

NONPROFIT NOMINATION FORM

As a member in good standing of Elk Rapids Area 100 Women Who Care, I nominate the following non-profit organization to be considered for the group's next donation.

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 7 DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

I also agree to make a 5 minute presentation using the information provided below at the group's next meeting.

Email *

coolie740@gmail.com

MY NAME *

Lisa Cooley

ORGANIZATION NAME *

Remain In Touch

ORGANIZATION WEBSITE AND/OR FACEBOOK PAGE *

remainintouch.org , Remain in Touch

MISSION/PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION *

Strengthen the incarcerated parental bond of love and family unit through literacy. We offer incarcerated parents the opportunity to select free books and record them aloud for their children, ages 0 to 12 years. For their older children ages 13 to 18, incarcerated parents are invited to select free books, record introductions, and borrow the same books to read concurrently with their teens. The recordings and books are sent to the individual children, allowing the parents to stay connected and bridge the gap that exists during the time of their incarceration. We give the children a way to learn and hear their parent's voice whenever they wish.

Studies of prisoners consistently suggest that those who maintain strong family and friendship ties during imprisonment and assume marital and parental roles upon release have lower reoffend rates than those who function without family ties, expectations and obligations

SERVICE AREA THE ORGANIZATION SERVES *

Inmates in Leelanau County, Benzie County, and Antrim County area. Antrim County's program began in August 2023 and has delivered 157 books to 40 children from 20 inmates, ranging in ages from newborns to college students. In eight years in Leelanau and Benzie, Remain In Touch has delivered 1616 CDs/books, reached 459 children and 318 inmates have participated.

With the growth and addition of Antrim County in the program, the administrative work of tracking all the books, ordering them and coordinating materials required by the volunteers to mail out the books/CD's was getting to be more than the current volunteer administrator could handle. In the fall of 2024, a 10 hour/week paid administrator was hired. The salary of \$17,000 was added to the budget going forward.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATION BUDGET AND PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCES *

Our previous funding comes from many sources in Benzie, Leelanau and Grand Traverse counties. Churches, Community Foundations, Sherriff's offices, local book clubs, book stores, retailers, Rotary, periodic fundraisers and many individuals to name a few. At this time very limited funding is from Antrim county.

The current budgeted expenses for 2025 are \$33,000, an increase of \$17,000 over 2024. Based on 2024, the majority of income comes from contributions and some from grants.

**SPECIFIC DETAILS ON HOW OUR DONATION WOULD BE USED. INCLUDE BUDGET, TIMING AND *
NUMBERS SERVED/IMPACTED**

If given the 100 Women Who Care - Elk Rapids Area award, the money will go towards the administrative salary, increased cost of postage and ensuring there are ample books available for the inmates to share with their children during 2025. One of our clients was in the jail for over 6 months, so it was important to have a wide range of books to choose from. Funding is necessary in order to keep our book carts full, record CDs, and pay mailing costs to get the books and recordings to each individual child.

MY RELATIONSHIP/EXPERIENCE WITH THIS ORGANIZATION *

I have been a volunteer to record the inmates at Antrim county jail where we go twice a month since the beginning. It is amazing to see parents/grandparents read to each child and the care they take in choosing the "right" book for each child. I joined RIT due to its dual focus on helping adults and children stay connected in a positive way during an incarceration. Each child receives their own package with their parent's voice that they can listen to over and over again when they are missing them. The parent remains "in the child's life" and encourages their children to read.

Here is one person's response to RIT.

Me and my family wanted to let you know how much the Remain In Touch Program means to us. It has been very hard for my girls to be away from their daddy. With this program I get to see my girls faces light up when a book and recording of their daddy reading the book gets received in the mail. It has really kept my girls positive through this separation and they have something to look forward too twice a month. Also, our girls don't know that he is in jail and they don't understand why he is gone so sending the books and recording shows my girls that daddy is thinking of them and loves them very much! We are so thankful to Remain in Touch. They really are helping my family stay connected in this hard time we are going through.

3 members of 100 Women Who Care - Elk Rapids Area are volunteers for RIT.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Please complete information below that will be used for communication and funding purposes. It does NOT have to be included in your presentation.

ORGANIZATION'S TAX ID/501(c)3 NUMBER *

81-1648466

ORGANIZATION'S CONTACT PERSON *

Connie Eisenhart

CONTACT PERSON'S EMAIL ADDRESS *

contactus@remainintouch.org

ORGANIZATION'S STREET ADDRESS *

PO Box 553

ORGANIZATION'S CITY *

Suttons Bay, MI

ORGANIZATION'S ZIP CODE *

49682

ORGANIZATION'S PHONE NUMBER *

231-499-0606

SUBMISSION DATE *

MM DD YYYY

/ /

FORM SUBMISSION

Submit form by pressing the "Submit" button below.

Any questions, email 100womenelkrapids@gmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR NOMINATION!

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