



PI BETA PHI'S

# *read > lead > achieve*

MONTH TOOLKIT



[pibetaphi.org/literacy](http://pibetaphi.org/literacy)



# READ > LEAD > ACHIEVE *month*

Every September, Pi Beta Phi celebrates Read > Lead > Achieve® Month. As Pi Phi's philanthropic effort, Read > Lead > Achieve inspires a lifelong love of reading. Throughout the month, we'll celebrate the literacy service of our members, clubs and chapters; highlight the impact our members can make through support to our Foundation; and share helpful literacy resources and ways members can continue to make a difference in their communities.

Every Pi Phi can be ONE who will participate, donate and advocate for literacy with us. This toolkit provides you with tips and ideas to get involved during Read > Lead > Achieve Month within your club, chapter or as an individual member.

We love sharing stories about the relationships you're building with organizations in your area. Visit [pibetaphi.org/stories](https://pibetaphi.org/stories) to tell us about the great work you're doing in your community. And, share your passion for literacy by using #ReadLeadAchieve or tagging @pibetaphihq on social media.

Questions? Please reach out to Pi Beta Phi's Literacy Team at [literacy@pibetaphi.org](mailto:literacy@pibetaphi.org). You can also find more information at [pibetaphi.org/literacy](https://pibetaphi.org/literacy).

## TIP

Make sure you're following Pi Phi on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!



# Participate

## APPLY FOR AN FDS500 GRANT

Each year, clubs and chapters can nominate organizations to receive grants through Pi Phi's FDS500 program. The grants are used to purchase books from First Book® along with school supplies, which are then given to children in need. Grant nominations are accepted from September 1-16, 2022, at [pibetaphi.org/literacy](https://pibetaphi.org/literacy).

## HOST A BOOK OR SUPPLY DRIVE

Gather with your sisters to host a book or school supply drive. Connect with an educator, school, library or literacy organization in your community to determine what books and supplies they need. Then, compile a wish list and share it with friends to help fulfill those needs. If you can't come together in-person, consider hosting a virtual book drive instead.

## VOLUNTEER AS A READER

Work with a local elementary school or community organization to volunteer to read aloud to students in the classroom or virtually. Consider reading classic children's literature, a book featuring diverse characters or a bilingual title.

## CHAMPIONS ARE READERS IS BACK!

We're excited to offer the Champions are Readers® program for the 2022-2023 academic year! Clubs and chapters can find more information by downloading the [Read > Lead > Achieve Guide](#) from the Resource Library.



# Donate

## MAKE A GIFT TO PI BETA PHI FOUNDATION

Through gifts to [The Literacy Fund](#), [The Arrow in the Arctic](#) and [The Friendship Fund](#), our Foundation supports all Read > Lead > Achieve reading initiatives, including Champions are Readers, Fraternity Day of Service Signature Events, FDS500 grants and more. These gifts also prepare Pi Phi to act when major needs arise—such as our tripled financial commitment to First Book in 2020, helping to distribute seven million books to children in need as schools closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## APPLY FOR A LOCAL IMPACT GRANT

Through our Foundation's Local Impact Grants program, Pi Phis can strengthen the future of their communities by supporting literacy programs close to home. As chapters and clubs fundraise for The Literacy Fund, they're able to nominate 25% of their gifts to a local nonprofit organization with a mission or special program focused on literacy. Our Foundation then matches that 25%, dollar for dollar.

## DID YOU KNOW?

During the 2019-2021 biennium, grants from our Foundation fully funded all Read > Lead > Achieve programs thanks to the generous support of our donors.



# Advocate

## EDUCATE YOURSELF

Access to books is critical to developing a lifelong love of reading. Learn more about barriers to literacy and learning by researching educational statistics and trends in your area, the United States and Canada. The resources provided at [First Book](#), [First Book Canada](#) and the [National Center for Educational Statistics](#) are great places to start.

## ADVOCATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

How can you work to inspire a lifelong love of reading among children in your area? Attend in-person or virtual school board or parent/teacher association meetings, research volunteer opportunities with local schools and libraries and partner with community leaders to provide more support for community reading programs.

## INSPIRE OTHERS TO JOIN YOU

Share literacy statistics, stories, photos and quotes on your social media throughout the month. You can reshare content from Pi Phi's social media accounts or post the ready-to-use graphics below. [Click here](#) to download the graphics shown below, or make your own graphics using our Canva [Social Media square template](#) or [Instagram Story template](#).



## SHARE THE POWER OF READING

Celebrate what we can accomplish—together—through the power of reading by watching and sharing the [literacy impact video](#) from Pi Phi's 2021 Convention.

### TIP

To be a servant leader, it's important to work with our communities. Develop relationships by asking principals, educators and literacy program directors in your area what help they need and how Pi Phi can support the students they serve.