



**In 2013, we were able to provide 28 agencies serving at-risk children with more than 14,800 books, plus CDs for classroom use and sight-impaired students, and lesson plans for teachers were given out. In addition, our Share Holiday Program provided over 7,300 children with beautiful Hoopoe books in California, the DC area, and the Boston area. And a volunteer in Costa Rica gave out books to schools there. In addition, through a similar program, the Institute for Cross-Cultural Exchange (ICE) in Canada distributed thousands of Hoopoe Books this year. For more information on ICE in this effort, visit: [www.iceeducation.org](http://www.iceeducation.org).**

All children deserve an equal start in life and having books in the home and reading to our children are the two most important indicators for future school success. Since we started Share Literacy in 2000, we've distributed over 600,000 books to schools, youth programs, homeless shelters, hospitals & clinics, and community service centers, etc. Many organizations, some of which are listed on the next page, depend on our help every year to brighten up the lives of the children they serve. Our excellent standards-aligned teacher lesson plans are available as free downloads on the Hoopoekids.com site, and teachers in our Share Program have taken advantage of this. For many children enrolled in our Share Literacy programs, this book is the first they have ever owned. Many children in our programs receive a book as part of their take-home literacy kit, which includes an audio CD of the story, and a *Read Together* newsletter for their caregiver that encourages family reading at home. Teachers are provided the Hoopoe Education Curriculum which emphasizes home-school connection and provides lesson plans, CDs and DVDs to use with children and their parents.



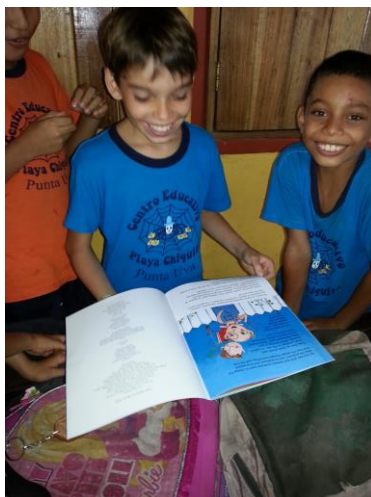
Happy children receive a Hoopoe book at the 2013 Boys and Girls Club in Dorchester, Massachusetts Holiday Party.

Thanks to the generous and continued support of our donors, Share Literacy was able to continue its much-appreciated **Share Holiday Book Program** this year, and over 7,300 at-risk children received their very own copy of a Hoopoe Book as a gift for the holiday season! Many of the agencies we supported last year have been receiving books from Share Literacy for years and they depend upon these gifts year after year to help promote literacy and brighten the lives of thousands of children.

## SHARE LITERACY OUTREACH IN 2013

Thanks to the support and donations from volunteers and sponsors we were enabled, once again, to extend our services to help children and their teachers, providing programs for many agencies, including the following:

