



A Message from our Board Co-Chairs

Dear CBB Community,

We hope this finds you healthy and managing well during these challenging times. We're writing to you today to share some important news about The Children's Book Bank.

Last year, CBB celebrated its 10th year in operation. In that time, it's grown from a vision and a stack of books in our founder and executive director Dani Swope's garage, to a viable operation that's delivered more than 900,000 high quality books to more than 80,000 children in the Portland Metro area.

It's truly taken a village to achieve this growth over the years -- from the dedication of our staff and board, to our amazing volunteers, to the many partnerships we've created with organizations in the Portland community. We couldn't have accomplished this kind of reach without the encouragement, support, generosity, and energy of partners like you. Thank you! You've helped us to shape CBB into what it is today.

With the momentum of our success and an eye toward the future, Dani began this year taking time to reflect on the strengths, opportunities and next steps of The Children's Book Bank and herself. Then COVID-19 hit and our team quickly pivoted to continue to serve children as schools closed and hold a successful fundraiser -- virtually. With our operations in a solid position, Dani revisited her evaluation and decided to step down as Executive Director this summer to make space for fresh growth and ideas at CBB, and equally as important, to spend more time with her family.

Dani's dedication during these past 10 years and especially over the last few months has been phenomenal. We want to take this opportunity to thank her for the love and passion she has given CBB and **share with you that we plan to celebrate her in the coming months at a time when it is appropriate for us to gather.**

We've begun the search for an interim executive director to support the day-to-day management of CBB while we search for a permanent executive director later this year. To ensure as seamless a transition as possible, Dani will focus on onboarding the Interim Director and will be available as needed as the

organization transitions. Her passion and commitment to our mission remain steadfast and given her expressed interest in supporting CBB going forward, we're also exploring how we can tap into her passion and her talents to keep her connected to CBB in her role as our founder.

Our staff, our Board of Directors, and our Ambassador Board are fully committed to CBB's mission and to the success of this transition. We anticipate we'll have an interim director on board within the next 30 days and we'll update you when that happens. Until that time, please check our website for contact information for our staff in each department. As board co-chairs, please don't hesitate to contact either of us with any questions you may have.

As we transition, we need your help. We're counting on you to continue to be a valuable part of our community - by attending and supporting our events, by volunteering (when we open again), by reaching out to the CBB team with ideas or connections, by making gifts, by serving on our Board or on a committee, by supporting our grant requests, or by shining a spotlight on the need for all children to experience engaging, inclusive books during their early years of development.

Together we will continue to fulfill our mission, well into the future, until one day ALL our children have the books they need to help them learn, build bonds, and discover their limitless possibilities.

Thank you for your continued support!

Allyson Yoshiwara
Board Co-chair
nanayosh@hotmail.com
503-706-3578

Beth Daniels
Board Co-chair
bdaniels1086@gmail.com
503-720-2608