

# BOOKS IN A BOX



***Providing books to children experiencing the effects of familial incarceration***

## WHAT IS BOOKS IN A BOX?

Books in a Box delivers home libraries of brand new and culturally inclusive books directly to children who are experiencing the incarceration of a parent. Book Harvest partners with correctional facilities and community organizations to enroll children, from birth to age ten, and their families in the program. This book provision program exemplifies Book Harvest's commitment to meet families where they are with an abundance of books.



## WHY BOOKS IN A BOX MATTERS



- There are more than 20,000 children with an incarcerated parent in North Carolina. Researchers estimate that in 2018, 5 million children experienced parental incarceration. [1]
- 1 in 14 children in North Carolina will experience parental incarceration. [2]
- Books in the home are the single biggest predictor of a child's reading proficiency and long term success in school. [3]

## HOW BOOKS IN A BOX WORKS

Book Harvest mails a total of 20 new books to children whose families are experiencing the effects of incarceration. Upon successful enrollment, children receive an initial box of 10 age-appropriate books, and then another 10 books six months later. We encourage the incarcerated caregiver to write a card to their child which will be included in the box.

[1] <https://www.afcoip.org/facts-figures>

[2] <https://ncnewsline.com/2023/03/13/monday-numbers-nearly-19000-children-in-nc-have-a-parent-whos-imprisoned/>

[3] <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/05/100520213116.htm>



## ABOUT BOOK HARVEST

*Book Harvest's mission is to provide books every child, support for every parent, and literacy for every community. Since 2011, Book Harvest has provided more than two million books to families in North Carolina and beyond, ensuring that children grow up with abundant home libraries and parents have the tools and power to ignite and strengthen their children's literacy. With programs that are grounded in evidence, Book Harvest believes that literacy starts at birth, in the home, powered by parents, and nourished with books. For more information, contact Jillian Buckley, at (614) 354-7427; [jbuckley@bookharvest.org](mailto:jbuckley@bookharvest.org).*