



## Volunteer Quick Facts

### What?

The Read In, Read Out Program (RIRO), a collaborative project between Delaware Center for Justice, Delaware Department of Corrections, and Read Aloud Delaware, seeks to strengthen and improve the relationship and bond among incarcerated persons and their children by offering opportunities for these individuals to participate in long-distance reading with their children. In the RIRO Program, parent participants select their favorite age-appropriate books from the RIRO library to read aloud to their children while recording on a voice recording device, both of which are sent to their children so they can listen and follow along.

As a collaborative project, the Read In, Read Out Program (RIRO), Delaware Center for Justice and Read Aloud Delaware is responsible for recruiting, providing, and training the staff and volunteers to facilitate the RIRO Program within DOC facilities, while the Delaware Department of Corrections, DOC, determines eligibility and recruits parent participants for the program. In addition, Delaware Center for Justice serves as the liaison between Read Aloud Delaware and the DOC and is responsible for all other aspects of programming.

### Who?



#### SITE LEADS

- ✓ General volunteer responsibilities
- ✓ Coordinate and schedule volunteer efforts
- ✓ Orient new participants to the program
- ✓ Maintain basic program records / reports



#### ON-SITE VOLUNTEERS

- ✓ Assist participants in reading and recording
- ✓ Monitor the recording process and redirect participants' behavior to ensure all communication is positive and appropriate
- ✓ Encourage participants throughout the process!

### Why?

SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO... 6,362 is the number of correctional and detention facilities in the United States. Within them, an upwards of 2 million people, nearly half of which are parents to minor children. Historically, nearly 10 MILLION young people have had a mother, father—or both—spend time in incarceration. Today, close to 2.7 MILLION children or 1 in 28 have an incarcerated parent. As a result, these families experience a multitude of challenges. **However**, as research suggests, the strength or weakness of the parent-child bond can play a significant role in children's ability to overcome these challenges. Despite the circumstances, that is parental incarceration, parent's ability to read aloud to their children, not only allows them the opportunity to support their child's cognitive development, and improve their communication and parenting skills, but also helps them to develop and strengthen their bond with the children from a distance.



### When + Where?

Baylor Women's Correctional Institution (BWCI), New Castle  
 THIRD Monday of the month  
 12:30PM – 2:30PM  
 Howard R. Young Correction Institution (HRYCI), Wilmington  
 SECOND & FOURTH Monday of the month  
 12:30PM – 2:30PM \*\*Subject to change to evenings



### QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!