Since 1999, the Read to the Children (RTC) program has allowed offenders in Colorado’s state prisons to send young family members a book accompanied by a recording of the offender reading it. RTC is a collaboration between the Colorado State Library and the Colorado Department of Corrections. In the past year, around 1,900 offenders and 3,200 children participated in RTC. Here we present survey results from 253 caregivers1 and 366 offenders who participated in RTC between 2013-2016 to find out how they feel about the program. Learn more about RTC at http://www.coloradovirtuallibrary.org/read-to-children/.

Offenders told us:

- 91% very important
- 92% very helpful
- 99% yes

Caregivers told us:

- 85% increased
- 82% increased
- 74% increased

How helpful is RTC as a way to connect with your child?

- 85% increased
- 82% increased
- 74% increased

How did caregivers rate the following?

- 84% improved
- 76% improved

1The caregiver is the person primarily responsible for the child participating in RTC.