

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Cleveland Kids' Book Bank Announces Building Purchase With Lead Gift of \$500,000 from the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation and \$100,000 Major Gift from The Higley Fund of the Cleveland Foundation**

#### **Phase II of "Next Chapter" Capital Campaign underway to fund renovations to ensure accessibility for all**

Cleveland, OH (March 6, 2025) — The Cleveland Kids' Book Bank, a leading nonprofit dedicated to fostering literacy and a love of reading by providing free books to children, announced the purchase of its new headquarters in Cleveland's Bellaire-Puritas neighborhood.

The purchase was funded by hundreds of individual supporters and a major lead gift of \$500,000 from the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation.

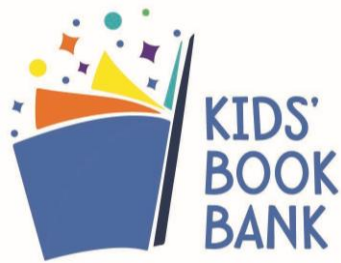
Since opening in 2016, the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank has distributed more than 4.9 million books to children and families in Greater Cleveland. The first phase of the "Next Chapter" Capital Campaign raised funds to purchase a 24,000 sq ft office and warehouse space on West Parkway, with more than \$1MM coming from individuals. Phase II of the Capital Campaign is underway to raise funds needed to complete renovations, primarily to ensure accessibility for all.

"Our community understands the importance of literacy as evidenced by this tremendous outpouring of support," said Natalie Friedl, executive director of Cleveland Kids' Book Bank. "We are excited to expand our impact through this literacy hub. It is where the magic will continue!"

The new, renovated facility will allow the organization to greatly expand its impact, distribute even more free books, and become a literacy hub for the community.

"We are pleased to partner with the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank as they embark on their next chapter to promote the joys of reading and prepare the next generation of children for the future," said Jehuda Reinharz, president and chief executive officer of the Mandel Foundation.

For more information about the "Next Chapter" Capital Campaign or to make a donation, visit [www.kidsbookbank.org](http://www.kidsbookbank.org) or contact Natalie Friedl at 216.367.9009 or [natalie@kidsbookbank.org](mailto:natalie@kidsbookbank.org).

**About the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank**

Since 2016, the nonprofit organization has been dedicated to ensuring that every child in Greater Cleveland has books in the home. Through its community-based partnerships, the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank has distributed more than 4.9 million new and gently used books to children, schools, and community organizations, helping to foster a love of reading and improving childhood literacy.

**About the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation**

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel established their first foundation in 1953 in their hometown of Cleveland, Ohio. Their philanthropic legacy is continued through the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation and the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Supporting Foundation. The work of the Foundations is grounded in the belief that exceptional leaders, inspired by powerful ideas, are key to improving society and the lives of people around the world. The Foundations have identified five areas of engagement that receive support, which include: leadership development, management of nonprofits, humanities, Jewish life and urban engagement. For more information, please visit [mandelfoundation.org](http://mandelfoundation.org).

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