



200K MORE REASONS

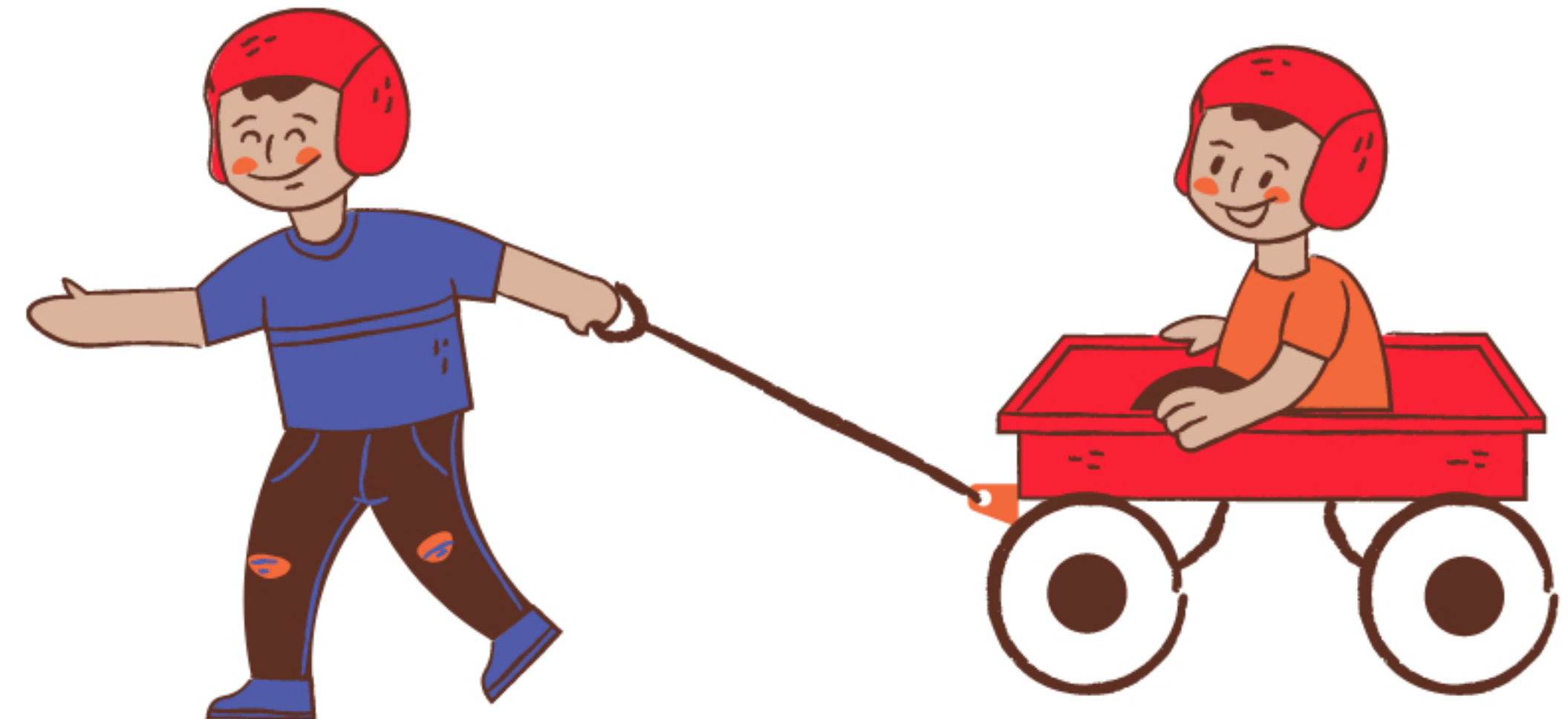
stability•nutrition•literacy



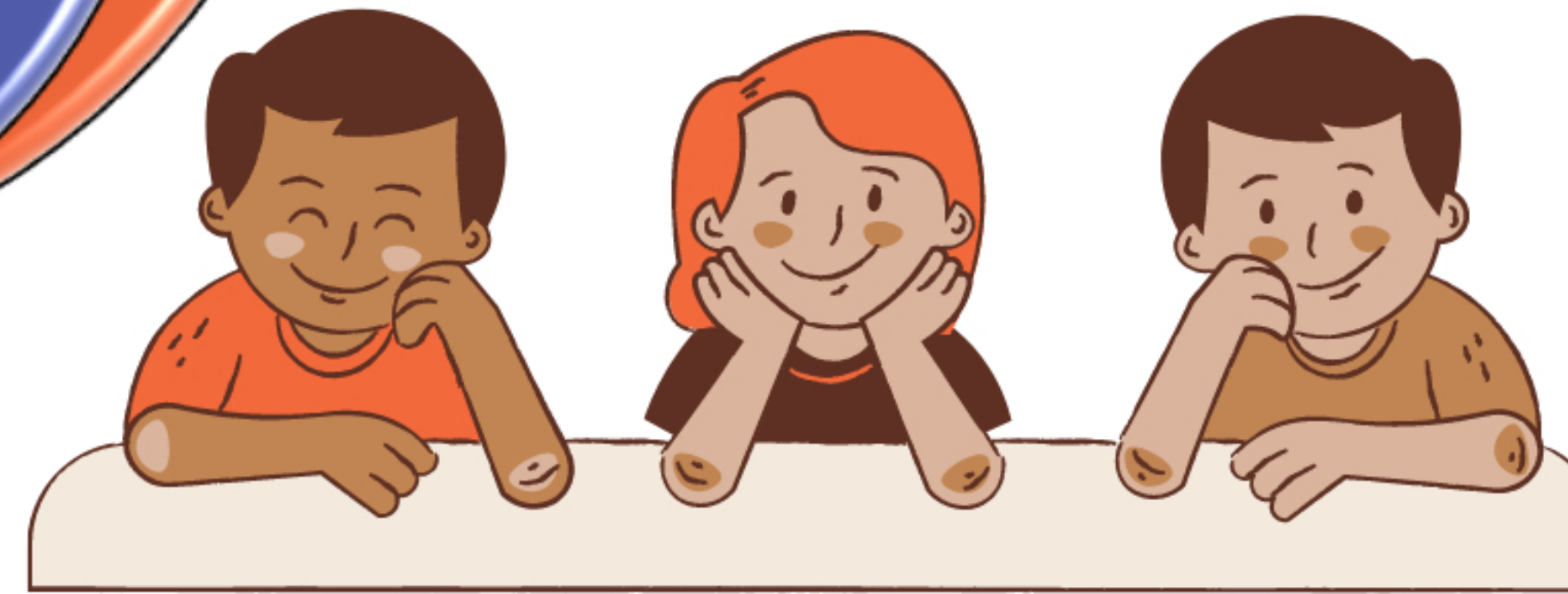
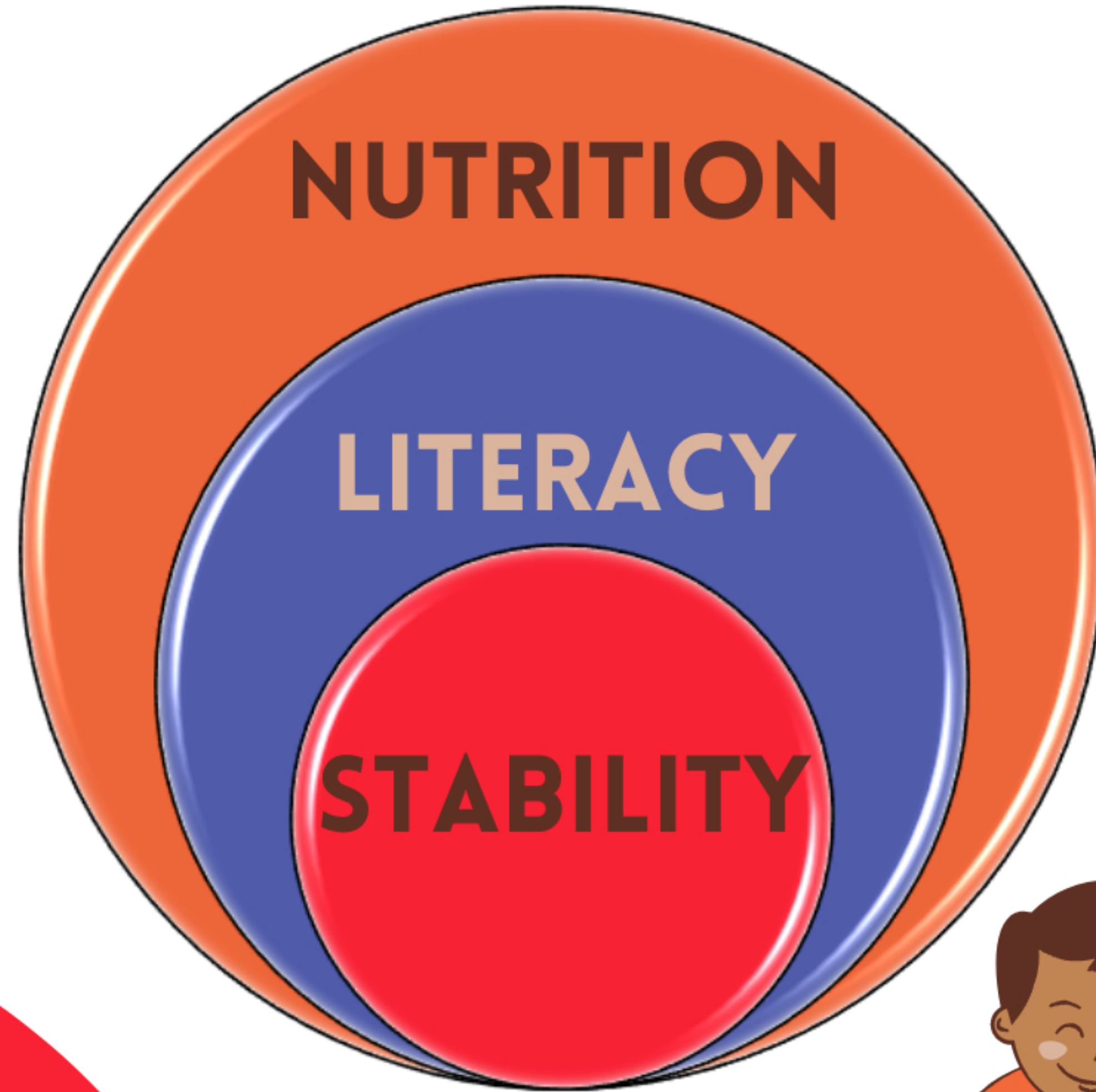


**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THERE ARE
AN ESTIMATED 17 MILLION HUNGRY CHILDREN
NOW IN AMERICA- 6 MILLION MORE THAN
BEFORE THE PANDEMIC.**

US Childhood Report 2021- Save the Children



MORE REASONS





DOING MORE MEANS MINISTERING TO THE **WHOLE FAMILY:**

2/3'S OF AMERICAN FAMILIES ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY MAKING ENDS MEET

