

HPHC Las Vegas Shine City Project cleans books for *Spread the Word Nevada*

Ken Doo
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On June 11, 2022, Shine City Project helped to clean books for Spread the Word Nevada! Spread the Word Nevada is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to advancing early childhood literacy by providing books for children and households located in at-risk, low-income neighborhoods in Nevada. Since 2001, they've been able to distribute over 6.6 million books to 728,675 students in both Northern and Southern Nevada. On average, that's 60,000 books for students each month!



For this Saturday morning, our Shine City Project volunteers met at the office of Spread the Word Nevada and headed inside the volunteer room for orientation and guidance. After meeting the staff members, we went to work cleaning and preparing the books to be donated. We had various tools at our disposal - a wet and dry cloth, plastic scraper, permanent marker, scissors, tape, and a couple erasers. We had to ensure that the front and back covers and individual pages were all clean and that any stray markings, stickers, and dirt were removed. For some of the books, if they were too damaged, they couldn't be donated. Instead, we had to place them in plastic bins for recycling.

To help with the task, we had eleven volunteers representing Shine City Project! A few of our volunteers were joining for their first or second time! In the end, with everyone's hard work, we were able to clean and prepare several hundreds of books in a couple hours! Some of our volunteers share about their experiences below.



"In general, it was a nice opportunity to be able to give to others by cleaning books and making sure that the kids who would receive them would feel joy through the books. This is the hope and vision of Spread the Word Nevada." - Houshin

"Working with Spread the Word Nevada to prepare books to be donated for kids was a surprisingly fun experience. I enjoyed seeing all the different books and reminiscing about books from my own childhood. Also, we played a book bingo, which made the work even more engaging. As someone who loved reading as a child, I am grateful to support a nonprofit helping kids with their literary skills. I hope the kids who receive these books can enjoy reading in general as well." - Jennifer

"Helping out with Spread the Word Nevada brought back nostalgia while cleaning the books. I had a great time and the staff were friendly. Knowing that the books are being donated to kids, libraries, and schools made the volunteer work meaningful. I would love to volunteer again if given the opportunity to do so." - Jerold

