

# Reading Action Program

## Participant Workbook

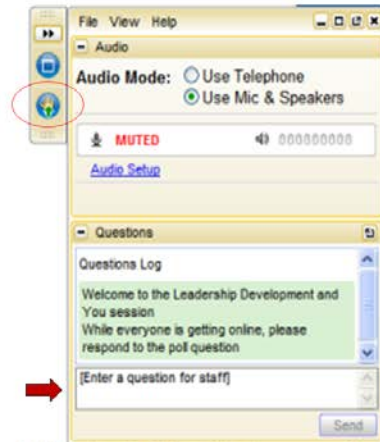
*2013-14 Webinar*



## Asking Questions

Using the control panel:

1. Raise your hand using the icon during the Q & A segment
2. Type your question in the “Questions” box during the presentation



## Webinar Recording



This webinar is being **recorded** and will be available online.

*The recording, PowerPoint presentation, and workbook will be shared.*



## Webinar Background

In this webinar we will share ideas, stories, and best practices on developing education and literacy related service projects. We will also feature some of our U.S. literacy partners who will be presenting information on how Lions can partner with them on a local level.

*The Reading Action Program is a 10-year commitment to increasing reading and literacy rates. It's a call to action for every Lions club around the world to organize service projects and activities that underscore the importance of reading and address specific needs related to illiteracy within their own community.*

### Featuring Speakers from our U.S. Literacy Partners:



**The Hadley School  
for the Blind**



Reading Is  
Fundamental

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## Session Agenda

- Reading Action Program Overview
- Activity Planning Resources
- Panel Session
  - Reading is Fundamental
  - USO
  - Hadley School for the Blind
- Discussion Session/Q&A

## Presenters

- **Jennifer Katz**, *Director of Government Relations and Community Outreach, Reading is Fundamental*
- **Tracy Tucker**, *Director of Fundraising and Development, USO*
- **Dawn Turco**, *Senior Vice President, The Hadley School for the Blind*

## Global Literacy

*In the presentation we list some global literacy statistics that are affecting people worldwide. In the space below please share some of the education needs in your community:*

1.

2.

3.

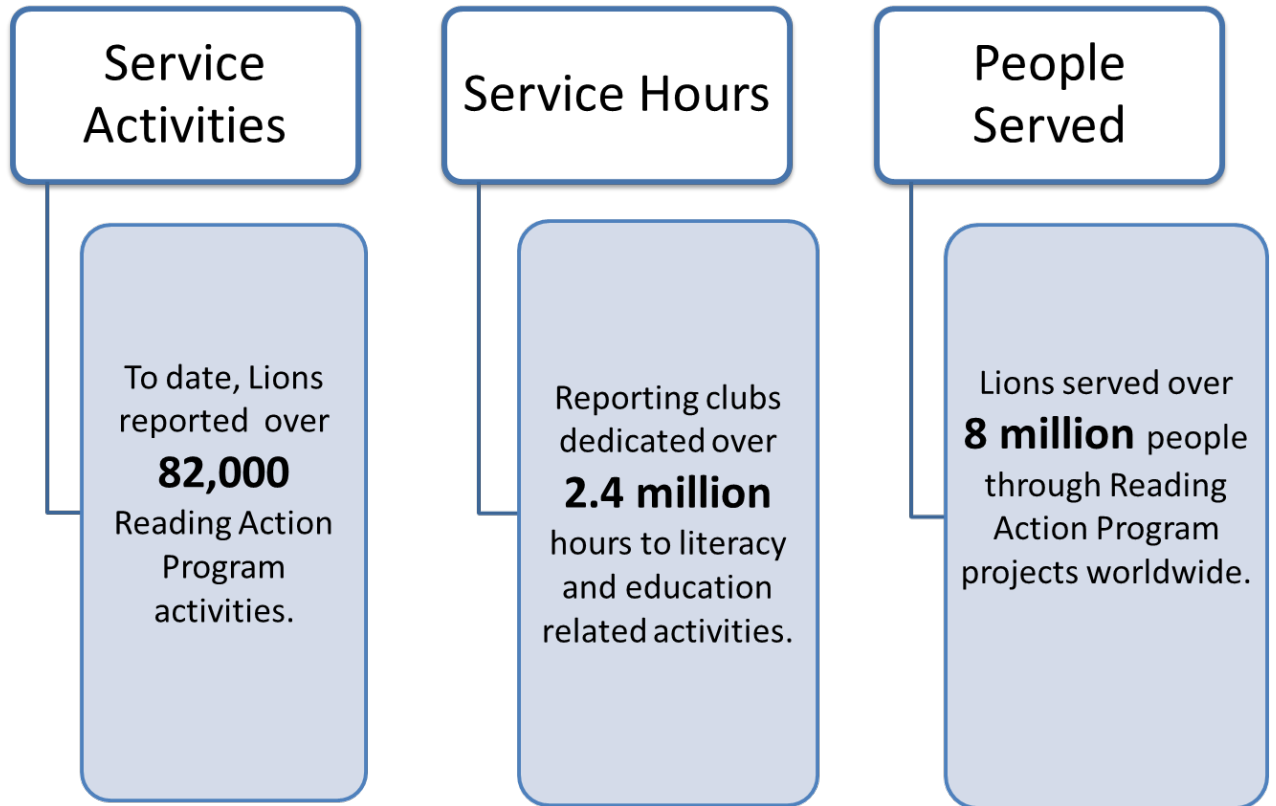
4.