3 IN 4 FAMILIES REPORT SYMPTOMS OF ANXIETY

1/2 REPORT ISSUES WITH DEPRESSION

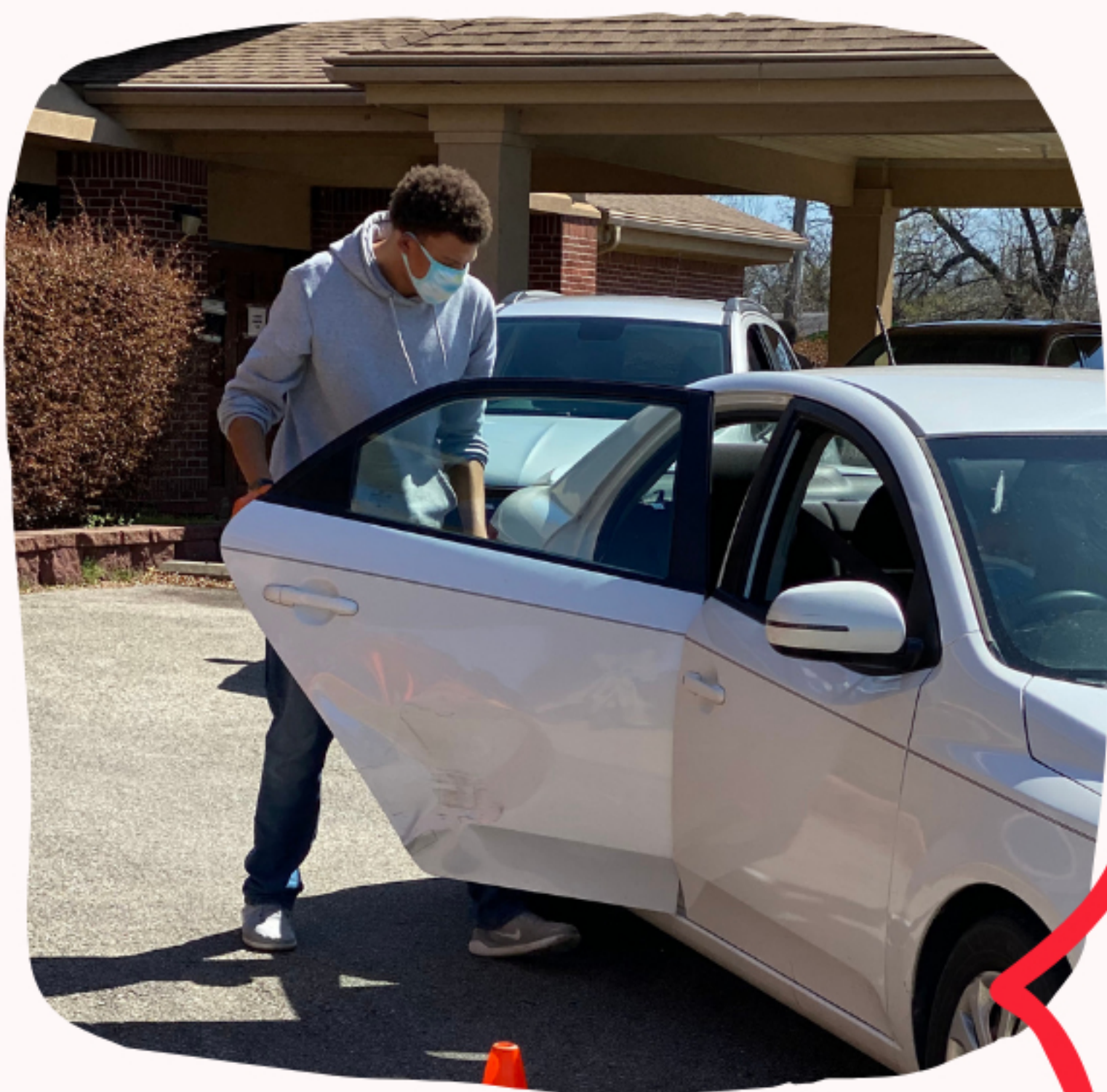




**THE PANDEMIC HAS DISRUPTED LEARNING FOR
ALL AGES. FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN,
THIS DISRUPTION HAS BEEN **CATASTROPHIC.****

US Childhood Report 2021- Save the Children

**OVER THE LAST 7 YEARS, 86% OF ARKANSAS CHURCHES
HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO ALLEVIATE CHILDHOOD
HUNGER... THIS YEAR WAS NO EXCEPTION.**





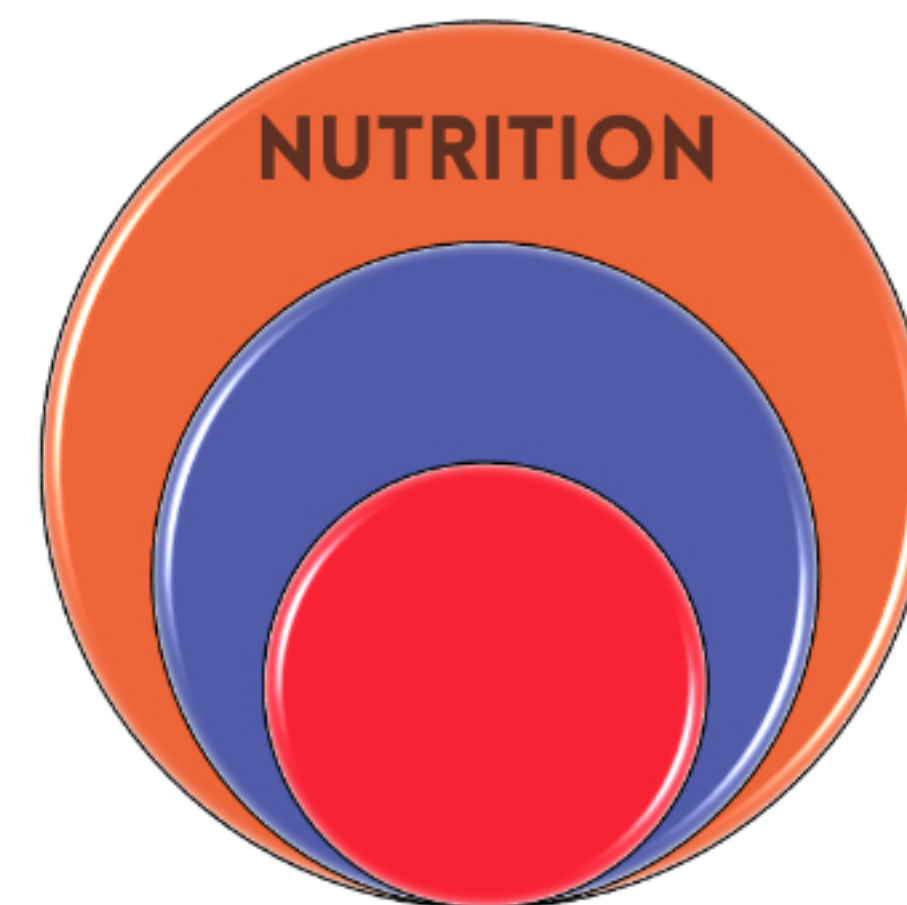




NUTRITION

Conference-wide Goal:

100% of Arkansas United Methodist churches participating in efforts to significantly reduce childhood hunger through feeding ministries, public witness, and education for long-term stability.



