Malcolm has dogs at home that are not treated as pets, so it's been confusing for him to see our SitStayRead dogs. He's been especially nervous about Fife, because she's a bit bigger. But on the day that Malcom received his book of stories, he went to read them to Fife.

He sat just out of her reach while reading ... but at the last moment, he reached out his hand and pet Fife right on her head. She took that as her cue to get closer and gave Malcolm a lick – which put a giant smile on his face.

SitStayRead is a literacy organization – we bring dogs into Chicago Public Schools to help struggling young readers develop critical early literacy skills. But in the 12 years that we've been doing this important work, we've discovered that connecting students in low-income neighborhoods to certified reading-assistance dogs and trained volunteers has unintended benefits.

We're helping children develop confidence.

We're showing them that dogs can be our companions.

We're building the next generation of animal-welfare advocates.

So thank you for making SitStayRead possible. The "we" I'm referring to is you and us, and together we had a record year. Those records are detailed in the numbers on the following pages – but the numbers can't tell you about milestones like the one Malcom achieved this year, and I'm glad I got the chance to do that here.

Lou Bank
SitStayRead brings
certified reading-assistance dogs
into Chicago Public Schools
to help struggling young readers
develop critical early literacy skills.

The children read books
about dogs to the dogs,
then write their own stories
about the experience.

As a result, they make
47.8% greater fluency gains
than their non-participating peers.

During the 2014-15 school year,
157 volunteers
and
68 certified
reading-assistance
dogs contributed
1,862 hours
to our programs, enabling us
to serve
2,424 children
in Chicago’s low-income
neighborhoods. That’s a
19.9% increase
over prior year, and a
283% increase
over the 2010-11 school year.

Chicago Public Schools partners
• Bond Elementary - 7050 S. May St.
• Brunson Elementary - 932 N. Central Ave.
• Cameron Elementary - 1234 N. Monticello
• Faraday Elementary - 3250 W. Monroe St.
• Fuller Elementary - 4214 S. St. Lawrence
• Gale Academy - 1631 W. Jonquil Terr.
• Hendricks Academy - 4316 S. Princeton
• Hughes Elementary - 4247 W. Fifteenth St.
• Lowell School - 3320 W. Hirsch
• Manierre Elementary - 1420 N. Hudson
• Marquette Elem. - 6650 S. Richmond
• Melody Elementary - 412 S. Keeler St.
• Nat’l Teachers Academy - 55 W. Cermak

Community partners
• Marshall’s Place - 1408 N. Sedgwick
• New Life - 1410 N. Springfield
• Northwestern Settlement House at -
  Rowe Elementary - 1424 N. Cleaver
• UCAN Academy - 3110 W. Grand Ave.
Achievements

In the 2014-15 school year, we served 2,424 students in 1st to 4th Grades. That’s a 19.9% increase over prior year, and a 283% increase over the 2010-11 school year.

At the same time, our cost-per-student dropped slightly, to $133. That’s a 3.6% decrease over prior year, but a 60.2% decrease since 2010-11.

This past year was also a record year for net income. In the three prior years, SitStayRead focused on building our base of children served. The 2014-15 school year was our year to leverage that hard-won growth to obtain additional institutional funding. This increased funding restored our financial reserves, enabling us to pilot revised curricula in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grades.

We expanded our standard eight-week 2nd Grade program to a ten-week program, infusing existing lessons with comprehension activities. This enhanced curriculum was piloted in two classrooms.

Our 3rd and 4th Grade curricula have traditionally used dogs as a reward instead of a tool — a classroom earns a visit based on the number of books read by the students. We piloted in each of the two grades this past year curricula that instead reflects our 1st and 2nd Grade curricula, in which dogs are integral to the learning process. In two 3rd Grade classrooms, we piloted a four-week curriculum that focuses on comprehension; in two 4th Grade classrooms, we piloted a four-week curriculum that focuses on written expression.
Staff changes

SitStayRead entered the 2014-15 with two full-time and two part-time staff – basically the same staff size we’d had four years earlier, when we were serving less than a third the number of students. Talk about stretched thin!

