

# Dear LCPB Friends and Supporters,

I hope this message finds you well and encourages you with the progress the Literacy Coalition of the Permian Basin (LCPB) has made in building a more literate and empowered community.

## Reflecting on Growth and Impact

As we conclude our fourth year as a nonprofit organization, we reflect with pride on both the challenges we have overcome and the successes we've achieved. Through resilience and steady growth, LCPB continues to evolve, especially as the demand for literacy programming becomes more urgent in the face of persistent access and resource barriers.

## **Supporting Literacy Organizations**

One of our key achievements includes completing our third year of sub-granting to over 19 literacy-focused organizations across eight counties. Thanks to the support of generous donors, LCPB members can apply annually for funding to launch or expand local literacy initiatives.

# Early Childhood Literacy: POWER Bags & the Dolly Parton Imagination Library

If you or someone you know welcomed a new baby at one of our 11 POWER Bag hospital partners, then you've likely received one of our POWER Bags—resources designed to encourage parents to read and bond with their infants from birth.

In addition, we proudly launched the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, which provides a free book every month to children from birth to age five. These early years are foundational to a child's intellectual and emotional development, making this initiative a powerful tool in Early Childhood Education.

#### **Expanding Adult Literacy and Community Impact**

While we continue to support K-12 education, our mission also focuses on addressing low literacy among adults and families. Research consistently shows that communities with higher literacy rates tend to experience lower crime and poverty, and benefit from stronger civic engagement and improved public health.

Recognizing a dire gap in adult education services, especially in rural areas such as Winkler and Culberson Counties, LCPB responded decisively. In these "literacy deserts," we've introduced critical adult education programming to meet urgent needs.

#### Strengthening Our Network Through the Literacy Summit

Our success is rooted in the strength of our network. This year, 125 participants attended the 3rd Annual Literacy Summit, where we engaged with outstanding presenters and panelists to explore research-based topics linking literacy and workforce development.

#### Welcoming New Talent and Renewed Energy

Over the past year, we've welcomed new staff members whose diverse backgrounds in education, community development, and literacy advocacy are bringing fresh energy to our mission. Their experience and passion are helping us expand our outreach and deepen our impact.

If you haven't yet had the chance to meet our team, we invite you to visit our website to read our staff biographies. Feel free to reach out to us at <u>info@literacypb.org</u> —we would love to connect with you.

# Gratitude for Your Ongoing Support

Your unwavering support remains the cornerstone of our success. Thank you for standing with us through seasons of transition and growth. Together, we are shaping a future where literacy opens doors to opportunity, dignity, and hope for everyone.

With gratitude,

Settinia Martinez