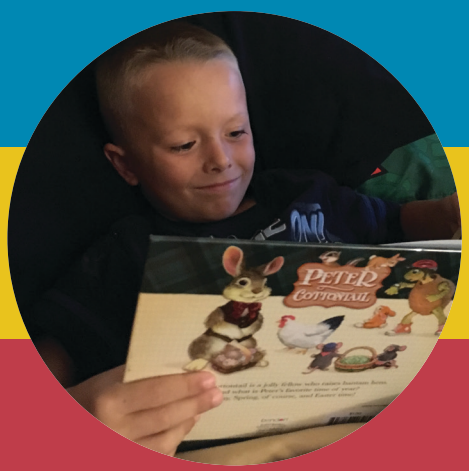


2018 ANNUAL REPORT

WOMEN'S STORYBOOK PROJECT OF TEXAS

Our Mission

Connecting children with their incarcerated moms through the joy of literature.

Women's Storybook Project

Where We Serve

Connecting Families

Board of Directors

Judith Dullnig | *President & Founder*
Nancy Botkin | *Vice President & Retired Warden at Texas Department of Criminal Justice*
Linda Cox, PhD | *Secretary*
David Graham | *Treasurer*
Leonard Chaikind | *Advisor*
Jill González | *Executive Director*
Sun Connor | *Operations Manager*

WSP Leadership

Ellen Balthazar | *Strategic Planning*
Dugie Graham | *Volunteer Scheduling*
Lisa Holleran, PhD | *Program Evaluation & Development*
Wynona Montgomery, Cynthia Winer | *Volunteer Coordination*
Jackquline Berner, Mona Carver, Jeri Saper | *Technology*
Scott Thompson | *Accounting Support*
Kim Weidmann | *Book Donation Management, Intern Advising*

Prison Team Leadership: Jan Abbey, Margene Beckham, Vickie Blumhagen, Linda Carey, Judy Darnell, Laura Edge, Ean Fulks, Kelly Finkel, Cathy Foster, Megan Hedgecock, Charlene Ingram, Kim Lusero, Betsy McCraine, Karen McMahon, Lynne Riley, Pat Roberts, Linda Robertson, Debra Taylor, Laura Smith-Traverso, Crystal Wade, Pat Yeargain

A note from Judith

It was another wonderful year for Women's Storybook Project of Texas! As our dedicated volunteers continued to help connect children with their incarcerated mothers, many additional, exciting things happened:

- WSP has a new office. After learning that the area of our previous office had been rezoned, a board member helped us find a new home.
- We had a successful WSP 2nd Annual Fundraising Luncheon. Our guest speakers were a mother who had been in our program and her daughter, along with Melodye Nelson, TDCJ Regional District Leader.
- We were fortunate to receive additional awards and media exposure in 2018:
  - a 4th Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Award
  - Texas Center for the Book 2018 Literacy Award
  - Articles in Woman's Day Magazine and Austin Woman Magazine
  - a vimeo produced by Dallas WFAA TV which was aired on several stations
- WSP has attained the goal of hiring a full-time, paid Executive Director, Jill González. I'm so pleased that Jill will be leading this special program into the future.

Of course, we wouldn't be where we are without you, our volunteers and supporters! I hope you enjoy reading our annual report and seeing our accomplishments, and I'm very grateful for your help with "Turning Pages... Turning Lives".

Warm regards,

Judith

A note from Jill

I am thrilled to come on board as the Executive Director for Women's Storybook Project! I joined the team in September and have been warmly received by staff, volunteers and board members. The dedication to the mission here is inspiring and the work is joyful.

Highlights of my first four months included meeting WSP team leaders, accepting the Texas Center for the Book Literacy Award on behalf of Storybook Project, the Reader's Circle Reception and recognizing volunteers as Stars at the Trail at the Trail of Lights.

Our future is bright. We are moving forward with implementing new technology, opening units and planning for stable and strategic growth. We'll keep you posted as we progress! Thank you all for your continued support. I too, am grateful for all you share with Women's Storybook Project.

Most sincerely,

Jill

Impact

Did you know? Women's Storybook Project celebrated its 15th anniversary.

We've come a long way and made a difference in Austin, Texas and beyond!

In 2018

Mothers who recorded stories

1,646

Books/recordings mailed to children

3,591

Volunteer hours

8,548

From 2003 – 2018

18,158

37,716

55,442

WSP began service in the Hilltop Unit in 2003. Since that time, we have grown to serve:

2003 Lane Murray Unit
2006 Hilltop Unit (restart)
2007 Woodman State Jail
2008 Mountain View
2009 Plane State Jail
2010 Henley State Jail
2016 San Saba Transfer Facility
2016 Lockhart Correctional Facility
2017 Hobby Unit

Storybook Project Highlights

2018 brought growth, change, exposure and accolades. We were proud to share our story and invite friends to join us on our journey.

