

# Kristi Yamaguchi's ALWAYS DREAM



2022-23 Hawaiʻi Impact Report

#### Aloha Friends,

Another school year has passed, and if we had to choose a word to sum up the progress made, it would undoubtedly be "proud." The work that we do is not only made possible through the efforts of our incredible team, donors, and supporters, but also through the effort of our Always Dream families

This year, we partnered with **940 individuals** across Honolulu, Maui, and Hawai'i counties. Guided by our dedicated Book Coaches, and using the Always Reading provided tablet and digital library, the students and family members in our program worked hard to cultivate at-home reading routines and explore the new and exciting worlds in between the pages of books.

We were proud to bring our program to **five new schools and 13 new classrooms** in the 2022-23 school year. This progress inspires us as we set our sights on reaching an ambitious goal of serving 4,000 individuals annually in Hawai'i by 2027. We are deeply committed to helping families find a shared love of reading because when children have access to books and are read aloud with, it builds a foundation for literacy and increases their likelihood for future academic success.

We are thrilled to share this year's program data, survey results, and stories from families and teachers in the following pages. This work always comes back to the families we serve, and we truly value the insight they provide as we build towards our 2027 goals.

Donors and partners play an integral role in our efforts, and we couldn't do this important work without you. Mahalo for your support!

Dream big,

Kristi Yamaguchi Founder & Chair Aarika Riddle Executive Director

ander Ride

### **Always Reading**



Highlights from the 2022-23 School Year

Always Dream provides families of Pre-K and Kinder students with a tablet, digital children's library, and a Book Coach. Book Coaches work with families to use their tablets to broaden access to books, increase at-home reading time, and engage families in their child's learning journey.

#### HAWAI'I BY THE NUMBERS

376 students

**564** family members





11 schools

31 classrooms

77% of students qualify for the free or reduced-price lunch program

252,852 total minutes read

51,028 total books read



82% of families reported reading for at least 15 minutes every time they read with their child

I enjoyed seeing the students' excitement when using their tablets in school and then going home to use it! Also the beautiful books that were given to the students were such an amazing gift!"

-Teacher at Chiefess Kapi'olani Elementary

### **Book Coaches**

Always Reading Book Coaches provide consistent and inclusive support for families, helping them make the most of their Always Reading tablet, data plan (if no WIFI at home), digital children's library, and physical books.

Our Book Coaches connect and build relationships with families, using a two-way translation app to text in their home language.



88%

of families report they found their Book Coach to be a valuable part of the program



81%

of teachers found their Book Coach valuable in supporting family engagement goals for their classroom



89%

of teachers/principals found their Book Coach was able to resolve any questions or requests in a timely manner



79%

of families report that they found it useful when their Book Coach sent a message checking on their family's reading activity

I love when teachers request a book collection on a topic that aligns with their classroom lessons. One time, a teacher asked for a nonfiction book collection about animals because they were working on informative writing with animals. I created this collection and shared with the families so they



could read a variety of nonfiction books on many different animals at home."

-Terrie Togafau-Tarpley, Lead Book Coach

# Importance of Family Reading

Our program isn't just about reading more books, it's about increasing family knowledge of the importance of reading with their child, and how that can impact their educational journey ahead.



96%

of families report that they play an important role in creating reading routines for their child



78%

of families report trying a new strategy with their child because of what they read in a text message



90%

of families report that Always Reading helped them understand that family reading helps their child's brain grow



89%

of families report that Always Reading helped them understand that family reading helps their child learn new words



-Always Dream Parent

# Increasing Family Engagement and a Love of Reading

We know that students with engaged families perform better in school and are more likely to graduate high school. And helping young students develop an early love of reading together with their families is a proven strategy for student success.



83%

of families report that they are better able to engage in reading time with their child



**87**%

of families report that participating in Always Reading has made it easier to make read aloud time interesting for their child



**82**%

of families report their child asks to be read to more often



86%

of families report their child shows greater interest in reading books



This is a great way to bond with my child while reading her favorite books and stories."

-Always Dream Parent

# Looking Ahead: Impact 2027

Always Dream is committed to deepening its work in Hawai'i. The research shows that family engagement and early literacy support are critical, and our growing partnerships with complex areas and schools prove it.

With increased demand for our services and a track record of success with our model, we have set an ambitious goal to serve 4,000 individuals (1,600 keiki and their families) annually with 35+ school partners by 2027. Join us in our work to create an impact through these three initiatives:

#### **Expand**

We will increase our impact and reach more families and children than ever before

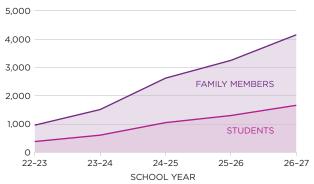
#### **Innovate**

We are creating new program delivery and partnership models to better serve our diverse community

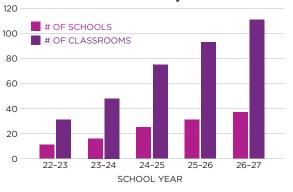
### **Amplify**

We are building capacity and infrastructure to scale efficiently and become a well-known organization

### Always Dream Students and Family Members Served



### Always Dream Schools and Classroom Growth Projections



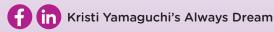
## We're building a community of family readers— JOIN US!

Sign up for our mailing list:



Make a donation.

Follow us and spread the word.









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