

REadingADvantage Opens Children’s Library in Bay Point

On August 21st, over 140 Bay Point residents joined REadingADvantage, Inc. (READ) and the Housing Authority of the County of Contra Costa to celebrate the Kick-Off of their new DeAnza Gardens Children’s Library! The event included story times for the children hosted by the children’s librarians from the Contra Costa County Libraries, resource presentations from local community agencies including Head Start, Child Care Council, Tandem, Center for Human Development, and REadingADvantage, and was topped off with raffle prizes, hot dogs, snow cones, popcorn, and FREE books!

The DeAnza Gardens Children’s Library is one of two Children’s Libraries sponsored by the Housing Authority and READ. The second Children’s Library is located in the El Pueblo public housing development in Pittsburg.



The two Children’s Libraries provide a cozy atmosphere for local children and their parents to enjoy reading and sharing books. Through READ’s “Take One-READ One-Keep One” children’s books program, children are encouraged to take home, and keep, three children’s books per library visit. Thanks to a generous grant from Los Medanos Community Healthcare District (LMCHD), over 1,000 health-related children’s books have been placed on the shelves of the two libraries and are available for children to take home and add to their home libraries. Book topics include healthy eating, exercise, sports, family and friend relationships, and other healthy living subjects.

READ is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation founded April 2014 to serve children and families through family literacy projects designed to promote language and vocabulary development as well as reading comprehension and proficiency. In addition to creating Children’s Libraries and the “Take One-READ One-Keep One” children’s free book program, READ provides Parent Power! workshops focused on engaging parents in reading to their children 20 minutes every day.

For more information about the DeAnza Gardens and El Pueblo Children’s Libraries, please contact Shirley Kalinowski, READ Board President, at (925) 550-6021 or shirleyk_read@yahoo.com.