A most notable change, a **change of address** happened on March 1, 2018. We now reside at 5524 Bee Caves Road, Building M, Suite 131, Austin, TX 78746. Please stop by and say hello!

Spurred on by assistance from Katy Sloan-Mitchell and her team at Google, WSP started a **pilot program** to send children a link to an mp3 file instead of a cd. Jeri Saper and Mona Carver have been instrumental to this process.

Our volunteer base continues to grow and in 2018 we added two multi-generational groups to our team. Both **Generation Serve** and **Austin Allies** provide opportunities for families to volunteer together.

Jill González joined WSP in September as our **Executive Director**. Sun Connor became the full-time **Operations Manager.**

Traditional media took note of Women's Storybook Project. We were profiled by **WFAA** in Dallas in April and **Women's Day Magazine** in September. The stories brought calls, emails and letters from folks wondering how they could help us out and even start their own storybook type program.

Modern media has taken a shine to Storybook, too. Laura Summerhill and Judith are expert podcast guests. **Modern Mrs. Darcy** and **Connect Kindness** featured WSP in August and September respectively. **Freethink**, a video news service profiled us in October.

Volunteer Debra Taylor, and Women's Storybook Project with her were awarded the **Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Award** (our 4th!) in August. Congratulations Debra!

Judith was honored to be the guest speaker at the inaugural **Windham School District Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** in November in Huntsville. Volunteers from Houston and Austin were able to attend.

Appreciation

The Texas Center for the Book presented WSP with its 2018 Literacy Award on October 25th. "The purpose of this award is to highlight a winning organization while promoting a greater appreciation of literacy efforts statewide," said coordinator Rebekah Manley. "The judges recognized how Women's Storybook Project of Texas utilizes books as a powerful connector and encourages reading across generations." $1,000 was awarded to Storybook for continuation of our work.

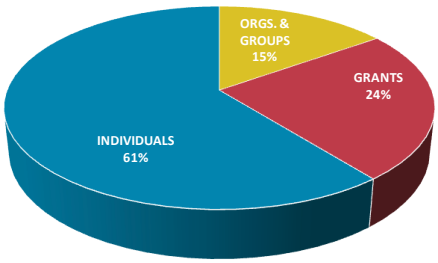
> "Thank you for giving me this opportunity to give something back to my children while I am incarcerated. I hope that you will continue to do this because it helps us women to be mothers even though we are not present. Thank you so much.
>
> – An incarcerated mom

In recognition of the service given by the volunteers of Women's Storybook Project, the Trail of Lights Foundation selected our group as one of the **2018 Stars at the Trail**.

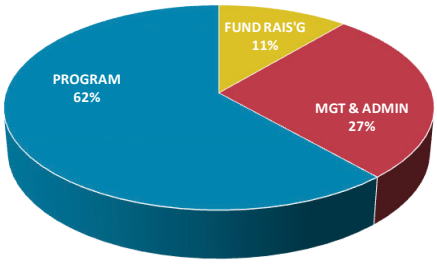
On December 4th, close to 100 Women's Storybook Project volunteers and their family members boarded two buses and were treated to a V.I.P. experience at the Trail of Lights. Highlights included cocoa and cookies in our very own hospitality tent, a Ferris wheel or carousel ride and an evening without the regular trail crowds. It was a fantastic evening and so well deserved. We hope to do it again!

2018 Financials

REVENUE
$222,000



EXPENDITURE
$206,800



Storybook outreach efforts reap success and foster growth.

Our second annual fundraising luncheon brought over 200 new friends to the table and raised over $101,000 in pledges over the next three years.

A successful annual fund drive raised $13,600 for essential expenses such as salaries and supplies.

Chiefly for program costs, computers and capacity building; we received $51,300 in grant income in 2018. (Grantors are listed in donor acknowledgements)

For the fifth year, our biggest fan and in-kind donor, Besher Garcia organized an in-store event at BookPeople. In addition to collecting books, he used his amazing tap dance skills to raise funds for WSP. For $30.00, Besher tap danced to any requested song! He raised over $300.00 that night. Thank you Besher!

In the twelfth year, the Barnes and Noble Book Drive brought in over 650 books valued at over $5,000. Many thanks to all the amazing volunteers who greeted customers, the staff at the Sunset Valley store and Emilie Crimmins for organizing it all!