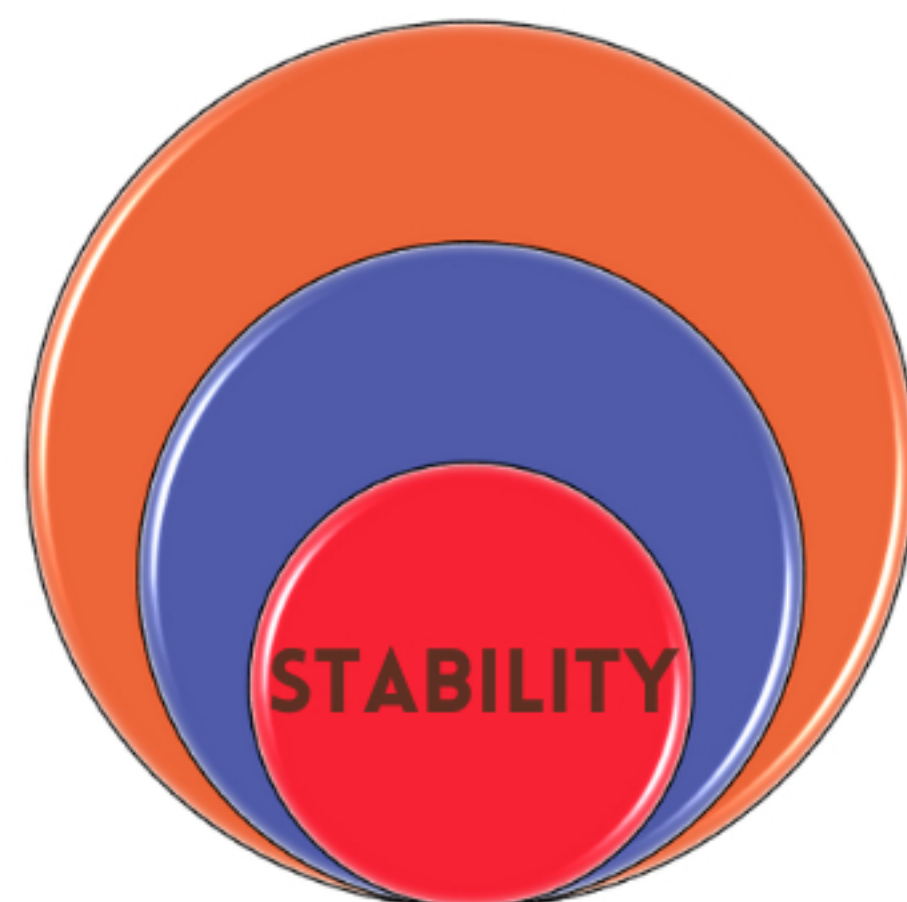


ARKANSAS IS:

38TH IN THE NATION FOR ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

4TH IN THE NATION FOR ADULT USE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Mental Health America 2018 Report

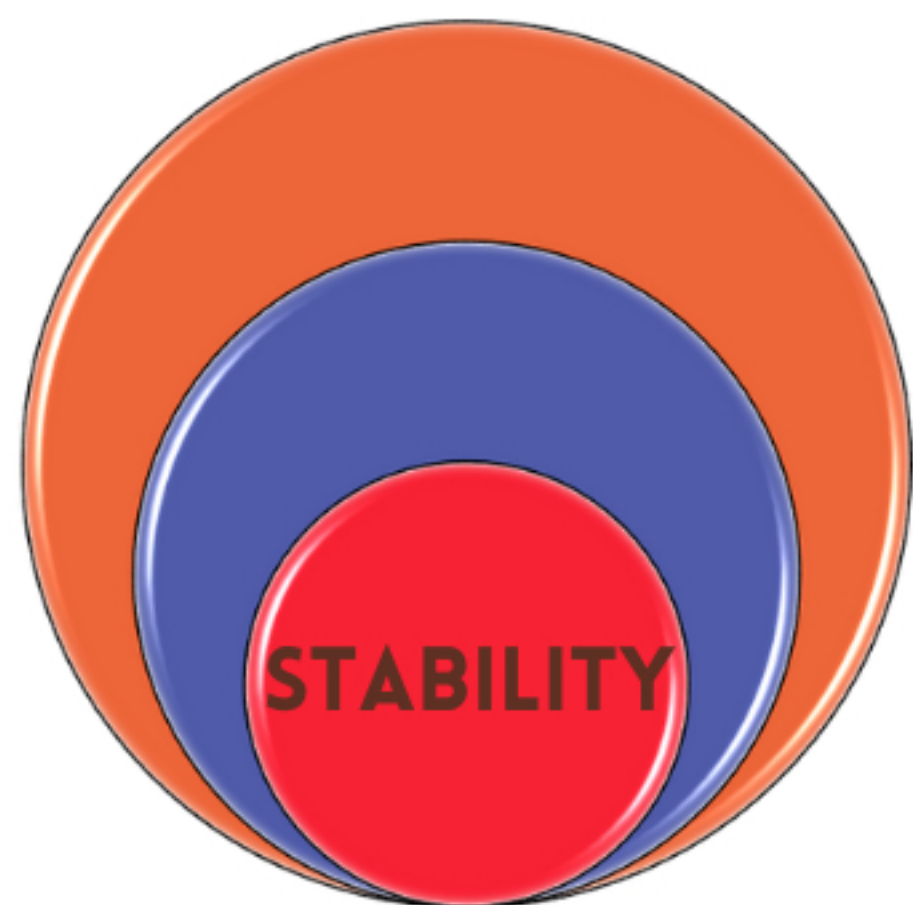




STABILITY

Conference-wide Goal:

35% of churches offering ministries that promote healthy and stable family life, including resourcing access to substance abuse assistance, crisis intervention, and support groups for families in need.



