cornerstone, Rockville (400); **Isaiah 58 Covenant**, Willimantic (1058); **Loaves and Fishes**, Enfield (215); **Loaves and Fishes**, Hartford (175); **MACC Shepherd's Place Soup Kitchen**, Manchester (721).
- 3. Books to Inner City Schools (11 schools).....2,431**
Belizzi School, Hartford (250); **A. E. Burr School**, Hartford (100); **East Hartford Public Schools** (425); **Jumoke Academy**, Hartford (300); **M.D. Fox Elem. School**, Hartford (245); **Langford School**, East Hartford (315); **Natchaug School**, Willimantic (90); **North Windham School**, Willimantic (100); **Quirk Middle School**, Hartford (315); **Sweeney School**, Willimantic (90); **Webster School**, Hartford (201).
- 4. Books Donated to Special Children's Organizations (10 organizations).....2,342**
Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hartford (150); **Books to Dreams Family Outreach**, East Hartford (20); **Ebony Horsewomen**, Hartford (48), **Hartford Correctional Center** (515); **Hartford Juvenile Detention Center** (110); **Hockanum Family Resource Center**, East Hartford (140); **Hogar CREA**, Hartford (300); **Manchester Area Network for Aids (MANA)** (1004); **Real Dads Forever**, Hartford (15); **York Correctional Institution – Adult Library**, Niantic (40).
- 5. Books for International Programs (2 countries)92**
Arm 2 Arm, Dominican Republic (42) & Maryknoll, Haiti (50) – In order to assure delivery to these countries, these books were hand-carried by BTM volunteers. Other countries receiving books in the past were **Costa Rica, Cuba, Honduras, Iraq, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Tanzania & Uganda**.

E. PRESENTATIONS ABOUT BOOKS TO DREAMS, SPECIAL EVENTS, MEDIA COVERAGE AND AWARDS:

BTD Guest Speaking:

- Guest Speaker* at **New London County Retired Teachers Association**, thank you **HEATHER YARNELL**
- Guest Speaker* at meeting of **Alpha Delta Kappa Epsilon**, international honorary organization of women educators, Wethersfield, thank you **ELLEN REPAY**
 *BTD Director, Miriam Stannard Epstein

News Coverage:

- **Manchester Life** front page and article featured *Books to Dreams*. Thanks to **BETSY WITTEMAN, MIKE BRIOTTA & JEFF KEILY**, October, 2008
- **Willimantic Victorian Neighborhood Association (WVNA) Newsletter** article about Books to Dreams called "A Season for Giving". Thanks to **BOB HORROCKS**, December, 2008.

Articles available on the *Books to Dreams* website, www.bookstodreams.org

Other:

- Storytelling by BTD Director at **Manchester Town-wide Literacy Night** at **Bennet School**, sponsored by **Highland Park School PTA**
- BTD Director invited to **Simsbury Woman's Club** annual luncheon recognition for non-profits

**F. VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS, AND ASSISTANCE – *THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH-
THE PROGRAM WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!***

VOLUNTEERS

JOANNE BEDARD, Ellington, **PHIL SAWYER**, Glastonbury, **LIZ THORNTON**, Bolton, **TARA ARNER**, Manchester, **LINDA PAQUETTE**, South Windsor, **JOAN DOWER**, Manchester, **JAN DAMIANO**, Manchester, **RAMONA LaFRANCE**, Manchester, **GABRIELLE & MARY CLAIRE COMEAU**, Manchester, **BRIAN BEDARD**, Colchester, & **BARBARA HAMILTON**, Manchester. **MARY COX**, Windham, **PAT DUBIEL**, Columbia, **JANET HAINES**, Windham, **DEE & DALE HAMMON**, Windham, **AMY HENRY**, Oakdale, **SUE MOON**, Woodstock, **ANNETTE MURPHY**, Mansfield Center, **LUZELLA ROOS**, South Windham, **BRENDA ROSEN**, South Windham, volunteered at the **Holy Family Home and Shelter** for the **BTD literacy** programs. (Also **PAMELA HORROCKS** & **NORENE SWEET**).