It takes a village to raise a child. It turns out, it also takes a village to build a non-profit. So many of you stepped up to the challenge of increasing funding so we could fill much-needed roles. The SitStayRead Board and the already-stressed staff led the call, and “the village” that believes in dogs, kids, and books answered.

The result, as we sit here today, is six full-time staff, including our new Executive Director, Lou Bank. Our current staff is pictured to the right, but we would be remiss if we didn’t acknowledge the Lena McCain and Lane Harlow, without whom we wouldn’t have made it – let alone prospered – through the past year. They both left us in July – Lena to attend graduate school, and Lane to teach school back home in Denver. We miss them both!

We also said goodbye to two veteran Board members: Dr. Sandy Virtue and Scott Hamburg. Sandy continues to volunteer in the classroom and serve as a curriculum advisor. From his new home in Montana, Scott doesn’t expect to be seen in our classrooms any time soon, but has pledged to continue to help us with fund-raising events. Both have been invaluable in the growth of SitStayRead, and we’re glad for the time they served on our Board!

Scott and Sandy are replaced on the Board by Dr. Kevin Oran of Family Pet Animal Hospital and Jen Mason of the US Department of Labor. Welcome aboard, Jen and Kevin!

Staff photos courtesy of David Sutton, SuttonStudios.com
## Financials
(July 2014 - June 2015)

### Income
- **Contributions Income**
  - Donations $73,001
  - Grants Unrestricted $208,583
  - Grants Restricted $22,000
  - In-kind Contributions $61,793
  - **Total Contributions Income** $365,377
- **Fundraisers**
  - Classes & Tests $845
  - Events $94,304
  - Merchandise $4,028
  - In-kind Contributions $0
  - **Total Fundraisers** $99,177
- **Interest Income** $0
- **Total Income** $464,553

### Expenses
- **Administration** $31,081
- **Fundraising** $62,231
- **Programs** $229,120
- **Total Expense** $322,432

*FY2015 financials currently being audited and should not be considered final.*
At the end of our programs, we’re treated to some of the sweetest, cutest, funniest notes from the children we serve. Here’s a sample!
Why should October have all the fun?

Novemberfest
A beer and wine happy hour starting for
Sit Stay Read
Friday Nov. 07
6-8pm
Mark your calendar so you don’t miss out on this event!

SitStayRead was featured in multiple stories this past year, including segments on ABC, CBS, and WGN radio, and in Hobbes and Make It Better, honored us with a Philanthropy Award. All told, we had more than a half million impressions!
### Great Danes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allied World Assurance Co.</th>
<th>City of Chicago</th>
<th>Anonymous</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Petco Foundation</td>
<td>The Siragusa Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bears Care</td>
<td>Pi Beta Phi</td>
<td>Allison Williams</td>
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<td>Mike &amp; Melissa Canning</td>
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### German Shepherds

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chicago Board of Trade Foundation</th>
<th>Make It Better</th>
<th>Nancy Searle</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gina Graham &amp; Michael Domka</td>
<td>Pinnell Foundation</td>
<td>Synergy Creative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Hamburg</td>
<td>Jennifer &amp; Andy Rachmiel</td>
<td>Weist Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPMG</td>
<td>Jessica Rappe</td>
<td>Richard &amp; Marlene Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Litzsinger</td>
<td>Ted Reichardt</td>
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### Boxers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allstate Insurance Nat’l</th>
<th>Book Club Productions</th>
<th>The Charleston</th>
<th>Joan Evans</th>
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<tr>
<td>Catastrophe</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Mary Bookman</td>
<td>Chicago Skin Solutions</td>
<td>Everglades City Cafe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Carolyn Brna</td>
<td>Beth &amp; Ken Czechanski</td>
<td>Roxanne Falk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flavio Arana</td>
<td>Kevin T. &amp; Linda Buggy</td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Family Pet Animal Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Baryl</td>
<td>Anthony Saracco &amp;</td>
<td>Anita Dasgupta</td>
<td>William Gannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Dog Gelato</td>
<td>Caitlin Burchill</td>
<td>Greg Domingue</td>
<td>Ben Gilbert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Boxers