LITERACY

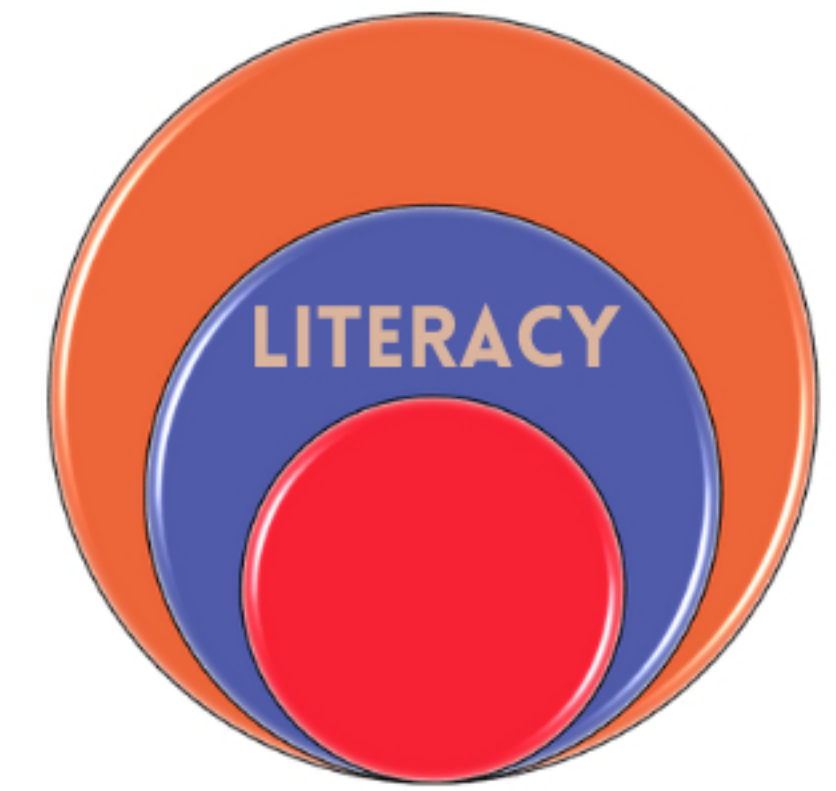


Conference-wide Goal:

50% of Arkansas Methodist churches offering on-site or partnership reading ministries which includes food distribution.

Congregation-wide Goal:

10% of members spending 10 hours per month serving as reading tutors in school and community programs





62%

LITERACY IN ARKANSAS

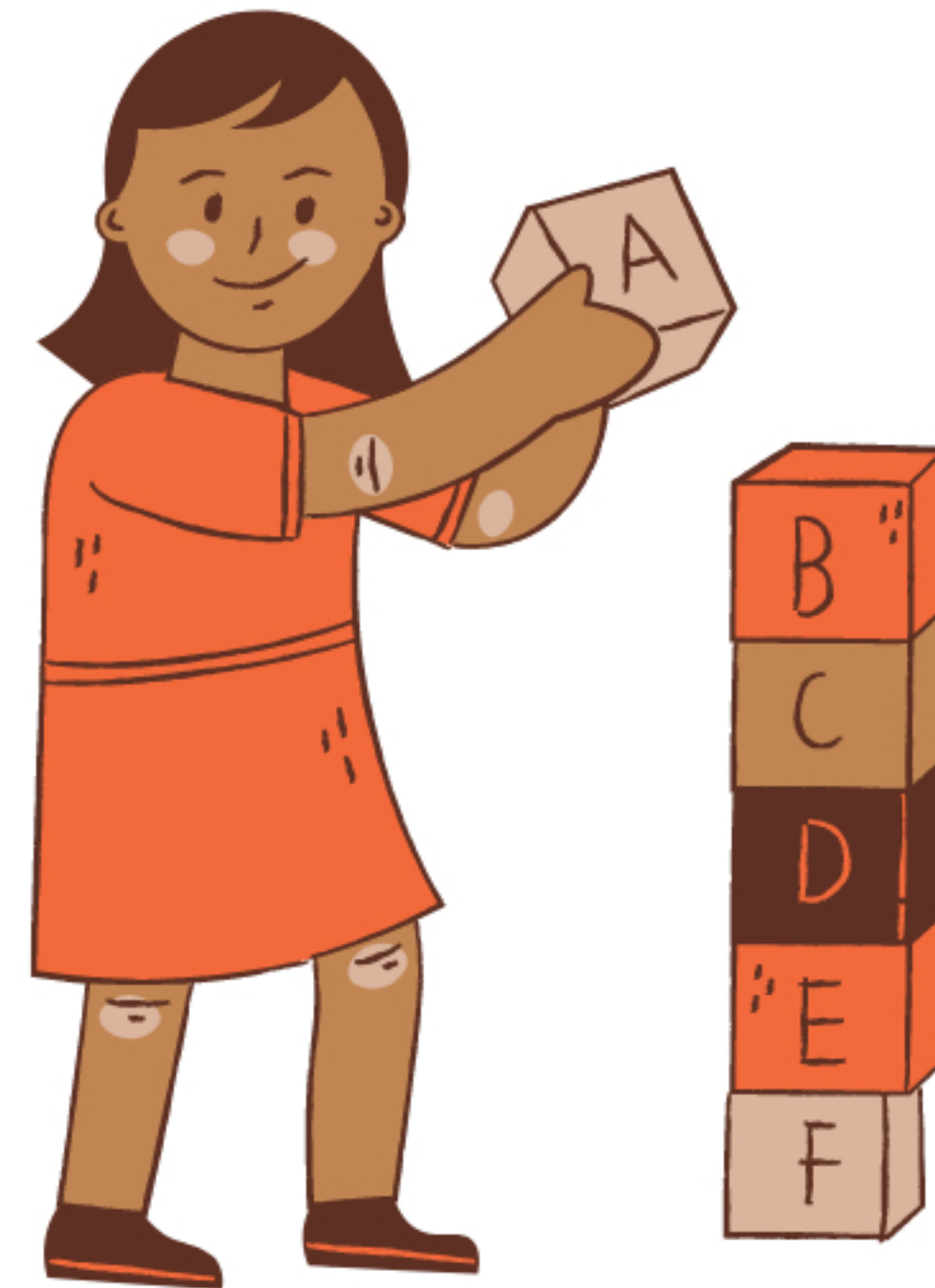
62% of Arkansas' children completing 3rd grade are
BELOW proficient in reading.

In some Arkansas school districts that number is as
high as 97% of students not reading proficiently in
the 3rd grade.

Aspire Arkansas Report 2019



**BY 4TH GRADE
STUDENTS GO FROM
LEARNING TO READ TO
READING TO LEARN.**



BREAKING CYCLES OF POVERTY

GREATER LITERACY LEADS TO...