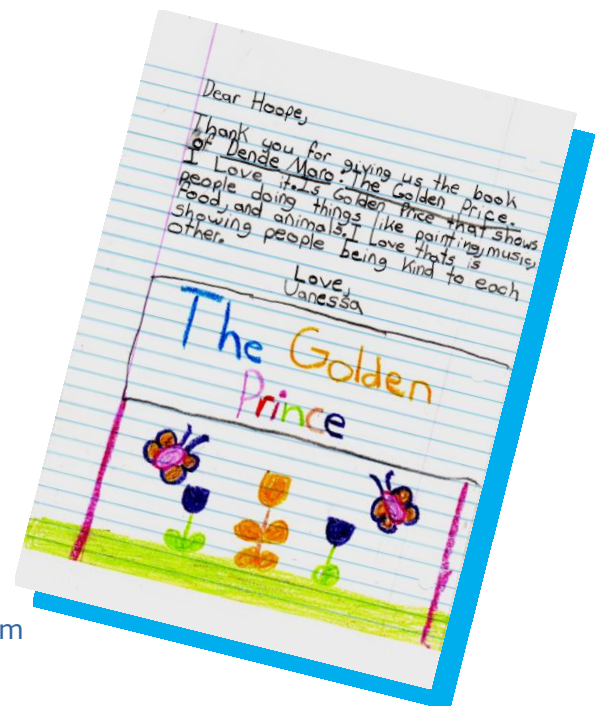
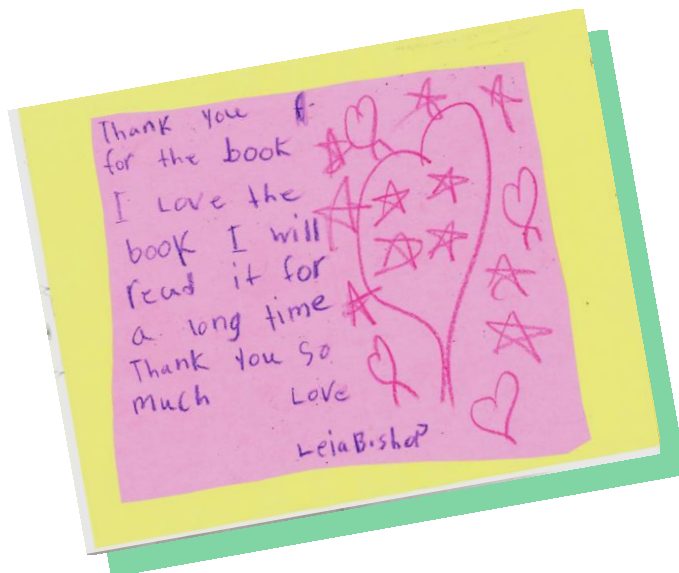
- **Alum Rock Union Elementary School District, San Jose, CA:** Since 2007, we have provided children in this school district with books of their own, and this year their Director of Academic Services, Sharon DeAngelo, writes: **“I cannot express my appreciation enough for the rich stories in Hoopoe books, and their positive portrayal of Middle Eastern life.** I firmly believe these books help us to see the similarities in all of our lives, and how these threads of similarity bind us together.”
- **From Brookside Community Health Center (Massachusetts):**  
**“The beautiful books your organization made available to us, on more than one occasion, were a real treat for our patients and were tremendously popular.** They offered the children and their families the wonders of reading and exposure to new stories and cultures that will broaden their base of understanding of the world. Thanks so much and hope your holiday is a happy and healthy one.” –**Paula McNichols, Executive Director**
- **From Azra Macek, Catholic Charities Refugee Relocation Program:**  
**“The parents and children were happy and surprised by this type of kindness, to receive the children’s books in their language of origin. Thank you again.”** [gift of English and Afghan language books for the Holiday season]
- **From Homeless Prenatal Program (San Francisco, CA):**  
**“...It is amazing to see the reactions of mothers and families when they receive items they need from our program. Gifts like your book kits provide our clients with the support and confidence they need to transform their lives...”** –**Sharon Bechtol, Donations Coordinator**



Costa Rican school children and teachers enjoy Hoopoe Books donated to the school library in early 2013.

