



The Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) is a nonprofit based in Waterbury Center, VT. Our mission is to inspire a love of reading and writing among low-income, at-risk, and rural children up to age 12 in New Hampshire and Vermont.

How we do it

CLiF works with New Hampshire and Vermont organizations that serve children at risk of growing up with low literacy skills. We provide inspiring presentations, free books, and support. Our work supplements existing programming or helps create opportunities to introduce literacy topics. Our partners include schools, libraries, prisons, shelters, refugee programs, camps, nutrition programs, and others.

Free community-based literacy programs

CLiF's literacy programs are **CLiF Year of the Book, Rural Libraries, Children of Prison Inmates, Summer Readers, At-Risk Children, and Community Building**. The first three are in-depth, community-focused programs implemented over a year or more. The last three are one-time presentations and book giveaways. There is an application process for each program. All programs are free for our partners. See www.clifonline.org for more information and upcoming application deadlines.

Book giveaways and the power of choice

CLiF donates brand-new, high-quality children's books directly to children. At book giveaways, children are invited to select books to keep from a vast selection reflecting hundreds of possible interests. Children who choose their own reading material are more likely to read for pleasure and develop stronger literacy skills. That positive association with books is especially important for the many children we serve who own no other books at all.

Employ local creative talent

CLiF hires more than 50 professional authors, illustrators, poets, and storytellers to lead workshops and presentations. All CLiF presenters live in New Hampshire or Vermont. Our accomplished roster includes winners of the Newbury and Dorothy Canfield Fisher medals, among other prestigious awards.

History, impact, and funding

Since Duncan McDougall founded CLiF in 1998, we have reached roughly 200,000 children, given away nearly \$5 million in new books, and served more than 400 towns. CLiF relies entirely on private sources for funding and accepts no state or federal support.

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