*The complete financial statements for Women's Storybook Project can be obtained by requesting a copy at 512-861-5110.

Gratitude

Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and treasures with WSP.

Financial Supporters

Support received through application process

Reader's Circle
Pulitzer Partner
($5,000 for 3 years)
David and Dugie Graham
Jon and Judith Dullnig
Kathleen and Dick Hanson
Ann McEldowney

"Best Seller" Partner
($2,500 for 3 years)
Ellen Balthazar

"Literary" Partner
($1,000 for 3 years)
Vickie Blumhagen
Amber Carden
Linda Cox
Judy Darnell
Richard and Shannon Egan
Mary Nell Frucella
Meta Butler Hunt
Brenda Keillor
Linda Messer
Karen Preis
Sam and Melinda Sparks
Michelle Strawn
Kim Weidmann

Genre ($10,000+)
Grant Me the Wisdom Foundation
Lola Wright Foundation
Shield-Ayres Foundation

Anthology ($5,000-$9,999)
The Trull Foundation
The Ray and Roberta Whitfield Living Trust
Westlake United Methodist Church
Betty J. Woods

Series ($2,500-$3,999)
St. Matthew's Episcopal
St. Luke's Episcopal
Marty Loeber
Parker and Paula Jameson
Besher Garcia*

Book ($1,000-$2,499)
Margene Beckham
Charles and Grace Bonner
Caring Friends, Inc
Griffin Middle School PTA
Norma McCauley
Katy Sloan Mitchell
Scott and Lori Murphy Gratitude Fund
Carolyn Patrick
Justin Paul Foundation
Pan American Round Table of Austin
St. John's United Methidist Church
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sun City Texas Community Association
TX State Library and Archives Commission

Chapter ($500–$999)
AAUW - Georgetown Chapter
Arnold and Ida Bullman
Bergan Casey
Leonard and Eleanor Chaikind
Tricia Chio
Conduent Foundation
Robert and Peggy Davis
Ryan and Sara Garcia
Grace Episcopal Church
Patsy Graham
Susan Landers
Margaret Meek
Montgomery County Book Festival
Allie Townshend Peña
Thomas and Anne Rioux
Rose Roberts
Rhoda Silverberg
Lisa Van Cleef

Paragraph ($250–$499)
Carol Adams
Mary Aldrich
Pilot Club of Baytown
Beta Tau Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma
Nancy Botkin
Linda Shelton Chapman
Bluebonnet Hills Christian Church
Lynn Cohagen
Emilie Crimmins
Jennifer Deen
Rev. Beth Fain
Kelly Finkel
Jenny Hassibi
Literati Books Inc.
Gail Massad
Patricia Newton
Anthony and Susan Orum
John and Dixie Paulos
Susan Pekoe
Susan Robertson
Lydia Soldano
Crystal Wade
Stephen and Suzette Wavro
Tina Williams
Rebecca Yohe

Sentence ($100–$249)
Pamela Akins
Kay Allen
James Austin
Traci and Charles Baldwin
Kathy Balsamo
Carol Beckley
Ellen Jane Bradley
Sarah E. Campbell
Joe and Laura Campos
Donna Carville
George Cato
Cedar Park United Methodist Church
Kay Craven
Charles Cresswell
Jamie Dickens
Liz Diebold
Terri Dula
Jean Durkee
Mary Edwards
Patricia Eitel
Carrie Ann Finch
Diana Flannery
Grace Fleming
Elizabeth Franke
Friends Meeting of Austin
Deanna Fuger
Patricia Gallagher
Gamma Nu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma
Richard Gardner
Guillermo Gonzalez
Bethany Grimm
Anna Lee Haddox
Hugh Hall
Heart of Texas Literati Group

Kim Houston
Janice Hughes
Janet Ingram
Margaret Kahn
Donald and Kaye Kelley
Courtney Kinsey
Cynthia Kosub
Daniel Kruger
Anna Lane
Leander United Methodist Women
Alice Marsel
Ferryn Martin
John and Nancy Masterson
Rene Mattoon
Rowena McKee
Leland Miller
Randy and Mary Morgan
Annemarie and Ernest Mudd
Kirsten Nelson
Linda Noy
George Oswald
Martha Paull
Mark and Pam Penick
Eileen Pestorius
Marie Peterek
Rebecca Pirkle
Karen Pope
Raezel Poplawski
Pamela Roach
Debbie Roberson
Pat Roberts
Donna Robinson
Kathryn Ross
Salado Area Republican Women
Cynthia Sarles
Catherine Schuelke
Donna Shipley
Laura Smith
Rosemary Snow
Nancy Snyder
South Austin Rotary
St. Mark's United Methodist Women
Gayle Stallings
Dr. Suzanne C. Stege
Jan Stephens
Sheryl Streder-Becker
Ann Teich
Laura Lynn Thomas
Patty Thomas
Diane Tyler
Margaret Webb
Sarah Sue Weir
Carla Wilkenfeld
Nancy Williams
Blythe Wilson
Women's Club of Baytown Texas
Gay and Larry Wood

