



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The [Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation](#) Awards *Community Grant* to Boston's Haley Elementary School

Boston, MA, June 29, 2009 – The [Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp.](#), a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, today announced that it has awarded a [Community Grant](#) to the **Boston's Haley Elementary School**. The grant will support an innovative summer reading program for 3rd and 4th grade students who are reading below grade level and have limited access to books. Specifically, grant dollars will be used to purchase age-appropriate books for those students who are at risk for experiencing a decline in reading ability over the summer vacation. Preferred books will be selected by each student and mailed by the school to his or her home each week in July and August. The program will be supported by explicit teacher instruction before the end of the school year and outreach to students and their families during the summer months.

According to Jennifer Morrison, Haley Elementary School Literacy Coach and grant applicant, "Despite dedicated efforts to remind and encourage students to read over the summer, once school is out for some students, their reading ends. These students return to school each fall having lost as much as two reading levels. Last summer we experimented with mailing books home to a small number of students at risk of summer reading loss and the response was overwhelmingly positive. Thanks to the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, we will have the opportunity to repeat and expand that success."

Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., said, "We are excited to support this inventive literacy program. The combination of reading-level appropriate books delivered in the mail coupled with personal attention from teachers, encourages students to read over the summer. This consistent reading pattern will help them to maintain their literacy skills and improve their reading test scores when they return to school in the fall."

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence or New York within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.



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