5.

6.

7.

## Your Global Impact



## Your Local Impact

*In the presentation we list the impact of Lions service worldwide. In the space below please share your clubs local impact:*

- Education/literacy related service projects
  - Number of Service activities:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Number of Service Hours
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Number of People Served

## Ways you can help

Here are some ways that you and your club can help promote literacy and education in your community:

- Serve as a volunteer reader
- Learn and share the importance of Braille literacy
- Help provide books to your local school or library
- Organize a book drive for military children

*Share some additional project ideas in the space below:*



## Reading Action Program Resources

- Call to Action Flyer
- Project Idea Sheet
- Planning Guide
- Community Needs Assessment
- Sample Press Release
- Bookmarks
- Diploma
- Partners





Lions Clubs International

## READING ACTION PROGRAM



Reading Is  
Fundamental

### Working together to provide free books to children

In many low-income neighborhoods in the U.S. there is only one book for every 300 children! A child who does not own books is at risk of being behind in school and will likely miss valuable opportunities to develop fundamental skills needed to succeed in life.

As Lions from around the world take strides to improve literacy as part of the Reading Action Program, clubs and districts in the U.S. have an important opportunity to promote the joy of reading and lifelong learning. By partnering with Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), Lions can place books in the hands of the nation's most vulnerable children.

The largest children's literacy nonprofit in the U.S., RIF focuses on providing free books and literacy resources to low-income families. By giving children the opportunity to own books, RIF inspires children to become lifelong readers and achieve their full potential. Since RIF's inception in 1966, the organization has provided 400 million free books to more than 35 million children. There are still many more children ... and more communities... to reach.

As a district, as a club, or even as individuals, Lions can make a big difference, one child and one book at a time. Here are a few ways to get involved:

#### Organize a Virtual Book Drive

RIF focuses on providing children with their very own new, high-quality books. Through strong partnerships with publishers, they can get the same books you would buy at a bookstore for a fraction of the price. Use RIF's online tools to host a virtual book drive or collect funds to buy new books for kids in need.

#### Give Books to RIF Kids

If you are interested in teaming up with a RIF program nearby, you can get exclusive access to discounts for high-quality children's books. You could also donate a collection of books in honor of a Lions club member.

#### Host a Family Reading Day

Nothing sparks the love of reading like an exciting day with free books for kids to choose and keep. You can sponsor your own Family Reading Day with a RIF program in your region and have all the tools you need to make it a success.

#### Join the Movement

RIF has launched Book People Unite, a national campaign to shine a spotlight on children's literacy. You can unite friends and family in your community to stand with RIF. Tell everyone you know to visit [www.bookpeopleunite.org](http://www.bookpeopleunite.org) to watch RIF's new PSA and declare yourself a Book Person by taking the taking a pledge. Ready to get started? Request a special action kit to help spread the word.

To explore ways your club can partner with a RIF program in your community, please contact Jennifer Katz, Director, Government Relations and Community Outreach, Reading Is Fundamental, (202)536-3484 [lions@rif.org](mailto:lions@rif.org).





Lions Clubs International

## USO LITERACY INITIATIVE



### Working Together to Support U.S. Military Children Through Reading

Lions in the U.S. have an amazing opportunity to promote reading and impact the literacy of military children. As part of the Reading Action Program Lions can support the USO and United Through Reading's Military Program by providing assistance to the children of military families.

