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[www.bvf100menreading.org](http://www.bvf100menreading.org)

### **Brandywine Valley Friends**

August 15, 2013

Dear Partner in Education,

Brandywine Valley Friends Inc., a nonprofit youth development organization, in partnership with Reading is Fundamental (RIF) - the oldest children's literacy program in the United States - will host its 6th 100 Men Reading Day on Wednesday, November 6. Bright and early, at 7:30 am, 100 professional men will come together at Christiana Care Wilmington Hospital for a breakfast and literacy briefing before heading out to read to children. They will visit preschools, childcare centers, and elementary schools throughout the state, spending approximately 30 minutes reading a story or two as they encourage children to read. Afterwards, free books will be distributed to each child.

*Two years ago, Imani Henry - the 12-year-old brainchild behind this new initiative - was awarded a grant sponsored by Macy's and the Reading Is Fundamental Celebrate Reading Campaign. As of today, Imani's program has distributed over 12,000 books, registered over 2,000 volunteer hours, and provided services to 125 educational centers and schools. In addition, Imani's efforts to promote literacy caused her to be instrumental in starting Racquets & Reading, Books & Breakfast, and the Annual Education Literacy Day Programs here in Wilmington. Because of Imani's hard work and dedication to serve, Governor Markell recognized her with a Literacy Month Proclamation.*

*Research studies suggest that from birth to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, children learn to read, and from 4<sup>th</sup> grade on they read to learn. Other studies have produced the following results: children who read as few as 6 books over a consistent period of time maintain the level of reading skills they achieved during the preceding school year. Daily reading leads to even greater success.*

To confirm your contribution, volunteer or to ask questions, please contact us at (302) 420-1819 or send an email to: [bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com](mailto:bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com)

Our volunteers realize how important it is to mentor children through the learning process as we encourage good reading habits. Our job is to support programs such as this, and sponsor literacy resources for our communities. Here is how you can help with this important effort for many deserving children. We are requesting your commitment to join us as a partner (see the attached contribution levels). All proceeds support the literacy programs mentioned above.

Thanks in advance for your willingness to help us provide volunteers to read and distribute new books, as we promote successful literacy programs. Please contact me with questions, at (302) 420-1819 or email [shenry@100menreading.org](mailto:shenry@100menreading.org) or [bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com](mailto:bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com) .

Sincerely,

*Imani and Stacey Henry*

To confirm your contribution, volunteer or to ask questions, please contact us at (302) 420-1819 or send an email to: [bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com](mailto:bvfriendsofthechildren@yahoo.com)