



It's been an honor working with you to serve Maine children for 23 years. Together, we made books and reading part of growing up in Maine and fostered a lifelong love of good stories. Thank you.

- **Why did Raising Readers end?**

The program ended because of changes in funding. We're ever grateful for the Libra Foundation, who has funded this program for 23 years.

- **I'm a participating site. What will happen to my books?**

Participating sites are encouraged to continue distributing books until they run out.

- **Where can I order more books once we run out of Raising Readers books? Will they cost money?**

To see other programs that offer free books, skip down to the question *How can Maine families continue to receive books.*

The following websites provide high-quality, low-cost books to buyers.

[All About Books](#): Works with you to find the best books for the right prices so you don't have to, working directly with publishers and creating carton quantity and value packs available for easy selection and never sacrificing quality.

[First Book Marketplace](#): Provides those serving low-income communities with access to free and low-cost books and resources to help create educational equity.

[Scholastic Literacy Partnerships](#): Serves to enhance the efforts of all those working directly or indirectly with children by supporting them in getting books into the hands of children they serve.

- **What should I tell families about the program ending?**

We all believe in the importance of reading aloud. Continue to encourage families to share books every day and to seek out more books in places like their public library.

- **I'm a hospital or birth site, what does this mean for me?**

At this time, neither the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) or Reach Out and Read give books to babies through hospitals or birth centers. We do encourage you to share the importance of reading aloud with families during their stay. If DPIL is available in your area, families can sign up to receive books in the mail as soon as their baby is born.

- **How can Maine families continue to receive books?**

Families can sign up with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL). If the program is available in their area, children will receive a book in the mail each month from birth through age 5. If the



program is not yet available in their area, families can sign up to be automatically enrolled should their hometown be added. [Learn more about DPIL here](#)

Like Raising Readers, Reach Out and Read's (ROR) mission is to incorporate books into primary care through age 5. Health care sites can [visit this webpage](#) for more information about applying to ROR. If you still have questions, contact Reach Out and Read (ROR) at northeast@reachoutandread.org

As funding becomes available over the next several years, both programs plan to expand their reach in Maine.

- **Are Reach out and Read and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library taking over Raising Readers?**
No, neither program will be taking over Raising Readers. Raising Readers staff will be serving in an advisory capacity to both of these programs until Raising Readers ends in March 2024.
- **Who is funding Reach Out and Read or Dolly Parton's Imagination Library?**
To learn specifics about funding for these programs, contact them directly.

For more information, please reach out to your Raising Readers contact or email info@raisingreaders.org