Word ($5-$99)

Donna Irene Abramov
Susan Adler
Carla Aguilar
Margie Stewart Alford
Patricia Russell Allen
Audrey Alpers
Doris Anderson
Kenneth Anderson
Jill Bacon
Jennifer Ballow
Peggy Beaver
Josh Beckham
Britt Behrens
Bridgette Beinecke
Barbara Beroll
Carol Birdsell
Sue Ann Borel
Sheryl Bowen
Diane Brewer
Jeanine Brim
Gay Brown
Bonnie Buchholtz
Kristiana Butler
Hannah Byrd
Shelley Renee Carpentier
Mona Carver
Richard and Mary Petre Coyle
Elizabeth Culatta
Kathleen Kay Cunningham
Delta Xi of Beta Sigma Phi
Mariana Denson
Andrea Doering
Bonnie Dyer
Margaret Ehrlich
Stacy Ehrlich
Elisabeth Ellis
Donna Ellis
Gray Fadden
Renee Fleishman
Jason Ford
Esther Ford
Dorothy McGuire Foster
Judy Fox
Michelle Fox
Susan Fredine
John Gangstad
Donna Gelfman
Susan Glover
Linda and Stu Goldsmith
Mindy Gomillion
Hollie Harris Gordon
Marianne Greyer
Cynthia Hawks
Marilyn Heineman
Kathy Henderson
Alegria Hibbetts
Judith Howell
Delia Huffman
Donna Hulsey
Shantheri Jayakumar
Deirdre Jenkin
Chris Jessee
Pamela Keefe
Anne Keene
Linda Kemp
Courtney Kinsey
Enid Libster
Bobbie Lilljedahl
Patty Loose
Kathleen Manatt
Harold Martin
Dale B Martin
Kelly Martin
Betsy McCraine
Melissa McDowell
Fernando Medina
Colleen Mehner
Amber Meinzer
Shannon Mercer
Glenda Miller
Jill Miller
Madison Montague
Wynona Montgomery
Morris Moore
James and Karen Morter
Dabney Moxham
Suzanne Newberg
Barbara Noblin
Mary E. Perkins
Ronald Phillips
Susan Pintchovski
Peggy B. Point
Joyce Pulich
Sonja Pyne
Alecia Rauch
Patsy Rider

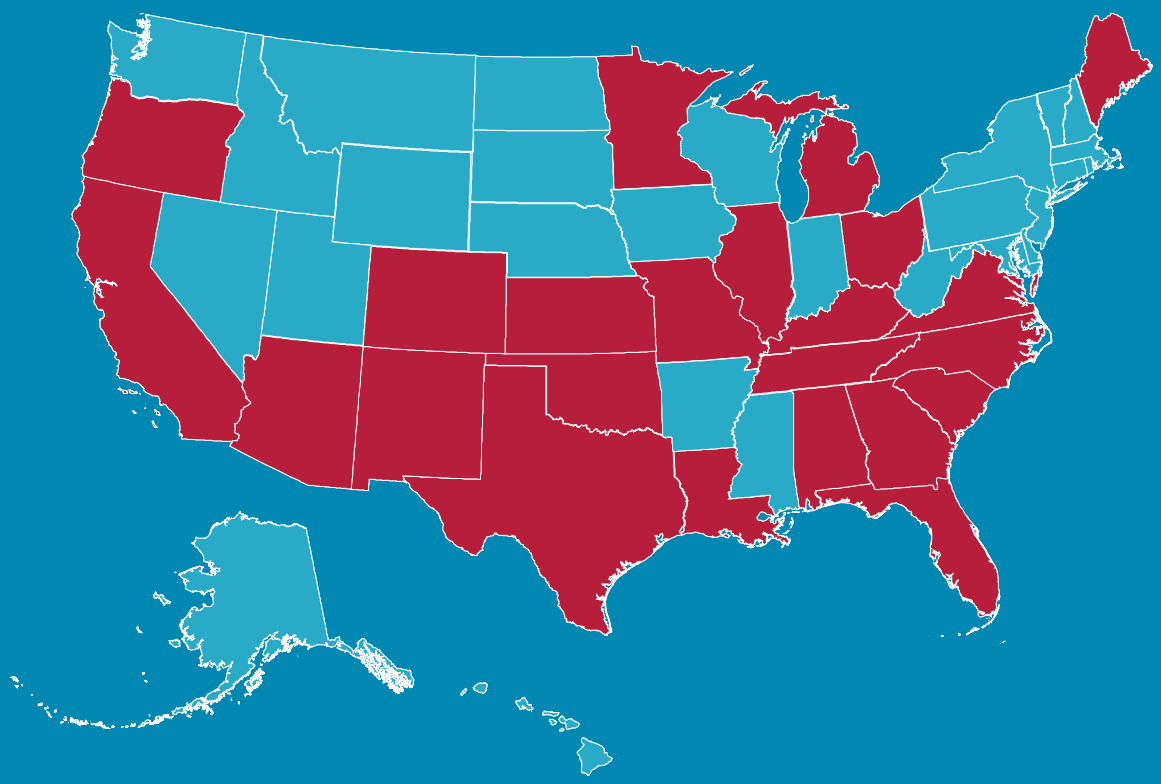
Jeri Saper
Stephanie DeBerry Savage
Carol Schlueter
Toni Smith Scott
Stephanie Seiler
Arnold and Susan Slive
Octavia Smith
Geoffrey Sparks
Carol Stansbury
Lynn Stockman
Logan Sullivan
Bertha Underhill
Caroline Viviano
Tamara Voynick
Lisa Wagner
Lisa Walker
Kaethe Ward
Carol Watts
Lynda West
Tracy Weston
Lyn Whitcomb
Diana Whiteside
Andrea Williams
Mark Williams
Martha Brooks Wynn
Patricia Yeargain

