

**2018-2019 IMPACT REPORT** 

## 30 million children struggle to read

Learning Ally transforms the lives of children with learning disabilities and blind and visually impaired students by providing reading interventions and solutions to help them succeed academically, build self-confidence, and thrive in school and beyond.

# **Learning Ally Results**

- Reached **472,000** students, **99,000** educators in **17,500** schools.
- Over 135 million pages read.
- 605 volunteers donated over 57,135 hours of service in 2019.
- Produced 955 titles for our growing audiobook library (293 "classic" audiobooks and 662 Voice text audiobooks that allow students to read along as they listen).
- Served 22,847 blind or visually impaired (BVI) students, including
  1,121 college-aged BVI students through the College Success Program.
- Provided \$846,000 in financial aid to support 3,904 students who would otherwise be unable to access our services.



### **The Need for Our Services**

**1 in 5 readers** struggle with learning differences, and children from low-income communities are more likely to be affected.

Only about **8% of the BVI community** are fluent Braille readers.

More than **90% of elementary students** with specific learning disabilities scored below proficient on the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Each year, **less than 5% of books** published worldwide are made available in accessible formats.

Children with learning differences are twice as likely to be suspended and three times as likely to drop out of high school than their peers.



We now reach over

# **472,000** students **99,000** educators **17,500** schools

across the country.





"We have very limited resources here in Tahoe and Learning Ally has been a game changer. We've seen an increase in student participation and overall engagement in reading. Everyone who's used it, LOVES it."

Megan Steeves, Program Specialist, Lake Tahoe Unified School vaDistrict



"Struggling readers who used to say they hated reading have discovered the joy of books after being introduced to Learning Ally!"

Ginann Franklin, Director of Libraries and Educational Technology at Currey

### **A Word From Our CEO**

Dear Friends.

2018-2019 was an extremely positive year in terms of impact, reach and revenue for Learning Ally. In a world where too many children struggle to read and learn, feelings of failure, heartache, shame and defeat are a daily reality. Over the past several years, we have been building partnerships and state of the art capabilities to turn struggling readers to into life-long achievers. While this is a great start, there is so much more for us to do. We go into 2020 looking forward to the future.

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Andrew Friedman - President & CEO





25%

increase in students reading Learning Ally audiobooks

2019 vs. 2018



more pages read by students more students reading with frequency that significantly impacts academic success

2019 vs. 2018 2019 vs. 2018