Separation from a parent is one of life's most stressful events for children, affecting their sense of security, their relationships, and their ability to learn. As U.S. troops are asked to leave again on their third, fourth and even fifth deployments, the USO recognizes the urgent need to help the family members that are left behind. For the children of wounded, ill and injured troops the stressors of getting good grades while coping with a parent in a military hospital can be even more challenging.

That's why the USO, along with its partner United Through Reading®, offers troops stationed at forward operating bases in the United States or overseas the opportunity to read a story aloud to their child. Mom or Dad's special story time is recorded on camera, and the USO mails this priceless DVD and book home.

*"We have a two-year-old son, and this is the first time his dad has been away from us. At Christmas, he sent home a children's book and a DVD of him reading it through United Through Reading's Military Program at the USO. I can't tell you what a thrill it was for both of us. It really made our Christmas. My son watches it every night before he goes to bed," said an Army spouse.*

For young children, the book and DVD not only encourage reading but it helps them remember what a parent looks like during a long deployment.

The USO recently celebrated its 250,000 United Through Reading's Military Program recording at a USO location.

Lions can make a difference in the lives of military children. Here are some ways your club can get involved:

- **Organize a Book Drive**

Host a [book drive](#) to support United Through Reading's Military Program. Books collected for this program must stay to the [list provided](#) which is a broad list of over 100 books. Only **new** books on that list are accepted for this program.

- **Organize a Virtual Book drive**

Host an online book drive to provide personalized book and DVD packages to military children. Register your virtual book drive at <http://www.teamuso.org/Lions> Ask each club member to make a contribution online or have club members register and email friends and family asking them to support the program.

- **Adopt Your Local USO Center's Children's Reading Area**

Help your local USO Center promote reading. Provide new books, coloring books and crayons for your local USO's children's reading library.

To learn more, visit the USO Web site at [www.uso.org](http://www.uso.org) For questions about the partnership and project opportunities, contact the LCI Program Development Department at [programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org).







**The Hadley School for the Blind**

## **How Hadley and Lions Support Braille Literacy**

The Hadley School for the Blind supports the Lions Clubs International Reading Action Program with courses for individuals who want to be braille literate. These include Lions members and others who wish to learn how to read braille. Hadley is a distance education school offering tuition-free programs to thousands of students who are blind or visually impaired and their families, both nationally and internationally. The school also offers affordable continuing education courses to professionals, including Lions members.

Braille literacy courses for visually impaired learners are tuition-free and include:

- Braille Literacy 1: Tactile Readiness
- Braille Literacy 2: Learning the Alphabet
- Braille Literacy 3: Uncontracted Braille
- Braille Literacy 4: Contracted Braille
- Experience Braille Reading
- The Essentials of the Nemeth Code (mathematics)
- Using Raised Markers
- Braille Music Reading
- Braille Music Reading: Keyboard Music

Braille literacy courses for sighted individuals are mostly tuition-free and include:

- Introduction to Braille
- Contracted Braille
- Basic Nemeth Code
- Braille Teaching Methods for Adolescents and Adults
- Braille Teaching Methods for Children
- Braille and Your Baby or Toddler
- Braille Music Basics

Lions Club members are encouraged to share the above information with others in their community, refer people to Hadley's braille courses and also enroll if they are interested in learning braille themselves. For more details on these courses, visit <http://hadley.edu/braillecourses.asp>



The Hadley School for the Blind also offers "just in time" training through free webinars on topics of interest to those with vision loss, their family members, professionals in the field and Lions members. These 60 to 90 minute seminars can be accessed "live" on demand, on the go, or they can be accessed from the Hadley Web site at [www.hadley.edu](http://www.hadley.edu). Lions members are invited to listen to these webinars, either on their own or as an educational program for their Club, and invite others to access them as well.

Seminars focused on braille include:

- UEB & You: What You Need to Know About Unified English Braille
- Braille Literacy - Hadley Style
- The Keys to NLS/BARD (National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped)
- The Slate and Stylus: Braille Media's Pen and Paper
- Braille Music Technology
- All About APH (American Printing House for the Blind)
- Braille Exchange
- Fun with Braille
- The Braille Literacy Crisis
- Connecting the Dots: Celebrating the Legacy of Louis Braille
- Braille: Every Day, Every Way

Some seminars, including The Braille Literacy Crisis, are available for continuing education credit for professionals.

To see a list of archived seminars, visit <http://hadley.edu/PastSeminars.asp#2>.

# Thank you for joining us!



Please contact us at  
[programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org) and visit our  
website for more resources.

[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)