

## Fundraising Impact - Community Libraries

### Location

St Joseph's Education Centre, Enfield, South Australia

### Supporting

Young mothers and their children

### Australian Early Development Census Data (AEDC)

24.2% of children vulnerable on one or more domains.

14.4% of children vulnerable on two or more domains.

### Desired Outcomes

- Parents read with their babies/children more regularly
- Improved engagement to support family well-being
- Children exposed to rich language to support their vocabulary development and emerging literacy and numeracy skills.



Children reading at St Joseph's Education Centre, Enfield

In 2017, Raising Literacy Australia donated a *Community Library* to St Joseph's Education Centre; a college that supports young mothers to return to their secondary education after having a baby. The library features over 350 picture books and is a welcome addition for these students who have limited financial resources and are often, parenting without the support of a partner. The library has been placed within the centre's onsite crèche, providing an opportunity for the mums to read with their children throughout their day.

The Principal at St Joseph's has noticed positive changes in the student's engagement with their young children as they take the time to share stories during break times. She told us:

"For some students, reading to their children is not an integral part of each day. The books have provided an opportunity for them to spend time with their children reading and encouraging a love of books".

This is just one example of the positive impact a *Community Library* can have in a community which is experiencing social disadvantage.

For further information on our Community Libraries initiative please contact:

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