



Books for the World

<https://www.rotarybooksfortheworld.org/>

Video: <https://animoto.com/play/A81dXxkXhPbQqCp7YBqulA>

Books for the World is a global literacy project, supervised by Rotarians in the United States, that puts used books that might otherwise be discarded into landfills, into the hands of children in many countries where educational resources are in short supply. Books for the World promotes literacy around the world.

The project came about through a dinner meeting between incoming Rotary Governors Charlie Clemmons and Ted Pope from District 5890-Houston, Texas-USA and District 9300-South Africa in the year 2001. During the meeting, came a discussion of what could be done together as a service to both districts. Ted needed books, and Charlie provided them to the local library. The rest is history.

The Books for the World project started with a Matching Grant from the Rotary Foundation, through the Rotary Club of Seabrook's efforts who believes in promoting literacy worldwide, and funded by the Second Wind Foundation. The idea became a reality!

The collection of books started small, but quickly, the news spread about Books for the World donating books, and the collection got bigger. Books continue to be distributed to rural areas to schools that don't have a building, books, and nor school supplies.

To date (2021), Books for the World has spent over \$2 million as a charity, but has yielded \$160 million of literacy materials in the hands of local educators to assist them in bootstrapping their own communities. 408 containers have been loaded, for a total of 17,599,212 pounds of books, which equates to over 17.1 million books, sent to more than 25 countries. The containers used to transport the book, once emptied, are then converted to polio emulation vans, child center centers, school rooms, school kitchens, libraries, and storage facilities for disaster relief.

Books for the World changes lives through the power of literacy. It impacts Rotary's Area of Focus in Supporting Education

Nelson Mandela: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Seabrook in District 5890 and privately funded by the Second Wind Foundation, Books for the World continues to promote literacy worldwide.

For more information contact:

Edie Houlden-Vice President: houlden@ioshouston.com