BOOKS and/or READING BUDDY DONATIONS

(B) = BOOKS, (RB) = READING BUDDIES, (D) = DELIVERED

CHARLEEN KNAPP, Chapter 5, PEO, Mansfield Center (B, D); **KATHY LAVIGNE**, Enfield, in memory of her son **MATTHEW JOSEPH** (B, D); **KELLI TOSON & GABRIELLA**, Suffield (NEW B, D), books instead of birthday presents for Gabriella; **DEE HAMMON & Adult Fellowship**, First Congregational Church, Windham (B, D); **Dawn Publications**, Nevada City, CA, (118 NEW B!, D); **AIMEE LaFRANCE & Center for Service Learning – Manchester Recreation Department Summer Camp** (B, D); **SUE MOON**, Woodstock (B, D); **WENDY LEVINBOOK, M.D.**, West Hartford (B, D); **COLLEEN JAMES**, Windsor (B, D); **PAMELA REICHEL**, Textron Financial Corporation, Glastonbury (B, D); **NANCY SIMONDS**, South Windsor (RB,D); **CARRIE ASKLAR**, Marlborough, (B, D); **Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma**, (B, D); **JIM & LINDA HAMMON**, Enfield (RB, D); **DIANE BELLING**, Mansfield Center (RB, D); **TINA & ALYSSA LAMBERT**, Mansfield Center (RB, D); **ELIZABETH KING**, South Windsor (B, D); **KEVIN & LYNNE FERRIGNO**, Manchester (B, D); **LEON & KATHY VIZZARI**, **Visible Changes**, owners, staff & clients, Old Greenwich (NEW B!, D) – Thank you to **BETH MAGUIRE & PAT ESTILL**, Spec. Proj. Dir., **CT Comm. on Children**, **KATHLEEN DARGAN**, owner of **Scissor Kids**, her staff & clients, Glastonbury (B); **MARIE WEBER**, Coventry (B, RB, D); **ALBERTA CULLEY**, Avon (NEW B!, D); **MIRIAM & HOWARD EPSTEIN**, Manchester (B, D); **MIKE BOSCARINO**, Columbia, & **ROSE & JOE FOWLER**, Coventry (B); **PHYLLIS L. TILDES**, **Award Winning Children's Author**, Savannah, GA (NEW! Autographed B, D); **JACK & DENISE DUPELL**, Manchester (NEW B!, D); **BRENDA ROSEN**, South Windham (NEW B!, RB, D); **MARY & DON COX**, Windham (B, D); **LAURA ZAGLIO**, **Mystic Meditation Group**, Mystic (B, RB, D); **WALLACE & CISSY LEIFER**, Pacific Palisades, CA (RB, D); **MARY BETH HOFFMAN**, **Center Nursery School**, Manchester (NEW B!, D); **Uptown Consignment**, South Windsor (B); **TRICIA GRENIER**, Vernon (NEW !B, D); **CAMERON RICHARDSON**, Manchester (NEW RB!, D); **MEGAN MURPHY**, **MICHAELA HANJACK**, **Girl Scout Troop #10340**, Suffield (B, D); **HEATHER HATCH**, Coventry (B, D); **JANET DeCAROLIS**, North Franklin (B, D); **KELLY & ETHAN COX**, Manchester, **Staff Capitol Insurance Companies**, **SANDRA DRAKE**, **Capitol Indemnity Corp.**, **KRISTEN ST. JOHN**, **Hartford Assoc. of Insurance Women** (B, D); **Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma** (B, D); **CINDY KOWALCZUK**, Glastonbury (B, D); **JANE LEWIS**, South Windsor (B, D); **LINDA PAQUETTE**, South Windsor (B, D); **VICKI MERRIAM**, R.E. Dir., **Students & Families of UUS:E**, Manchester (B,D); **Pleasant Valley School Staff**, **Students & Families**, **KELLY BURKE**, **Reading Consultant**, South Windsor (B!); **Retired Teachers Assoc. of Manchester**, **CHERI BERTUS**, Manchester (B, D); **SEAN COX & FAMILY**, Mansfield Center (B,D); **RAMONA LaFRANCE**, Manchester (RB, D).

OTHER DONATIONS –

TARA ARNER of Manchester, donated videos; **TRICIA GRENIER** of Vernon donated cartons, **HEIDI VAN FLATERN** of Willimantic made and donated pillow pals; **BRENDA ROSEN**, South Windham donated wooden puzzles and learning materials; **BARBARA DENNIS** of Middlebury donated hygiene products; **GEORGE TORELLO & KIM LANGLEY, Torello Engineers**, Essex, printed BTM literature, thank you very much!.

G. SPECIAL THANKS TO BOARD MEMBERS, BUSINESS MANAGER & OTHERS

Books to Dreams, Inc. Board Members for 2007-08 are: **Joan Dower** of Manchester (Chairman), **Pat Dubiel** of Columbia (Vice Chairman), **Pamela Horrocks** of Willimantic (Secretary) & **Linda Clark** of Enfield (Treasurer), & **Howard Epstein** of Manchester (Business Manager). Along with these important people, I would like to thank all of the wonderful **volunteers and contributors**, from all over Connecticut and other states, who have been dedicated to the program, in some cases, for years. This program would not exist if it were not for the hundreds of individuals, businesses, religious organizations, schools, and organizations that have volunteered, donated and contributed to Books to Dreams, Inc. these past **thirteen** years. I am indebted to you all and I thank you. We need your book and monetary donations more than ever, as we go in our new direction assisting Head Start programs..