In-Kind Donors

Amy's Ice Cream's
Anonymous
Barnes and Noble
Donna Benson-Chan
Roger and Mary Ellen Borgelt
BookPeople
BookSpring
Dorothy Coates-Poole
Conduent Employees
Sun Connor
Liz Davis
Darlene Denton
Jamie Dickens
Diva Dawgs and Bulldog Bros
Jon & Judith Dullnig
Besher Garcia
Danny and Jill Gonzalez
Grace Episcopal families
David & Dugie Graham
Kathleen and Dick Hanson
Tiffany Harrison-Paynter
Paula Holle
Patrice Karst
Kidz Helping Kidz
Lake Austin City Park Book Club
Literati Inc.
Love, Tito's
Glenda Marquez
Olivia Moreno
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Sara Petrey
Rotary E-Club of District 5870
Jeri and Paul Saper
Scholastic Books
Marshall & Susan Sprigg
Michelle Strawn
Buff Strickland
Deborah Summers
Texas Inmates and Families Association
Kathy Thornton,RSM
Woodlands Christian Academy

> “Storybook Ladies,
>
> This program has made a wonderful impact on me as well as on my children, For me, it gives me a way to choose a book, read it to my children and communicate feelings to them that I can’t normally do on paper, For my kids, it gives them a way to hear my voice whenever they want, and to read along with me. It also encourages them to read and that’s important because I love to read too. Thank you so much for this. It’s a blessing and a treasure.
>
> – -incarcerated mother

It's a small idea, with a big impact. In 2018, we mailed books and recordings to children in 108 Texas counties and 23 states across America.



"Thank you for funding such an amazing project! My grandchildren were so happy to receive such a thoughtful gift from Mom. They heard her voice and were happy beyond words, especially because this is a gift that keeps giving. My nine-year old granddaughter who loves books said she would listen to her CD every night before bedtime. The three-year-old couldn't believe he was hearing Mom reading to him. What a blessing. Many thanks and blessings to all who made this gift possible. "

– Caregiver

"Women at Storybook,

Thank you again for what you do to keep me connected to my kids. Being here at Mt. View in Gatesville, I am far from home and don't get to see my kids regularly. Doing storybook means a lot to me and my kids. They look forward to it every month. And are now making requests! I've enclosed a donation to help with it on the outside of these walls. Please look for Amelia Bedelia books stage 4. My daughter loves them! May your work be blessed abundantly.

Thank You!

Alecia - incarcerated mom and donor

You Can Support Storybook!

- Volunteer in a prison.
- Volunteer to make labels and/or mail packages.
- Volunteer in the office.
- Host an “Open Book Party” to tell your friends about WSP.
- Invite Judith or Jill to speak to your club or group.
- Donate online.
- Connect WSP with your employer matching or corporate sponsor program.
- Follow us on social media: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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