

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Lori Ann Doyon, communication manager of St. Nicks Alliance
Ph. 917-635-1293; ldoyon@stnicksalliance.org

GURU KRUPA POWERS LITERACY! *Gives \$75K grant to St. Nicks Alliance's mobile library and literacy motivation: the BK Story Voyager*

WILLIAMSBURG, BK, New York (October 3, 2023) – Guru Krupa Foundation, Inc. (GKF) renewed their support to St. Nicks Alliance's literacy initiative: the BK Story Voyager on October 3, 2023. GKF presented St. Nicks Alliance a grant in the amount of \$75,000 for one year toward the support of the BK Story Voyager, which will travel to 16 elementary after-school centers and summer camps to bring consistent, in-person learning with literacy instruction, book borrowing, and book giveaways. The funds will help improve literacy and address the learning loss of 2,000+ K–5 students.

Mukund Padmanabhan, president of Guru Krupa Foundation

"It is heartwarming to see the enthusiasm with which middle school students welcome the BKSVM at their respective schools every few weeks. Not only do they love browsing through the selection of books, but also stay engaged during the lessons, as the lessons have been designed on topics that are likely to appeal to them. The program goes a long way towards addressing learning loss due to COVID. GKF has been a consistent supporter of the program for many years because it aligns well with our goal of enhancing the education of young children."

Debra Sue Lorenzen, director of St. Nicks Alliance Youth and Education.

"St. Nicks Alliance is immensely grateful to Guru Krupa Foundation for its invaluable commitment to the BK Story Voyager. Guru Krupa Foundation's ongoing partnership ensures thousands of children and community members can grow as readers through literacy lessons and access to high-quality, culturally responsive literature,"

About Guru Krupa Foundation: The Guru Krupa Foundation (GKF) is a private foundation incorporated in the State of New York. The purpose of the foundation is to fund several charitable causes. Our principles and philosophy, derived from the value system of Hinduism, may be succinctly summarized as:

1. Help those who are less fortunate than yourself
2. Support causes related to the acquisition of knowledge (both materialistic and non-materialistic)
3. Preserve the heritage and knowledge that has already been acquired

About St. Nicks Alliance:

St. Nicks Alliance Youth & Education serves more than 3,000 young people from UPK through high school each year with a seamless continuum of comprehensive services that target the developmental needs of youth as they grow. We seek to positively influence school attendance and attachment, enthusiasm for learning, social-emotional skills, and academic and employment self-efficacy. By building steady progress in these areas, we equip young people to graduate from high school and acquire the essential skills for post-secondary success.

About BK Story Voyager: The flagship of St. Nicks Alliance's literacy initiative, the BK Story Voyager, provides children and families at local schools, after-school centers, and community events with inspiring experiences that spark engagement with books. The BK Story Voyager addresses a real problem in our community: lack of access to books. In order for children to choose to read they must be able to pursue their own passions and interest, and have access to a wide variety of literature and materials. The BK Story Voyager offers a wide range of enriching and fun experiences for kids of all ages and background at St. Nicks Alliance after-school centers and local events.