Linda & Evelyn Clark of **Lovable Huggables** have provided BTM with a unique donation all of these years. They have donated over **22,400** reading buddies that they have processed, labeled and delivered to the BTM headquarters. Reading buddies are a popular and highly motivational tool used to encourage children in the BTM program to read. Thank you both so very much.

I am most grateful to the thousands of inspiring and brave **children** who continue to read in spite of all that they have to overcome in their lives.

All of the children’s books, given through the Books to Dreams, Inc. program, were either donated or purchased from monetary donations.

Thank you EVERYONE – You *all* have been an amazing blessing for these children!

In peace,

Miriam Stannard Epstein

Miriam Stannard Epstein, director

Howard Epstein

Howard Epstein, business manager

We hope you enjoy this annual report. To help save BTM resources, when through reading, please save or pass on to others. NEW books & monetary donations are always needed and greatly appreciated. BTM is a 501c(3) non-profit corporation.



“Just like the butterfly, we all go through many changes before we are free to fly.” M.E.

H. BOOKS TO DREAMS, INC. FUNDING

July 2008 through June 2009

Adult Fellowship - First Congregational Church, Windham	\$75.00
The Ahearn Family Foundation	\$1,000.00
Alpha Delta Kappa Epsilon, Waterbury	\$290.00
Alpha Delta Kappa Alpha, Newington	\$100.00
Tara & Michael Arner (Katie Arner, \$1.00)	\$21.00
BTD Holy Family Volunteers	\$120.00
Paige & Will Calhoun	\$75.00
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union, Groton - Lyndsey (& Amy) Henry	\$538.00
CIVITAN Club of Simsbury & the Farmington Valley, Inc.	\$100.00
Dan, Janet, Gabrielle & Mary Claire Comeau	\$540.00
Roland & Janet DeCarolis	\$75.00
Irene & Roger Dionne	\$50.00
Miriam & Howard Epstein	\$406.13
Connie Gilles	\$50.00
Dee & Dale Hammon	\$50.00
Linda Hence	\$50.00
Highland Park School P.T.A.	\$50.00
Horace Porter School - Panther Players - Janet Stice	\$300.00
Pamela & Bob Horrocks	\$100.00
David & Billie Kapp	\$150.00
David & Billie Kapp (Nora Stevens' birthday)	\$100.00
Jeanne Kornrich	\$91.30
Roxanne McAlvany	\$150.00
Meghan Messier	\$100.00
Bobbi Miller	\$50.00
Mary Lee Morrison & William Upholt	\$50.00
Mystic Meditation Group - Laura Zaglio	\$210.00
New London County Retired Teachers Association	\$100.00
Ellen & Hayden O'Coin Morse	\$10.00
Cynthia Palmer (in honor of Mystic & Noank library staff)	\$50.00
Private Foundation	\$2,000.00
Brenda & Sid Rosen	\$25.00
Phil & Fred Sawyer	\$50.00
Amy & Bob Silliman	\$400.00
Simsbury Woman's Club	\$100.00
Sukhothai Restaurant, Manchester - Owners, Gai & Sam	\$50.00
Chuck Swallow	\$500.00
Tolland Intermediate School - Mrs. Lemelin's class	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$8,276.43

BOOKS TO DREAMS, Inc.
Financial Statement - Fiscal Year 7/1/2008-6/30/2009
Howard Epstein, Business Manager

Brought Forward from 2007-2008

Book Grants

Community Foundation \$64.75
 Knox Foundation \$6.05

Other Program Funds \$70.80
 \$1,764.18
TOTAL CARRYOVER: **\$1,834.98**

INCOME

Grants and Donations \$8,276.43
 Interest \$4.29
 Misc. \$0.00

TOTAL INCOME: \$8,280.72

TOTAL FUNDS: \$10,115.70

EXPENDITURES (all details available)

	Program	Spec. Funds	Book Grants	Totals
Books	\$3,296.91		\$2,359.80	\$5,656.71
Postage	\$262.65	\$0.00		\$262.65
Office Supplies	\$53.83			\$53.83
School Supplies	\$0.00	\$85.99		\$85.99
Reimbursed Expenses**	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
Web Domain Renewal	\$70.00			\$70.00
Incorp. And other Fees	\$31.94			\$31.94
TOTALS	\$5,715.33	\$85.99	\$2,359.80	\$8,161.12

**Including Utilities and Car mileage

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: **(\$8,161.12)**

BALANCE

\$1,954.58

REMAINING FUNDS

encumbered \$0.00

CURRENT BANK BALANCE*

\$1,954.58

* distribution	
General Program Funds	\$1,954.58
Donations for Books	\$0.00
Total	\$1,954.58