

Teen Readers Society Launches Book Donation Program for Hospitalized Teens

SANTA MONICA, California, Sept 1, 2021 -- Teen Readers Society today announced that it is launching a new program to donate brand new books to teens who are hospitalized.

The program called “[Healing Through Books](#)”, aims to reach a highly diverse group of teens during a time in their lives when the transformative power of books is especially needed. The first recipient of the program is UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital, which is now offering books to teen patients at its San Francisco and Oakland locations. Teen Readers Society plans to expand the program to other similar hospitals around the country later this year.

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital treats virtually all pediatric conditions, including cancer, heart disease, neurological disorders and traumatic injuries and provides care for organ transplant recipients. Neither the San Francisco nor Oakland hospital had adequate access to books geared towards adolescent patients. ([Reading rates](#) among this age group has been on a decline since the 1970s; only 16 percent of 18-year-olds reported to be reading books on a regular basis in 2016.)

“My appreciation for Teen Readers Society is best expressed through the quote: ‘Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.’ Giving teen patients access to quality books allows them to venture outside the hospital and escape into a story. What an incredible gift,” said Erika Shue, Child Life Teacher.

Teen Readers Society worked with UCSF’s Child Life team to develop an assortment of books for teens to choose from through a carefully designed and visually attractive digital catalogue. This includes all genres most popular among teens today and guarantees that every young patient will find books they actually enjoy reading. Once a teen chooses a book, the title will arrive within a couple of days and will be theirs to keep.

“The list of books we assembled specifically for this donation program - by young people, for young people - includes a variety of genres, authors and titles that we know reflect teens’ reading choices today,” said Olivia Maher, Teen Readers Society’s Marketing and Social Media Manager. This program is currently funded solely by Teen Readers Society. Donations are accepted [here](#).

About Teen Readers Society

Teen Readers Society, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit organization dedicated to reversing the decline in reading rates among teenagers and running book donation programs to those who do not have adequate access to books. We are teen-

driven, creating content that engages young readers of all levels and interests in order to cut across negative attitudes about reading and restore excitement about the pleasures and benefits of reading. Our vision is to ensure that all children and young people have access to books.

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