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Need to Read Nonprofit to Giveaway 12,000 Books to Children During Annual Community Events



Orlando, FL – July 17, 2019 – Need to Read, Inc. (N2R) will donate books, backpacks, and prizes to Metro-Orlando residents during its second annual Book Giveaway, Saturday, August 3, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Simultaneously held events will take place at Rejoice in the Lord Ministries, at 8053 Gilliam Rd., and Washington Shores Church of Christ, at 2818 Orange Center Blvd., both located in the Orlando area.

N2R provides educational resources and serves as a community staple for parents living in underserved areas with children ages infant to five years old. The organization launched its inaugural event during the summer of 2018, with more than one thousand people in attendance and 5,000 books donated. See video: <https://vimeo.com/295394435>.

A VIP ribbon cutting ceremony at the Washington Shores location will help kick-off the day with a grand opening of its new Need to Read reading corner, housing more than 200 children's book titles. Invited program participants will include: Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orange County Public School Board Member "Kat" Gordon (Dist-5), and Orlando City Commissioner Regina Hill (Dist-5). Through collaborative efforts with organizations including: Universal Orlando Foundation, Orlando Utilities Commission, Dr. Phillips Foundation, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and Orange County Public Schools, plans are underway for a cumulative distribution of 12,000 books during this year's event.

N2R CEO Roderick Zak says, "Because of the lack of proper support, many children are already developmentally twelve months behind when they start school. I think it's important to reduce the challenges of low literacy as much as possible, by providing a print rich environment, and ultimately a better start in life. That's what we are doing at Need to Read." The endorsement by the African American Council of Christian Clergy (AACCC) supports the program's efforts in providing guidance for best practices in helping children to learn. As president of the AACCC, a local ecumenical network of pastors representing 50,000 parishioners, Zak is seeing a vision come to life in being able to make a difference in the lives of small children.

Families with young children are encouraged to attend the Book Giveaway events at Rejoice in the Lord and Washington Shores locations. Bicycles and prizes will be given away. There will also be music, bounce houses, food, and plenty of games for children. For additional information, visit the organization's website at www.feedtheneedtoread.com.

ABOUT NEED TO READ, INC.

Need to Read, Inc. is a volunteer managed 501© (3) nonprofit organization based at 8053 Gilliam Rd., Orlando, Florida. Created in 2018, the organization helps children age infant to five years old enhance developmental, pre-reading, and literacy skills. To obtain additional information about the Book Giveaway event, call 407.814.7643 or send an email message to info@feedtheneedtoread.com.

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