HIGHER RATES OF
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION

HIGHER RATES OF
COLLEGE
ENROLLMENT

FUTURE CAREER
SUCCESS AND
HIGHER INCOME





THREE WAYS TO ENGAGE IN LITERACY MINISTRY



**INCREASE
ACCESS TO
BOOKS**

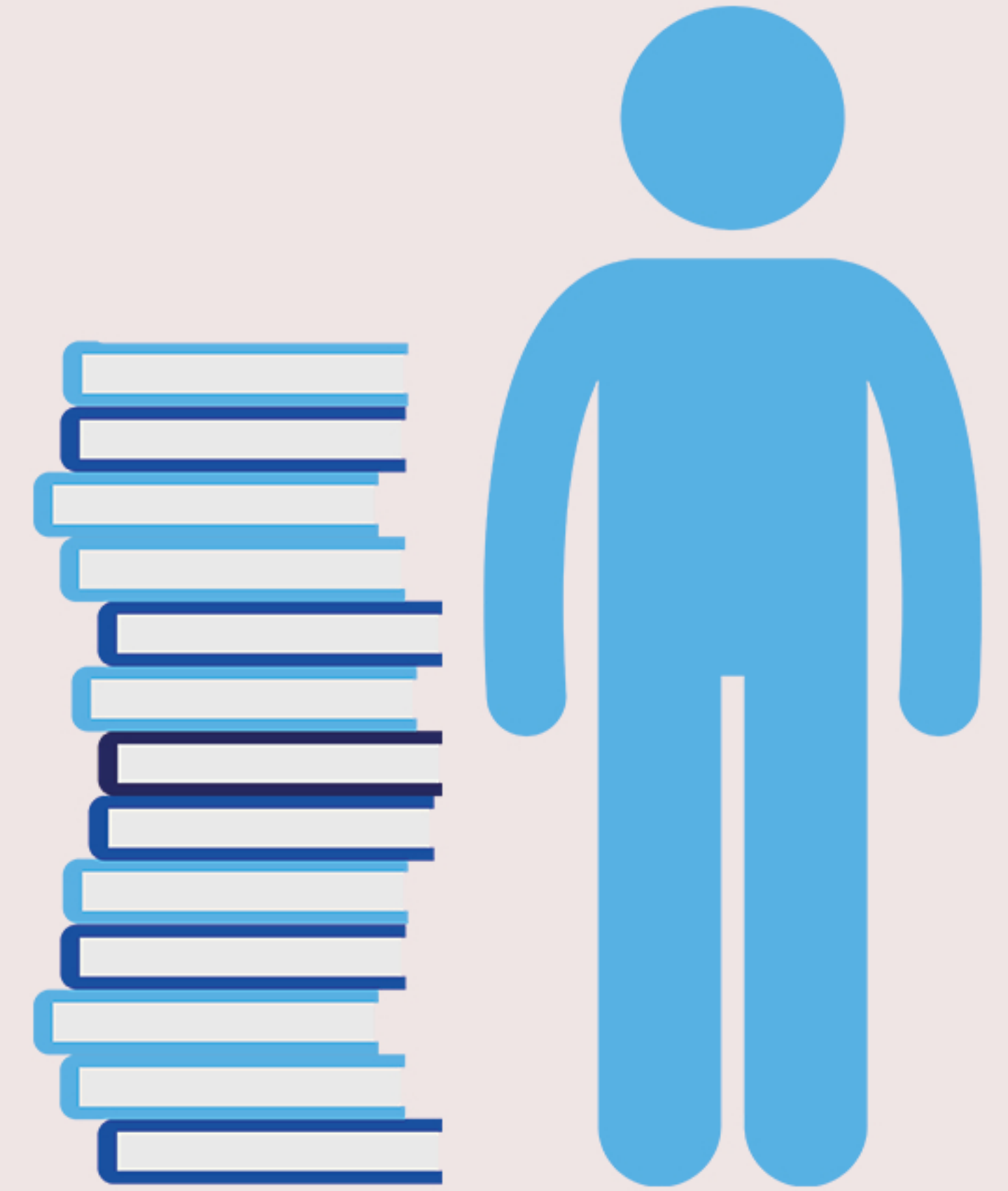
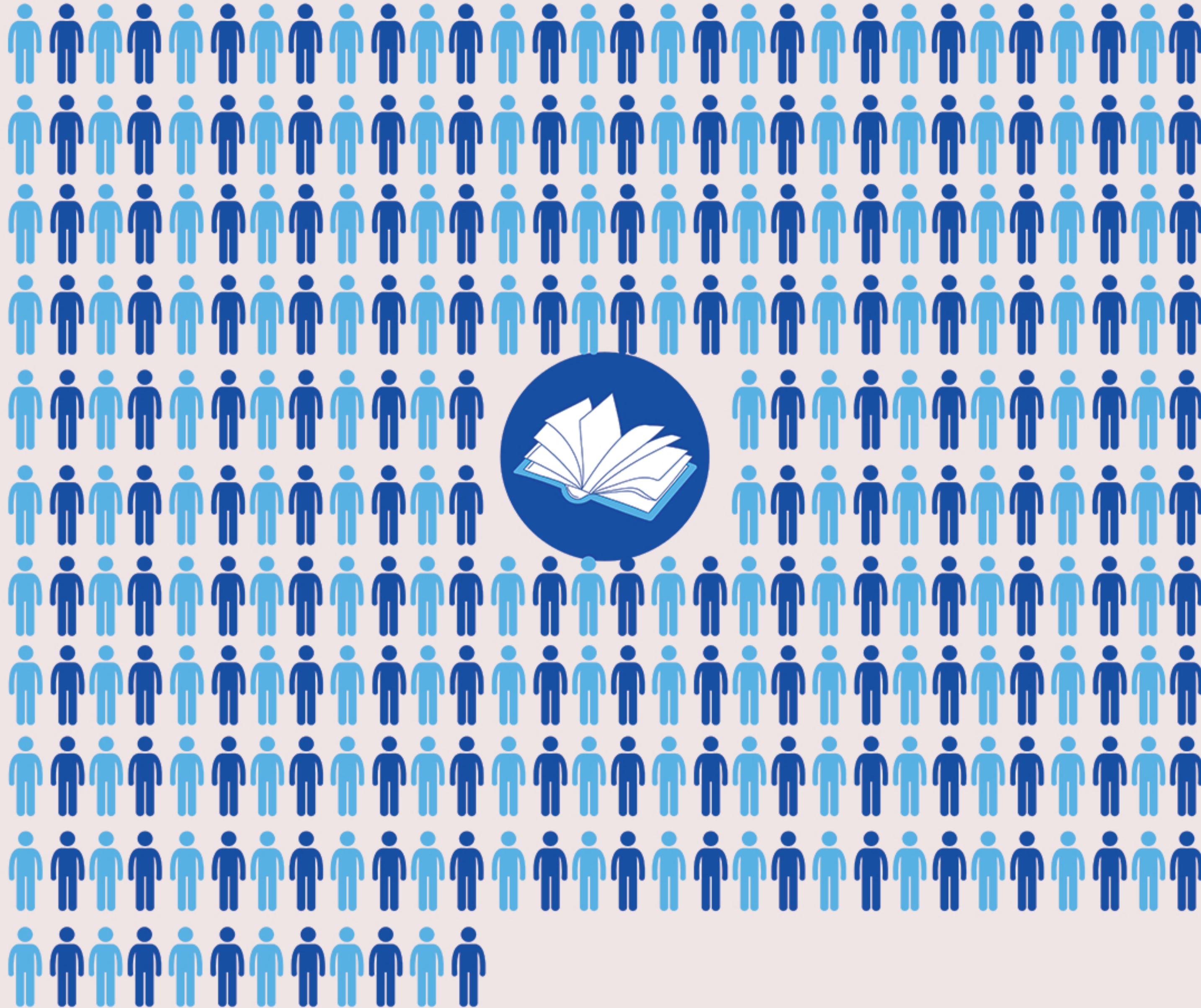
**VOLUNTEER
IN SCHOOL
TUTORING
PROGRAMS**

