

Find out what's new with Books for a Better World and make your annual donation. Through your support, we continue to bring new worlds of knowledge and imagination to thousands of children. You can now see photos and stories about book deliveries on our new blog. See your donation in action at www.booksforabetterworld.org; click on Library Blog.



The majority of the schools we serve have never had a school library with children's books or a community library for families to borrow books.

The Joy of Book Delivery

It's exciting to start a library for a school with no books. It is even more exciting to witness the children's enthusiasm for reading after a few years of book donations. First-time volunteer, Dax Ramirez, called it a "life-changing experience":

After trekking two hours through the jungle on a slippery path, I and two other BBW volunteers finally reached the isolated village of San Jose Espinero. Boys were playing soccer in the mud. Seeing us, they run to the classroom, and we are greeted with amazing smiles. We reach for our backpacks and pull the dry children's books that have journeyed from the states, the wet jungle, and into this classroom. The smiles grow bigger and the kids are trying their best to control their excitement as we hand out the books. These students were ferocious readers! We later watched with awe as the students volunteered to describe their new books to the class, and realized that some students recited their stories almost word for word. Now we were trying our best to contain our smiles and excitement.

I never met Kae Robb, the founder of Books for a Better World, but whatever her feeling was when she envisioned bringing children's books to poverty stricken schools, I think this is what she had in mind. As we raced back to beat the darkness that would soon fall, I was still thinking of the children and their teacher, an amazing man who asks for no praise. He hikes this trail daily to teach these children. I couldn't help thinking about the experience and how it touched me, especially the smiles, the little hands holding books tight against their bodies as they disappeared into the jungle, and the teacher's passion for his students. These are the memories I will never forget. I will keep them in my soul.

For Dax's entire story and other book delivery adventures, go to www.booksforabetterworld.org and click on the Library Blog.

BBW operates entirely through the efforts of hardworking volunteers and contributions from generous donors like you!



Volunteers Step Up to Raise Funds

Volunteers have developed exciting new ways to raise funds for BBW.

Several book clubs have adopted a library. Pooling their resources, four book clubs donated \$350 each and were paired with a children's school library in Central America. The Pine Book Club in Arizona even held an amazing yard sale to raise the funds!

"Birthday challenges" were another contagious fundraising idea. Friends and family were asked to donate to BBW in lieu of gifts. The birthday person asked that their age be part of the donation amount, such as \$30 or \$25.30 for a 30-year-old. Some people even put the birthday request on Facebook.

Last spring, a volunteer held a fun and lively book party for friends who love to read. They enjoyed a trivia contest, silent auction, raffle, and sharing their favorite books. They also learned about Books for a Better World. These readers loved our mission and were happy to support it.

If you would like to help with fundraising, please contact us at info@booksforabetterworld.org



In 2011, BBW delivered over 4,000 books to 75 schools and libraries.

Board of Directors

Alice Finn Gartell (President) • Alex Robb (Vice President) • Allen Beach (Co-Vice President) • Jan McLaughlin (Treasurer) • Wendy Finlayson (Secretary) • Kae Robb (Founder) • Amanda June • Stephanie Goins • Kira Gartell • Shelby Boyle



Ways You Can Help:

Donate

Online at: www.booksforabetterworld.org

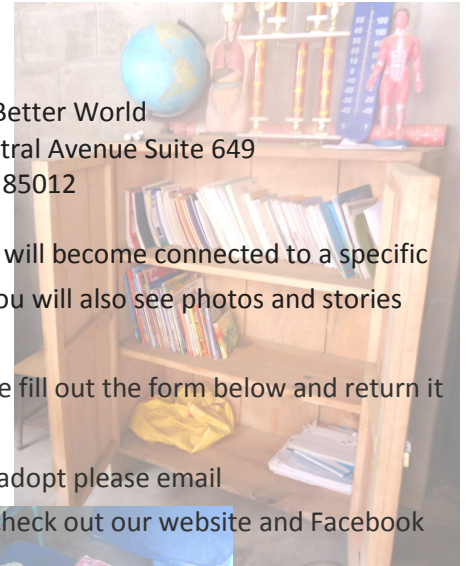
Or By Mail: Books for a Better World
5025 N. Central Avenue Suite 649
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Adopt a Library

For a donation of \$350 or more, you can adopt a library. You or your organization will become connected to a specific library in Central America and provide it with over fifty quality children’s books. You will also see photos and stories about the delivery to “your” library on our Library blog.

To start your personal connection with one of our many incredible libraries, please fill out the form below and return it to BBW in the enclosed remittance envelope.

If you have questions or a specific request regarding the library you would like to adopt please email info@booksforabetterworld.org to make a customized arrangement. Be sure to check out our website and Facebook page for Adopt-a-Library updates and information.



Volunteer

From start to finish, our volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization. If you are interested in becoming part of our mission to end illiteracy, please email us at info@booksforabetterworld.org for more information on our local activities and how you can participate.

www.BooksforaBetterWorld.org



Check us out on Facebook!

Adopt-a-Library Registration Form

Please send this form back to BBW in the enclosed remittance envelope with your donation of \$350 or more.

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Select a country where you would like to Adopt-a-Library for 2012:

- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- No Preference
- Nicaragua
- Honduras
- Send me an info packet about the Adopt-a-Library Program

Select the reading-level preference you would like to support:

- Pre-school - 6th Grade
- 7th Grade - 8th Grade
- 8th Grade and Above

Mail correspondence to:

Books for a Better World
5025 N. Central Avenue, Ste. 649
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Or

Email us with any questions you may have at:

info@booksforabetterworld.org

