



For Immediate Release

Reading ASSIST[®] Institute honors Sylvia Dorsey and Gracia Ratliff with Betty Kane Award for Extraordinary Volunteer Service

Wilmington, DE –22 April, 2010- Marilyn Monahan, Executive Director of Reading ASSIST[®] Institute (RAI) honored Sylvia Dorsey and Gracia Ratliff with the Betty Kane Award for Extraordinary Volunteer Service. Ratliff and Dorsey are volunteer reading tutors in RAI's Volunteer Tutor Program.

“Both Sylvia and Gracia have given exceptional service tutoring children at risk for reading failure at St. Paul’s Elementary School in Wilmington. They exemplify the spirit of RAI, whose mission is to Improve the Literacy Skills of Children at Risk for Reading Failure”, said Monahan.

Dorsey and Ratliff were presented with her awards at RAI’s annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at the Waterfall Banquet Center. The Betty Kane Award is named for its first recipient, one of RAI’s first volunteers, Betty Kane. This award has been given in each of the past eleven years to individuals whose volunteer service to RAI is unsurpassed.

Reading ASSIST[®] Institute is a non-profit 501(c)(3) children’s literacy organization headquartered in Wilmington, Delaware with an additional office in Milford, DE. Its mission is to improve the literacy skills of those children who struggle to learn to read.

The paid staff is supported by 150 active volunteers who tutor 250 children in area schools who are struggling to learn to read. Volunteer tutoring services are provided in collaboration with local schools, and at no cost to families or schools. Reading ASSIST also offers fee-for-service, private tutoring as well as an extensive catalog of courses for educators who are looking for research-based methods and resources to incorporate into an existing classroom curriculum to improve the reading skills of struggling readers.

For more information about Reading ASSIST[®] Institute’s programs to help struggling readers or to find out how you can support the mission, visit the website, www.readingassist.org, or contact Sally Coonin at the Institute at 302-425-4080.