GreaterGood.org  
Sue Hagedorn  
Henry Hanau  
Jennifer & Seth Hanau  
Hands & Hooves Riding,  
  Rescue, and Rehabilitation  
Ashley Hansen  
The Harmann Family Fund of  
  the Greater Cincinnati Fdn  
Allison Johns  
Rick & Lauren Johnson  
Kenneth H. & Linda B. Robin  
  Fund

Eileen Casey & Tim Kress  
Judy & Buddy Krug  
Kuma's Corner  
Laura J. Niles Foundation  
Lincoln Bark, LLC  
Robert & Elizabeth Littel  
Betsy Little  
Kate Lloyd  
Victoria Luisi  
Justin & Sarah McCarty  
Deborah & Gerald McIlvain  
Anonymous  
Jill & Paul Meister

The Morty Frank Memorial  
  Fund  
Kerry O'Rourke  
Lane Harlow & Will Paterson  
PwC  
Sandra Rodriguez  
Claire Rohde  
Elizabeth Rossi  
William W. Rowe  
Seat Riot  
Adrienne Sheely  
Barbara & Bill Shomaker  
Kenneth Siegel

Jodi Simala  
Mary Beth Smith  
Teri Snyder  
Soggy Paws  
Spot Trading  
John & Cynthia Westerman  
Evie Wexler  
The Wicklander Family  
  Foundation, Inc.  
Tony Williams  
J. Bradley Blankenship, Ph.D.,  
  & Masood Zaman  
Claire Zulkey

## Bulldogs

Jose Luis Avalos  
Bar 1 Events  
Tory Bassani  
Jessica & Lewis Biscamp  
Sandy Boyd-Jansen  
Chicago Pet Sitters  
Soo Choi  
Angie & Dean Daubert  
Degerberg Academy  
Ann Demand  
Lauren Dempsey  
Ron Chafetz & Sharon Dillon  
Linda Drake  
Sharon Dugan  
Caroline & Lawrence Eagles  
Christine Esposito  
Cathy & Doug Ethridge  
Colleen Fahey  
Frank G. & Gertrude Dunlap Fund

Nick & Wendy Dodson Gallegos  
Denise Gardner  
Carlyn Gilbert  
Allie Goldhammer  
Good Heart Work Smart  
  Foundation  
Leonard Goodman  
Karen Gottschalk  
Timothy Gray  
Haukur & Jennifer Gudmundsson  
Lisa Helford  
Mike & Janet Hughes  
Alan Hunken  
Jokie, A Portrait Boutique  
Keshet  
Kiehl's  
Cynthia & Daniel Kim  
Tom Kominsky  
Brad Krautwurst

Rebecca Lamers  
Lee Lampert  
Betsy Lembeck  
Make It Better  
Stephen Beatty & Mary Massie  
Soraya McCune  
Brigid McHale  
Rhonda & George Milkowski  
Bruce & Carol Miller  
Tim & Sarah Murphy  
Adrienne Nadler  
Leanne Neurauser  
Kelly & Mike Owens  
Patagonia - Clybourn Store  
Jerry Pate  
Angela Petrucci  
Michael Richards  
RL Visuals  
Michael Rosenberg

