



Start The Adventure In Reading (STAIR) New Orleans
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STAIR to Expand Outreach and Upgrade Curriculum

New Orleans, LA. — (May 18, 2020) Start the Adventure in Reading (STAIR) has begun a project to increase the number of children meeting third grade reading proficiency by expanding its reach and upgrading the program’s curriculum. The project is made possible by a \$75,000 grant awarded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF).

“STAIR is pleased to receive the W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant so that we can increase our work, helping struggling children in the greater New Orleans area reach the critical benchmark of reading on grade level,” said STAIR’s Executive Director, Shannon McCloskey Able. “Without this grant, we would be unable to expand the materials we use or serve additional students. Mastering grade level reading by third grade is a major indicator of high school graduation rates among other vitally important milestones.”

According to Able, the funding will help expand the program’s reading levels and also help create better guided reading tools for comprehension and incorporate a take-home component for enhanced family/guardian interaction with students.

“With this support from WKKF, STAIR can help give more children equal access to necessary educational tools,” said Able. “The Kellogg Foundation continues to be generous and helpful to the education community; with their help, STAIR can heighten its impact and help more children learn to read.”

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About STAIR

Since 1985, STAIR has been improving the reading skills and self-esteem of lower elementary school students. STAIR provides one-on-one tutoring to struggling readers at no cost to their family or school. Tutoring takes place after school and on Saturday mornings, at designated sites using STAIR’s proven program. To date, STAIR has served 8,500 children in the greater New Orleans area.

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Founded by breakfast cereal entrepreneur Will Keith Kellogg in 1930, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation provides funding to programs that support the welfare of children and is among the largest philanthropic organizations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.