

## Wisconsin Bookworms™ Kenosha County Update

- ü The program began in Kenosha County in 1999.
- ü Volunteers read to Head Start students at the Westosha location in Wilmot and the Cesar Chavez Learning Station in Kenosha.
- ü In the 2015-2016 school year, books will be provided to 63 students at the Wilmot location and 170 students at the Kenosha location.
- ü We have distributed 13,733 books to pre-school age children in Kenosha County from 1999 to 2015.
- ü The Program is funded through individual donations, fundraising events and grants from organizations.

Previous/current supporters include:

- E KCAHCE Members
- E Kenosha Community Foundation
- E Women's Fund
- E Kenosha Lions Foundation
- E Molly D. Burns Foundation for Children
- E Rotary Foundation of Kenosha West
- E Rust-Oleum Corporation
- E Target Corporation

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.



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## Wisconsin Bookworms™



Providing Early  
Literacy Programming  
for Wisconsin  
Children

## Wisconsin Bookworms™

- Ø **Has reached 79,145 Wisconsin pre-school age children from 1998 - 2015.**
- Ø **The total number of books distributed through May 2015 was 672,058.**

## Wisconsin Bookworms™ Purpose

Reading to young children helps them to develop a love of reading, along with an enthusiasm for learning. Yet, children from families with limited incomes may not have the opportunity to own many books.

The Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program is designed to provide free books to children who may not otherwise own books; giving them the experience of being read to and helping preschool children gain a lifelong love of reading. The families of the young children become involved in reading to their children and doing family literacy activities.

## Wisconsin Bookworms™ Partners

Working in partnership, University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Family Living Programs, Wisconsin Public Television, and the Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education (WAHCE), are bringing the Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program to more than 40 counties and over 5,000 children annually. This early literacy program and partnership has been operating since 1998.

In 2015, Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program has reached and celebrated a 16-year milestone of serving young children in families around the state with limited resources.



## Comments from Wisconsin Bookworms™ Participants:

*"What a great program. My son gets so excited when he gets a new book with this program. He grabs it and we read it that night. Books are expensive so this program is great. (Parent)"*

*"The Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program puts books into the hands of children. It shows the importance of literacy and reading to children." (Teacher)"*

*"Early literacy learning gives children an opportunity to explore through books and is very important in later development for our little ones. The Bookworms Program provides them a way to learn through topics they really enjoy." (Head Start Director)"*

### ***Interested in supporting the Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program?***

Approximately \$25.00 is needed to purchase books for one child each school year. Donations made to the program are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to:  
Kenosha County Association for Home & Community Education – Wisconsin Bookworms™ Program.

Mail checks to:  
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