



## West Haven Community House

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### Read Around the House Brings in More than 100 Volunteer Readers



West Haven, CT—(March 2, 2020) Each year we celebrate Read Across America Day by inviting community members to read to students in our Head Start preschool. This year, instead of just celebrating this national day of reading on just one day, we provided reading opportunities throughout all of our programs over an 8-week period and invited community members to see our programs in action. We called it “Read

Around The House” and the results were nothing short of spectacular!

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Read Around the House project for celebrating the joys of reading and promoting the importance of literacy – a skill so important to success in life.

We are grateful for the more than 100 volunteers from around the community who read to children in our Head Start classrooms and in our afterschool program, and participated in our book club with adults in our Community Connections program.



Volunteers included members of our board of directors, city departments and civic organizations, donors, friends and staff. Many area students participated as well from University of New Haven’s Chapter of the Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, Notre Dame High School Book Club and West Haven High School National Honor Society. The children in our preschool and afterschool program loved the enthusiasm and energy of these students who not only read but engaged with all of the children in games and activities.

Many new community partnerships were formed and relationships built throughout the 8 weeks. We culminated the project with our Read Across America Day celebration on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, which included lunch, a short presentation and gifts of appreciation for our volunteer readers.

Download and view our slideshow of the event [here](#).

**About the West Haven Community House:** *For more than 78 years, the Community House has been the cornerstone social service agency of West Haven with programs including Head Start, a quality school readiness program for children from income-eligible families; Children & Youth Services, a before and after-school and summer program for school-aged children; and Community Connections day and residential program for people with intellectual disabilities.*