

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, founded on November 3, 1966, as a pilot project in three elementary schools in Washington, DC, Reading is Fundamental (RIF) helps prepare and motivate children to read by delivering free books and literary resources to those children and families who need them most; and

WHEREAS, nearly two thirds of low-income families own no books; and

WHEREAS, reaching out to children of all ages in a variety of settings, including schools, community centers, Boys & Girls Clubs, migrant communities, churches, hospitals, and health clinics, RIF has given away more than 380 million new, free books to children who might not otherwise have any to call their own; and

WHEREAS, last year, RIF distributed nearly 177,000 books to more than 56,000 children at highest risk of academic failure in South Carolina with the assistance of approximately 7,725 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, RIF is celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> year of operation and service to communities nationwide through its work that underscores the importance of access to books and the direct positive link to enhanced reading behavior and motivation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 3, 2011, as

### READING IS FUNDAMENTAL DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize with appreciation RIF's contributions to children and families in our state.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA