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To all members of the Reading Partners Charlotte community,

Since our founding in the region in January of 2016, Reading Partners Charlotte has served 738 students and partnered with six CMS elementary schools and one charter school. At the end of the 2017-18 school year, 91 percent of our students were meeting or exceeding their primary end-of-year literacy growth goals. While this year's student performance results are not yet finalized, our students have once again made tremendous gains since the beginning of the year and are on the path to becoming confident, proficient, lifelong readers.

*"I love Reading Partners and I love my tutor. I want to be an example to all of my friends. I don't care about being cool... I am smart. I want to be a leader."*

- Zy'marion, Reading Partners student

One thing we know for sure—none of this success would be possible without YOU, our volunteers, our regional board members, our staff, our partners, our beloved community. Since our inception, we have mobilized over 600 community volunteers who have donated more than 18,000 tutoring hours. We have partnered with hundreds of local champions to raise awareness about childhood literacy. Community organizations, AmeriCorps members, schools, foundations, corporations, and concerned citizens have invested their time, talent and financial resources to secure a better future for students in Charlotte.

*"Reading Partners, the wonderful people I have met through the organization, and the amazing students have deeply enriched my life."*

- Ted, four-year Reading Partners Charlotte volunteer

As we announced back in January of 2019, based on the fact that there are complementary literacy initiatives in Charlotte competing for the same resources, and after careful consideration with key partners, civic leaders, and stakeholders, we decided to exit Charlotte at the end of this school year. We make this transition with confidence that Charlotte will maintain a strong focus on early literacy.

Our ultimate concern has always been—and will continue to be—for the students we serve. We believe the students of Charlotte will continue to be well-served by initiatives like [Read Charlotte](#) and programs such as [CMS North Star](#). We encourage all of our volunteers and supporters to explore these programs and other ways to stay involved in the early literacy movement in Charlotte. Your participation matters.

While we are departing Charlotte for the reasons mentioned above, Reading Partners continues to serve tens of thousands of students each year across the country. As we celebrate [two decades of positive student impact](#) across 14 regions nationwide, we welcome your ongoing involvement in our mission. If you haven't already, please sign up for our [national newsletter](#) or follow us on [social media](#) and we promise to keep you up to date regarding our progress and ways to stay engaged.

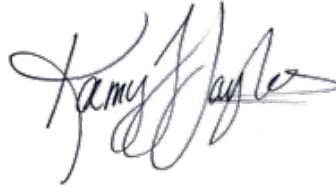
Thank you for believing in our program and contributing to our success over the past years in Charlotte. More than anything, thank you for your

commitment to the students we serve. While many may currently be struggling with reading, their futures are brighter because of your support and your belief in the power of reading to change the trajectory of a child's life. We've seen it happen for twenty years and counting.

With sincere appreciation,



Karine Apollon  
*CEO, Reading Partners*



Kamy Twiggs Taylor  
*Interim Executive Director, Reading Partners Charlotte*

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