



## Leading to Reading

A community project of the Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.

### LTR provides:

- **Family Reading Kits** – each with 2 new books, craft materials, and parent information
- **Hospital Kits** – a Family Reading Kit for children who are hospitalized
- **Summer Reading Kits** – Family Reading Kits for children in a migrant family day camp
- **Books for Babies Packets**– a new book for every baby born in Vassar Brothers Medical Center
- **Laundromat Libraries** – books for adults and children to borrow or keep
- **Little Libraries**-boxes placed on school grounds for families to use

**Promoting literacy through access to quality books.**

**Educating parents about the importance of reading to children.**

### LTR outreach to the community includes:

- Book Giveaways
- Family Reading Kits
- Used book giveaways for parent libraries and adults in shelters
- Community readers for Head Start pre-school classrooms
- Holiday gift wrapping – books and gifts for residents in temporary housing
- Summer Reading Programs-supply books for camps and other summer programs

Since 2004, Leading to Reading (LTR), a volunteer-run early literacy program, has donated and distributed more than **48,000** books to children from low- and moderate-income families throughout Dutchess County.

Research shows that children exposed to “print rich” environments are more likely to succeed in school.

### LTR formed strategic partnerships:

- **With community agencies:** Head Start Programs, community day care centers, afterschool programs, community centers, United Way of Dutchess Orange Region, battered women’s shelters, emergency child shelters, migrant family day camp, teachers’ associations, school districts, food pantries, Boy and Girl Scouts
- **With funding sources:** Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc., member donations, Nora Roberts Foundation, retired teachers’ associations, Stewart’s Ice Cream Shops, Roosevelt Fire Department (storage and work space)
- **With book sources:** Friends of Poughkeepsie Public Library, Lisa Libraries, Barnes & Noble, First Book, Family Reading Partnership, Scholastic FACE, teachers’ union and Child’s Play

**Support reading in your community with a Leading to Reading project!**

Contact: Betty Harrel  
Initiative.aauw.poughkeepsie@gmail.com  
Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW, Inc.  
<https://poughkeepsie-ny.aauw.net/>