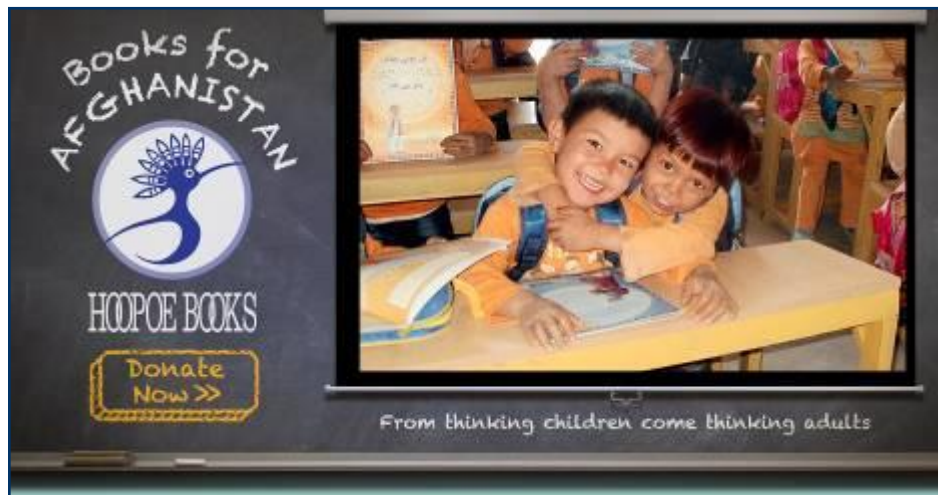
## Selected Share Programs in 2013

Alum Rock Union Elementary School District, San Jose, CA  
Barbara Chambers Children's Center, Washington, DC  
Boston Children's Hospital, Reach Out and Read Program  
Boys & Girls Club of Dorchester, MA  
Brookside Community Health Ctr., Reach Out and Read Program, MA  
CampFire USA, Long Beach, CA  
Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program (incl. refugees from Afghanistan & Iraq), San Jose, CA  
CIE, Mexico  
Ecumenical Hunger Program, East Palo Alto, CA  
Edgewater Elementary School, Edgewater, MD  
Escual Tuetal Sur (a primary school in Costa Rica) and other Costa Rican school libraries (through the help of ISHK volunteer, Barry Biezanz)  
Fairfax Futures, Fairfax, VA  
Higher Horizons Head Start, Falls Church, VA  
Homeless Children's Playtime Project, Washington, DC  
Homeless Prenatal Program, San Francisco, CA  
Horizons for Homeless Children, Boston  
ICE, Canada (distributed inside Canada, Afghanistan and Mexico)  
I Have a Dream Foundation, Longmont & Boulder, CO  
Laubach Literacy Council, San Diego, CA  
Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester, MA  
Loma Vista Immersion Academy, Petaluma, CA  
Loudoun Literacy Council Head Start, Leesburg, VA  
Morelos Mexico Elementary Schools (a donation from ICE-Canada)  
New Hampshire Estates Elementary School, Silver Spring, MD  
ReadBoston, Boston, MA  
Ridgecrest Elementary School, Hyattsville, MD  
South End Community Health Ctr., Reach Out and Read Program, Boston, MA  
Sunnyvale Police Department's "Reach Potential" & "Jr Giants" programs, Sunnyvale, CA  
Tree for Life, Wichita, KS



Examples of student letters from schools in DC and CA.

**Books for Afghanistan Program**  
Repatriation of Traditional Teaching-Stories to Aid Literacy  
[www.booksforafghanistan.org](http://www.booksforafghanistan.org)



Thanks to everyone's continued support, we were able to print and distribute another 300,000 Hoopoe books in Dari-Pashto and English since the end of the Department of State grant in September 2012. Our very brave and devoted staff in Kabul are resolved to continue for as long as we can provide the funds for Hoopoe books and teacher training to help the children of Afghanistan.

**Excellent Evaluation Results of our Program in Afghanistan!** An independent organization hired by the US Government evaluated our 21-month program. This study found that the program transforms a child's reading behavior: both teachers and parents noticed that the children's skills improved, leading them to read other materials such as newspapers and magazines. The stories gave children a sense of expanded opportunities and a better knowledge of Afghan culture, its stories and traditions. They found that children often shared what they learned, so the stories were able to engage children beyond those who received books directly, and parents noticed their children teaching their brothers and sisters and reading to their neighbors. The program was rated highly (3.8 on a 4-point scale) by the 148 evaluators.

Their teacher evaluations showed gains in many new skills from our trainings: teachers were able to assess students' progress better, were comfortable asking children questions and encouraging them to come to their own conclusions, and they understood the limits of rote learning. Parents and teachers are unanimously pleased that the books are culturally relevant and are published in both Dari and Pashto.



Afghan children reading a Hoopoe book provided by Hoopoe Books & ICE in 2013.

For a comprehensive view of our program, including downloadable resources, great photos of children with the books, copies of articles from *The Washington Post*, the *San Francisco Chronicle* and other media, photos and teacher feedback, and, of course, for ways to help, please visit our website: <http://booksforafghanistan.org>.

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## Books for Pakistan

### Traditional Teaching-Stories to Aid Literacy

We now have ten Hoopoe titles press-ready in English-Urdu editions: *The Lion Who Saw Himself in the Water*, *The Clever Boy and the Terrible, Dangerous Animal*, *The Old Woman and the Eagle*, *The Silly Chicken*, *The Boy Without a Name*, *The Farmer's Wife*, *Neem the Half-Boy*, *Fatima The Spinner and the Tent*, and *The Magic Horse* all by Idries Shah and all translated by Hafeez Diwan. To date, we have printed and distributed a total of 25,000 books of the first five titles and will print and distribute more just as soon as we have the funds to do so.

PLEASE VISIT our website: <http://www.hoopekids.com/pakistan.htm>