

First Book-Charlotte is part of the national all-volunteer, nonprofit network of local advisory boards whose sole mission is to help children from low-income families read and own their own books.

Started by the passion of Colleen Ludington and Erin McClure, First Book-Charlotte has granted more than 500,000 brand new books to children in Mecklenburg, Union, and surrounding counties since 2006. First Book-Charlotte has quickly become a leader among other advisory boards across the nation by raising the most money each year and in turn providing the most books to children in our area.

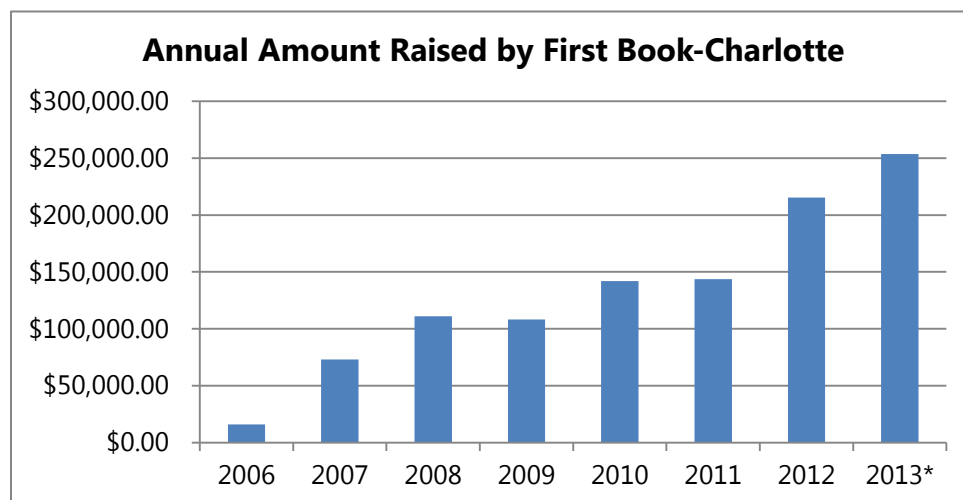


Stats:

- 80 percent of the preschools and afterschool programs serving children in need do not have a single book for the children they serve.
- In the average middle income family there are 13 books per child, in the average low income neighborhood, there is 1 book for every 300 children

Literacy is one of the best predictors of a child's future success, but a child without access to books will not have the chance to become an engaged and capable reader. The social problems of illiteracy affect every one of us and these are problems we can solve.

Through the generous support of friends, neighbors, and corporate sponsors like you, First Book-Charlotte is able to provide brand new books to economically disadvantaged children through existing literacy based programs at no cost to the program or the family. Together we can give all children the chance to become successful readers for life. It all starts with their First Book.



* Value on graph reflects amount raised through 10/13

First Book-Charlotte commits to developing and fostering relationships with recipient groups by supporting the distribution of brand new books to economically disadvantaged children. In the 2013-2014 school year we hope to grant more than 60,000 books throughout the community and aim to increase community awareness and involvement in First Book-Charlotte efforts.

Granting Cycle:

Applications are accepted each spring and fall based on the donations received each year.

Previous Recipient Groups:

A Childs Place of Charlotte, Inc.
Benton Height Elementary A+ School of Arts
Berryhill School
Bright Blessings
Bruce Iron Camp Fund
Bruns Academy
Hickory Grove Elementary School
Huntingtowne Farms Elementary
Idlewild Elementary School
Newell Elementary School
Pen Pals Book Club & Support Group for
Children of Incarcerated Parents
Pinewood Elementary School

The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club of
Greater Charlotte
Thompson Child & Family Focus
Union County Public Schools 21st Century
Community Learning Centers
United Way of Central Carolinas
Walter Bickett Education Center Union
County Public Schools
Walter G. Byers School
Western Carolina Community Action Head
Start, Early Head Start & NC Pre K
Whitewater Academy
YMCA of Greater Charlotte Y Readers and
Parents as Teaches After School Program

Fundraisers:

Annual Gala and First Book 5K

Previous Sponsors:

ARRIS, Cisco, EMC², Ericsson, Infinera,
INT2, Juniper Networks, KPMG, Oracle,
Time Warner Cable, Newell Rubbermaid



Board Members:

Linda Boone, Michelle Boudin, Frederica Coleman, Renee Golz, Jennifer LaPierre, Michael LaPierre, Colleen Ludington, Tom Matthews, Erin McClure, Michelle Murchison, Christa Newkirk, Wendi Reichard, Tom Richards, Kristen Rogers, Tony Stanford, Brittany Slagle and Marcia Stern.

The success of FirstBook-Charlotte is dependent upon the cooperation of many facets across the community.