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Mission Statement The mission of 2nd & 7 is to promote reading by providing free books and positive role models to kids in need while encouraging young athletes of the community to pay it forward.

Serving Since 1999 2nd & 7 was started over 20 years ago by three former Ohio State football players Mike Vrabel, Luke Fickell and Ryan Miller.

Why ‘2nd & 7’ 2nd & 7 was born from funds generated by a small football camp hosted by Ryan, Mike and Luke. The camp generated enough money to buy books to hand out to SEVEN different SECOND grade classrooms. After doing some research on childhood literacy, the founders decided that their outreach would focus on 2nd graders. Referencing the familiar down and distance term used in football, the organization became known as 2nd & 7.

Highlights Since 1999, 2nd & 7 has distributed over 1.1 million Hog Mollie books in our reading program. While our roots and headquarters are in central Ohio, we are proud to have implemented over 300 programs in 36 states through our Role Model Reading Program. As a result, high school and college student-athletes nationwide are reading to the 2nd graders in their communities, serving as positive reading role models and providing the children with free books to keep.

Columbus Kids’ Book Bank 2nd & 7 opened central Ohio’s first book bank, Columbus Kids’ Book Bank (CKBB) which has distributed nearly 200,000 books into the community since opening in 2023. The CKBB collects new and very gently used K-6 books and distribute them to schools, teachers and children to build up classroom and personal libraries.

Our Books 2nd & 7 writes its own line of children’s books and is now working on the 19th book in that series. Each book contains a life lesson and is endorsed by a well-known community leader. These are the books that children receive through our Role Model Reading Program.

The Hog Mollies and The

- 2008 Pickle Pie Party (Teamwork/Jim Tressel)
- 2009 Rocky Relay Race (Try Your Best/Bill Belichick)
- 2010 Zooming Zackle Zoit (Do The Right Thing/Thad Matta)
- 2011 Amazing Aquatic Adventure (Michael Coleman/Be Yourself)
- 2012 Camp Carmen Campfire (Patience, Practice, Persistence/Archie Griffin)
- 2013 Great Golden Gizmo (Kindness Is Contagious/Urban Meyer)
- 2014 Big Birthday Bash (Be A Good Sport/Jack & Barbara Nicklaus)
- 2015 Sloopy the Silver Snake (Prevent Bullying/Jack Hanna)
- 2016 Huddle’s Healthy Halo (Healthy Choices/John Glenn)
- 2017 Dream Discovery Day (Dreams/Luke Fickell)
- 2018 Mummy’s Mystery Maze (Manners/Mike Vrabel)
- 2019 Little Lily’s Legacy (Leadership/Ryan Miller)
- 2020 Visit with Victoria (Feelings/Ryan Day)
- 2021 Troy’s Top Troop (Reading/Stephanie Hightower)
- 2022 Ike and Ivy’s Ice Cream (Respect/Eddie George)
- 2023 Winter Walk with Wally (Be a Helper/Katie Smith)
- 2024 Fall Fireworks Festival (Making Tough Choices/Kirk Herbstreit)
- 2025 Quincy’s Quest for Quiet (Thankfulness/Brandi Chastain)

Fundraising The program is supported by donations from individuals and corporate partners. Throughout the year, we host various events to help support our outreach such as the Pay It FOREward Golf Outing (May) and Football Camp (June).