Beatriz Sanchez  
Renee Pappas & Mark Schneider  
Nichole & Brandon Schulman  
Joanna Senter  
Sparenga Photography  
Peg Sorenson  
Eta Stine  
Sutton Studios  
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Judy Swirscky  
Andrea Thury  
Linda Trevino-Garcia  
Trianon Tequila  
Megan Tusler  
Sandra Virtue, PhD  
Linda C. Vogler  
Erica Westberg  
Jessica Westerman  
Whole Foods Market
Ahlbeck & Company
Anum Ahmed
Amazing Edibles
Lilly Apostolou
Joanna Arellano
Anna & Jeff Assenmacher
@Properties
Sana Azem
Masa Azul
Connie & Lou Bank
BarkBox
Ann & John Barkley
Joseph Barrett
Salle Bauer
Alicia Billington
Black Dog Gelato
Alicia Boemi
Boka Restaurant Group
Anne Boston
Vera Bradley
Brookfield Zoo
Thomas & Phyllis Brown
Terry Brumfield
Arunas Bruzas
Barbara Buckridge
Christie Buralli
Paul Burmeister
Cabot Creamery
Katrina Cairo
Leslie Carroll
Ifé Carruthers
Patty Casey
Aurora Chavez
Chicago Athletic Club
Chicago Botanic Garden
The Chicago Community Trust
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Lisa & Christopher Chigas
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Jerry Cleland
Club Lucky
Sy & Linda Cohen
Peggy Colley
Corepower Yoga
CPX Sports
CrossTown Fitness
Lino Darchun
Bart Darfler
Melissa Davis
Michael & Karol Delfini
Marion & Gilbert Demange
Bradley Dineen
The Drake Hotel
Marla Drysdale-Mark
Dana Dubrwny
Elzbieta Dziurkiewicz
East Bank Club
Ingrid Eichman
Virginia England
Thomas Evans
fast Eddie's Hand Car Wash
Karin Feldner
Hana Field
The Fig Tree
George & Judith Fitchett
Amy Follett
Christophe & Elizabeth Foubert
Four Winds Casino & Resort
Charlotte, Andi & Gimli Frei
Freshtii
FundraisingRides
Anne Fusaro
Brandon Gardner
Danelle Gay
Sarah Gaziano
Jennifer & Dave Gendel
Robert & Inna Gerber
Bonnie Glassner
Bryan Glosk
Fred & Jan Glure
Matt Goethe
Taylor Goldberg
Lolo & Bruce Gottschall
Nell Goza
Steve & Marge Graham
Grand Hotel
Vanessa Ground
David Groves
Jacalyn Finkel Guon
Usha Gupta
Carolyn Hesse & William
Hallenbeck
Judy Halteman
Todd Hamburg
Grahame Harlow
Meg Harlow
Julie Hart
Hart Davis Hart Wine
Dino Hasapis
Haymarket Pub & Brewery
Carmen Hernandez
Steve Hier
Diane Hoch
Nancy Hollander
Ted & Carrie Homewood
Hotel Palomar
William Hudson
Hush Salon
Cecilia Ice-Mays
Improv Chicago
John G. Shedd Aquarium
Samantha Johnson
Allie & Tim Judd
Jennifer Jurgenson
Dr. Paula Kagan
David Kaplan
Jeanne Kaplan
Kinzie Hotel Chicago
Susan Kleinman
Shawn Klupchak
Kirbie Knutson
Trish Kryzstopa
Kim Kueny
Kimberly Kueny
The Lagunitas Brewing Co.
Jenny Lauth
Meghan Lee
Lettuce Entertain You
Lincoln Park Zoo
Local Quickies Excursions and Charters
Anonymous
The Lyric Opera
Joe & Stephanie O'Neill Macro
Jerry Manne
Mary Massie
Melissa McBride
Lawanna McDonald
Maggie McElherne
Kate McIlvain
Christine & Patrick McLaughlin
Jacqueline Meier
Janet Henderson & Deb Melesio
Victoria Van Meter
JoAnn & Michael Meyer
Teresa Meza
Kelly Mikronis
Brian & Catharon Miller
Million Dollar Quartet
Czarina Mirani
Kara Mone
Kate Monks
Stacy Moore
Jim Morgan
Ellen Morrison
Nancy Mullarkey
Melissa Murrell
Jessica Napomiachi
Kris Nielsen & John Neurauter
Jim Price & Don Newcomb
Northlight Theatre
Paul Odell
Old Town School of Folk Music
John Olson
Sanderson R. Orr
Paper Source
Paradise 4 Paws
Angelo & Marita Parrish
Paw Naturals
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Jill Perlman
Alisa Perotte
Martha Peterson
Karen Polin
Beagles continued

Karen Pollack
Michelle & Stu Primack
Erin Ptacek
Roberto Puig
Brad & Jenn Rachmiel
Michelle Rapaport
Abby & Phillip Raskin
Polly & Tucker Reese
Residence Inn Marriott Naperville
Debbie Rezabek
Anonymous
Phil Rogers
Nobelle De La Rosa
Andrew Rosenband
Dan Roth
Helen Jaeger Roth
Greg Rothman
Jennifer Rothstein
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Katherine Salle
David Salsburg
Jonathan Sands
Ellen Sawyer
MaryEllen Schneider
Angi Semler
Kara Severson
Sharp Piano Lessons
Molly Sheehan
Howard Silver
Silver Cinemas Acquisition Co.
Therese Simon
Joyce Simon
Bridget Smith
Beth & Jason Snyder
Katherine Gray Pollock & Lesley Spencer
Angela & David Spinale
Sportsman’s Club
Sara Spretanjak
Bob Staake
Christy Starks
Katie Stearns
Zackery Stephens
Amy Stevenson
Rush & Rachel Sturges
Sara Superfine
Mary Swanton
Tanna Farms Golf Club
Loreen Targos
Linda Toscano
Trunk Club
Judith K. Tullman
Urban Oasis Massage
Ryan Vaughn
Ronald Verson
James Virtue
John Wagner
Athena & John Walker
Elaine Wanat
Washoe Pines Foundation
Nina & H.G. Webb
Christine Weber
Lori Sue Wendorf
Anonymous
Lisa Wiersma
Leslee & Larry Williams
Lilly Willis
Lori Yoder
Zanies Comedy Club Chicago
Ronald Zelikow, DDS

Chihuahuas

David & Glenna Adkins
Celia Althage
Amy Altman
Holly Amatangelo
Stephanie Anderson
Aqua Hair Salon
Jason Archillas
Robert E. Arnold
Arts n Spirits
Alison Arzeni
Dr. Saba Ayman-Nolley
David Maddox & Betsy Bahn
Meghan Barrett
Becker Animal Hospital
Joshua & Sarah Berman
Richard Bertheaud
Anita Dasgupta & Palash
Bhattacharya
Anjali Bidani
Anila Bishop
Linda & James Bruce
Cindy Brueck
Veronica Byers
Canine Link
Carol’s Cookies
Julio Cestero
Julie Channell
Julie Chen
Inna Chernysh
Kate Cheston
Chicago Architecture Foundation
Chicago Wolves
The Chopping Block
Amanda & Matt Cienkus
Briana Clark
Catherine Clement
Jennifer Cloughley
Helen Coleman
Chris Collins
Pat Constabileo
Ruth Gannon Cook
Chrisanne Corbett
Debbie Creigh
Maryrose Cunningham
Dr. Denise Davidson
Amanda Davis
Debra Stouffer
Kim Dickerson
Kari Dillon
Dinkel’s Bakery
Lawrence & Janice Disco
DoggerJogger
Rob Grossinger & Maren
Dougherty
Luba Dovjenko
Andrea Dudek
E. Dianne Pauly Enterprises, Inc.
Heather Eckhardt
Char Eggleston
Heath & Lisa Eisman
Mark & Mary Therese Fazzini
Ariel Feinstein
The Field Museum
Finch’s Brewery
Greg & Georgina Fine
Evan Finke
Roy & Lucy Finkel
Fireside Restaurant & Lounge
Fleet Feet Chicago
Louise Fortun
Francesca Restaurant Group
Susan Frejlich
Sherry & Richard Frenzel
Gale Street Inn
The Goodman Theatre
Linda & Don Gow
Scott & Valerie Gracyalny
Great American Cheese Collection
Gro Salon
Lindsey Hagan
Katie Halberg
Julie Hanks
Andee & John Harris
Hank & Lora Hart
Ashley Hart
Mike & Marge Hartigan
Don Hibberd
Chihuahuas continued

Barb Hogan
Jared Honn
Lawrence & Mary Jane Horwitz
Hot Chocolate
William Houston
Irazu
Jane's Restaurant
Robert Jensen
Mary Cris Johnson
Jennifer Kaeheimer
Karen Kalichman
Effie Kanellakes
Amy Kaplan
Janet Kaplan
Jerry Goldman & Susan Kennedy
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kennedy
Kevin Keys
John Kiefer
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Beth Kirshenberg
Sanford & Melva Klein
The Klerk Family
Nancy Koenig
Kohl Children's Museum
Koval Distillery
Raymond Kowalsky
Kriser's
Julie Kuhn
Landmark Theatres
Jim Langerman
Niomi Langston
Christine Lawler
Leaning Shed Farm
Terri Lewin
Kelly Lewis
Kathy Lichtenstein
Carol Lieberman
Lil' Kickers Chicago
Mark Litzinger
Mary Lorden
Lou Malnati's
Anh Luu
Franziska Lys
Mackinac State Historic Parks

Ashley Mackowiak
Christine Mahoney
Mike Maimone
Sarah Mallory
Gloria Mangialardo
Mariano's Lincoln Park
Mariano's West Loop
Marie's Pet Grooming
The Marriott Theatre
Jennifer Mason
Lena McCaib
Marcella McCarty
William & Lorraine McClung
Carolyn McGee
Susana Mendoza
Lois Metzger
Janis Michael
Kelly Michael
Marcy Millkowski
Andrea Miller
Thomas & Elizabeth Molins
Lynne Montgomery
Michael & Kathleen Moritz
Paul & Norma Moscato
Louise & Robert Motel
Jenna Moulton
Museum of Science and Industry
Robert Nagy
Beth Nelies
Ana Neric
Denise Nichols
The Noble Grape
Nonna Silvia's Trattoria & Pizzeria
James McMasters & Nanette Norton
Corrine Nowak
Jacob Olojnak
Peggy Oshefsky
Outerwall
Heather Owen
Daniel & Patricia Panek
Amy Pappas
Kathleen Park
Diane Parlapiano
Kalori Parris
Andrew Perry
Dr. Joyce Pickel
Pistol and Vine
Evie Plofsky
Sarah Polich
Barbara F. Potter
Matthew Powers
Curt Preissner
Pump It Up
Q-BBQ
Wen Qin
David & Sandy Rachmiel
J.R. & Sue Radtke
Ruth & Bruce Randall
Erika Raskopf
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Spooky Pooch Parade
Stan's Donuts & Coffee
Barbara Steinikeller
Chelsea Stephens
Storytown Improv
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Student
Molly Sullivan
Robin Szarvas
Leah Taylor
Jill Terralavoro
Tony Timov
Cheryl Hruby & Jean Tolchinsky
Katie Traines
Trifactive
Don Tufano
Uber
Lauren Umek
Eugene Vajkovsky
Scott Verschoor
Kim Vickroy
Vintage Charm
Julia Van Vliet
Wandi Wang
Patricia Webster
WeevU
Barbara Weinstein
Florence Weisblatt
Ilsa Nan Wexler
Jacyn Wexler
Linden White
Wiggleyville West Loop
Margaret Wilson
Robert Wirsing
Jane Wong
Gregory Wright
Kevin Wynne
Teresa Reilly & John Yeh
Jeff Yerro
Nick Ziech
Laura Zorner
DOGS HELP KIDS READ
2849 N. Clark, Chicago IL  60657
773.661.9251
www.sitstayread.org

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Ben Gilbert                  Kelly Owens
Gina Graham                 Andy Rachmiel, CPA
Kate Lloyd                  Tony Saracco, CPA, MBA
Jen Mason                   Jessica Westerman, CPA
Justin McCarty              Allie Williams

Staff
Lou Bank, Executive Director
Sue Hiering, Curriculum Specialist
Victoria Luisi, Volunteer Coordinator
Kate McIlvain, Program Director
Sarah Mylan, Program Coordinator
Amy Ricchuito, Development Director
SitStayRead is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit that brings certified reading-assistance dogs into Chicago Public Schools to help struggling young readers develop critical early literacy skills. Here are some ways you can join us in this important work:

- **Make a donation**
  Financial contributions of any size are always welcome and forever needed. Donations can be made online at sitstayread.org/donate

- **Volunteer**
  Join us in a classroom, with or without a dog. Every volunteer Dog Team is supported by multiple human volunteers. Learn more at sitstayread.org/volunteer

- **Tell a friend!**
  Word-of-mouth is our most effective form of advertising. Know someone who loves dogs, kids, or books? Or all three? Point them in our direction!

SitStayRead
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Chicago IL 60657
773.661.9251
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www.sitstayread.org