**HOST
OUT-OF-SCHOOL
LITERACY
PROGRAMS**



In some of the lowest income communities, there is **one book** for every 300 children.

In middle-income communities, there are 13 books per child.

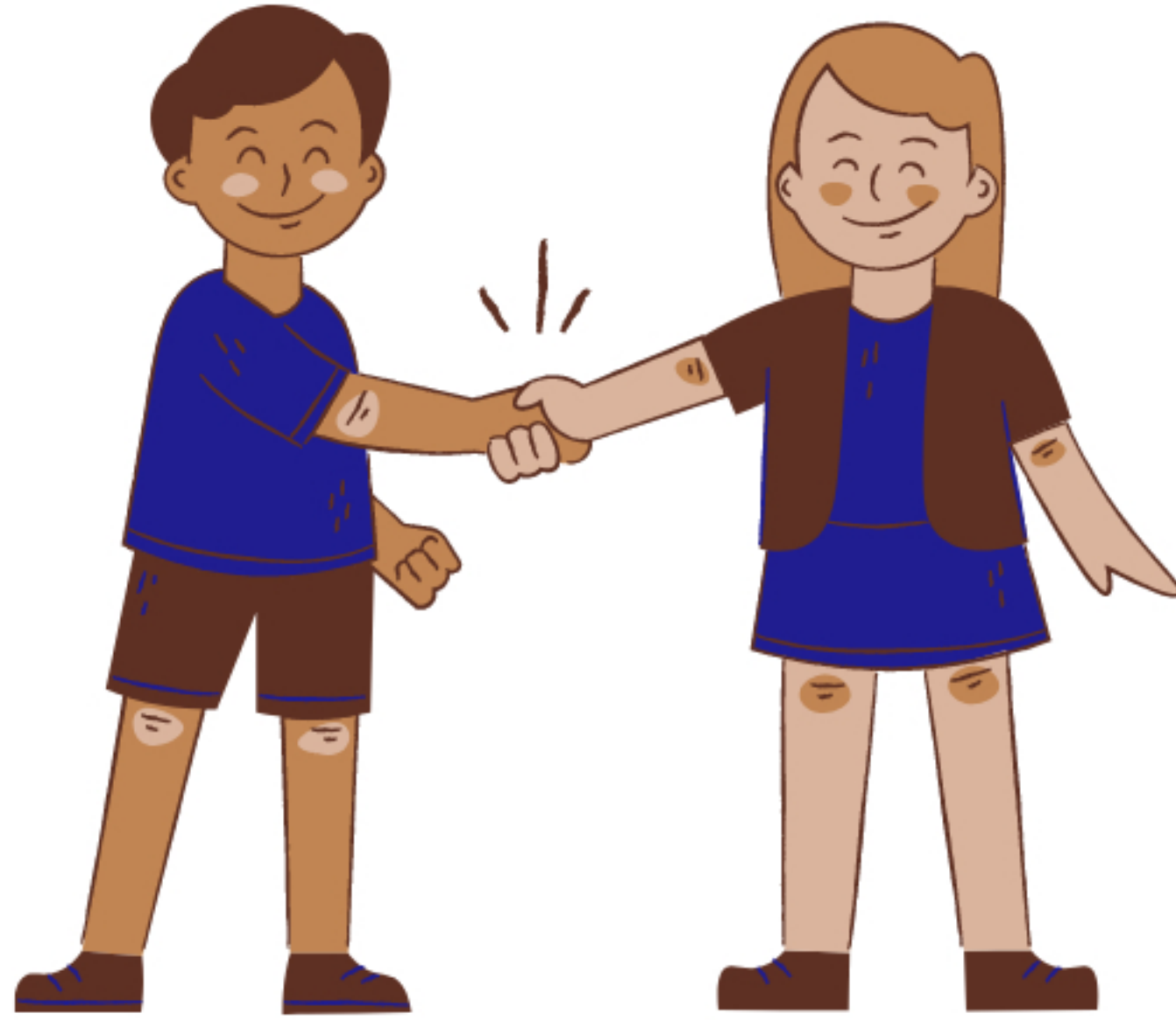


WAYS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO BOOKS



- Connect with a local classroom or school.
- Send books home with meals and food boxes.
- Set up a Little Free Library near where kids live.





