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Black Hills Reads Announces 2025 Innovation Grant Recipients Supporting Early Literacy Efforts in the Black Hills

RAPID CITY, SD - July 2025 - Black Hills Reads, an early education initiative of United Way of the Black Hills, has completed its 2025 Innovation Grant cycle process and is excited to announce the recipients of this year's Innovation Grants.

Each year, Black Hills Reads accepts Innovation Grant applications from non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies that have ideas for innovative projects to help promote early literacy throughout the Black Hills. This year, \$15,000 in grant funding was awarded to nine different agencies:

- Youth and Family Services, Youth and Family Services/Girls Incorporated of Rapid City
- Rapid City Club for Boys, Summer Learning at the Club for Boys
- Early Childhood Connections, Outdoor Classroom
- Volunteers of America Inc., Mommy's Closet
- Meade School District, Family Nights, Literacy and STEAM
- Wambli Ska Society, Stories at the Lodge
- Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, Empowering Families
- Storybook Island Inc., Books and Blankets
- SunCatcher Therapeutic Riding Academy Inc., SunCatcher's Horse Powered Reading

Congratulations to all of our recipients. We look forward to seeing your exciting and innovative programs grow!

For more information on Black Hills Reads Innovation Grants and other projects, or to stay up-to-date with grant recipients, visit <https://unitedwayblackhills.org/black-hills-reads/>