



## An Overview of the National Children's Reading Foundation **Affiliation Agreement**

### **Benefits of Affiliation:**

- The National Children's Reading Foundation will provide the **steps for starting a Chapter** of the Reading Foundation in your community.
- Affiliation saves lots of time and money by providing sample documents for starting a Foundation, i.e. By-laws, letters, agendas, strategic plan.
- Affiliation provides instant **non-profit 501(c)(3) status**, under the umbrella of the National organization. This allows your Chapter to immediately begin accepting donations and grants. Applying for 501(c)(3) status individually takes many months and at least \$5,000 in legal fees.
- Chapters have their own **web pages** on our **site** at [www.readingfoundation.org](http://www.readingfoundation.org), allowing them to easily post information pertinent to their community.
- Affiliated Chapters have **access to the national pool** of media, program ideas, and resources developed in other communities. Also monthly conference calls encourage Executive Directors to share ideas and receive training. In addition The National Children's Reading Foundation hosts a yearly conference for Executive Directors.
- Chapters have permission to use the name, procedures and concepts, consulting services, media services, copyrighted materials, web site, etc. generated by the National office.
- Chapters receive updated templates for newsletters, brochures, bookmarks, magnets, buttons, etc. in English and Spanish. Newspaper, TV and radio public service announcements (PSAs) that can be personalized to your area are available.
- National provides shared resources for acquiring new and gently used children's books, as well as information for grant writing and fund raising.
- Additional Programs: **Team Read** and **Ready for Kindergarten** are researched-based, data driven, highly successful programs you can use to expand your mission. Each program has materials and support staff.
- Affiliation protects other Chapters nationwide by assuring that each Reading Foundation represents the **same mission** and values of supporting education and families through literacy acquisition.
- Chapters share a common **mission** (unless modified and approved in writing by the National office), which is to ensure that every child is read with 20 minutes a

- day from birth and that every child reads at grade level upon completion of third grade.
- Reading Foundations are **community partnerships with public schools**. They have open membership for all area school districts. School district dues provide a key funding source. A school board member and superintendent serve on the Executive Committee.
  - Chapters agree to **share media, printed materials, and organizational resources** with other Chapters via a biannual (twice a year) report to the National office, which they will also post on their web page.
  - Chapters pay **minimal membership dues** to the National office. Initial one-time affiliation fees are \$1,450 which covers the expenses of legal incorporation and non-profit application. Yearly dues are range from \$300-\$950, depending on size.
  - Chapters agree to **legally operate** in compliance with local, state and federal law.

**For additional information:**

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**Thank you for your interest in providing  
children a strong reading foundation!**