

Reflecting on 2023 and Envisioning a Bright Future for 2024 & Beyond

As we approach the end of 2023, [Reach Out and Read Inland Empire](#) (RORIE) extends warm wishes to all our supporters, volunteers, partners, and the community! It's been an eventful year filled with milestones, impactful initiatives, and the joy of promoting early childhood literacy. Through collaborative efforts with local healthcare providers, we expanded our program's reach, now distributing over 127,000 books annually to children served at more than 100 RORIE pediatric clinics and healthcare settings this year!



(Pictured above, from left to right: Johanna Wierzbicki - On Site Coordinator, Angelica Rodriguez - Site Support, Carrie Alvarado PA-C - Medical Consultant, Paul Kalfell NP - Medical Provider, Sandy Flores Rodriguez - On Site Coordinator, Lupita Rodriguez - Site Support at the Mom & Dad Project of BVCHD)

The outstanding achievements we've accomplished are a testament to the unwavering dedication and hard work of our program members. The [Bear Valley Community Healthcare District Family Clinic](#) (BVCHD) in Big Bear Lake, CA epitomizes RORIE's excellence, showcasing how healthcare settings like these form the backbone of [Reach Out and Read](#) nationwide. They utilize the trusted bond between families and medical providers to promote early literacy and children's language skills. Providers in the program offer vital primary care to infants, toddlers, and young children, integrating reading into routine healthcare visits to foster literacy and early development. [The Mom & Dad Project at BVCHD](#) expands these efforts by not only providing anticipatory guidance, but also essential

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resources to support local families who may not have access to necessary resources otherwise.

As we conclude this year, RORIE extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us in empowering children through literacy. Your support has been invaluable in making a difference in the lives of young readers and their families. In 2024 we're excited to introduce new innovative initiatives aimed at enhancing our program's impact. We intend to continue our focus on creating relationships within our community to amplify [Early Relational Health](#) and [Building Connections Beginning at Birth](#) messaging formed from [American Academy of Pediatrics policy statements](#), increase financial opportunities to ensure program sustainability, further expand book distribution to diverse places, and create moments for like-minded partners and healthcare providers to connect and share beneficial resources to support families in our local communities.

Stay tuned for updates on expanded educational resources and partnerships that will further empower children through reading. Get involved now by sharing the [Reach Out and Read program application](#) with pediatric clinics that fit our mission, learn more about [what RORIE entails](#), like us on social media ([Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)), and [contact us directly](#) for additional ways to support early childhood literacy in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a bright start to the new year! Until next time, continue to **Reach Out and Read- Inland Empire!**