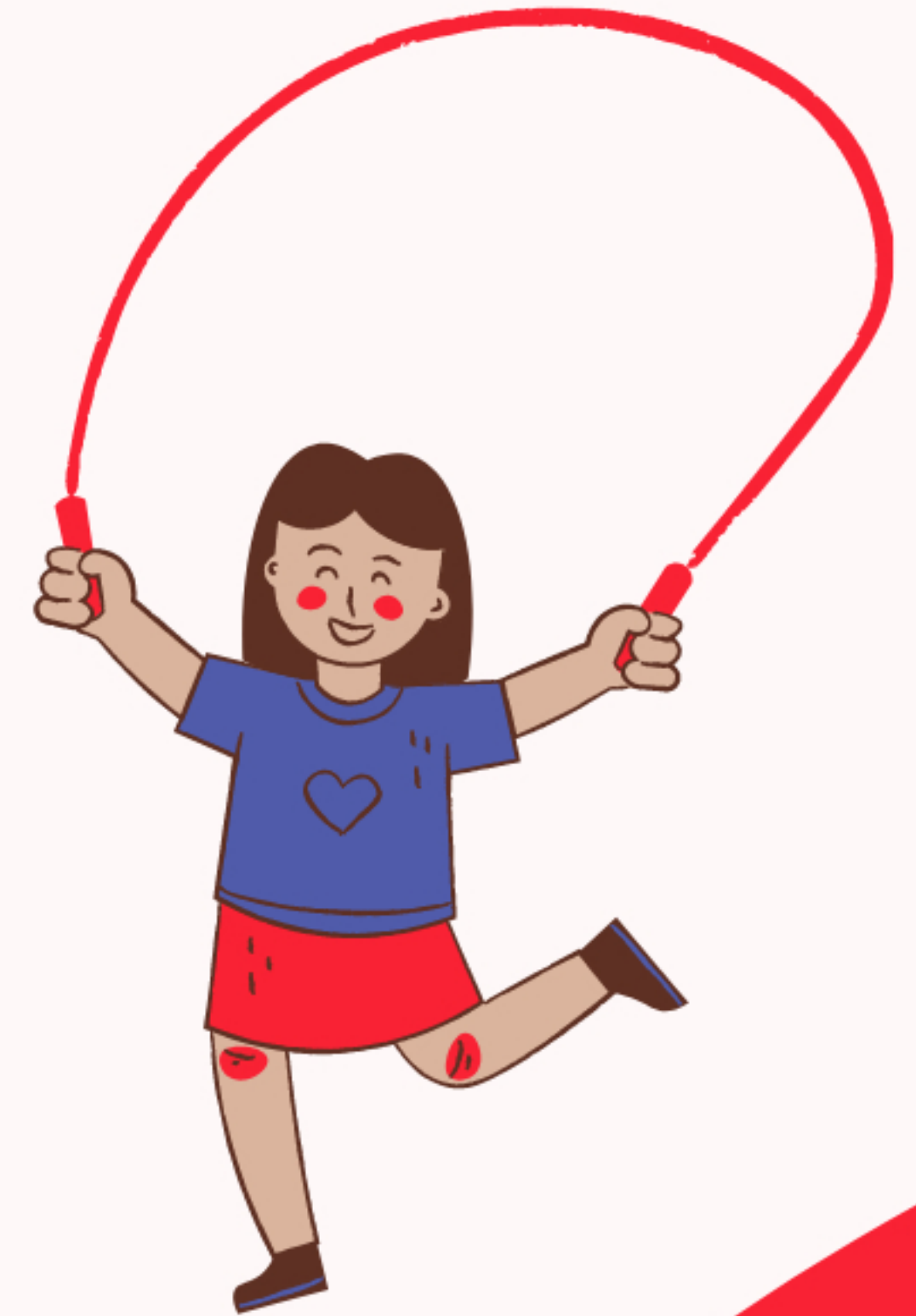
IN-SCHOOL TUTORING

- Connect to the literacy specialist, reading coordinator, or counselor at your local school.
- Set goals, recruit volunteers, and get trained.
- Get to reading!



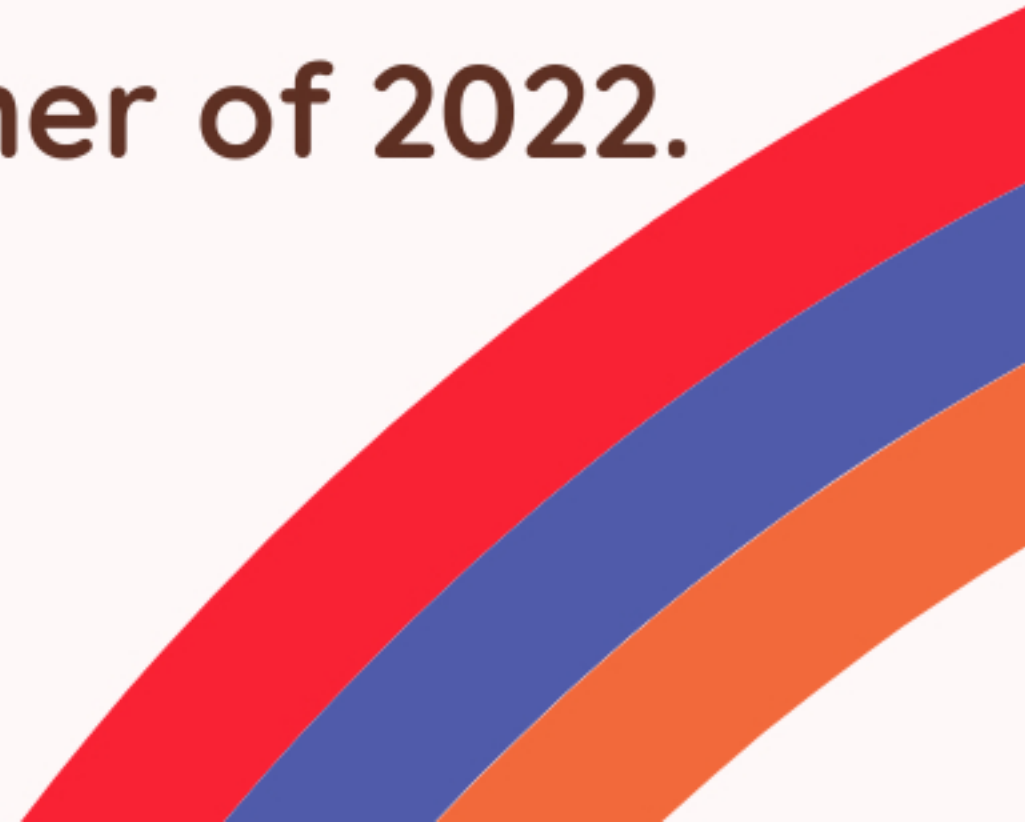
OUT-OF-SCHOOL LITERACY PROGRAMS

- Connect with your local library.
- Offer a week-long reading camp during summer.
- Have reading time at your community meal.
- Offer after-school tutoring where kids live and play.





Project Transformation empowers college students to lead summer camp programs for children in churches located in underserved communities. Children receive literacy help, socio-emotional learning, and academic enrichment activities. With your help Project Transformation will begin its ministry in Pine Bluff the summer of 2022.



QR CODE



@200KMOREREASONS



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