

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

USA SPRINGHILL
CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS AND
ADOLESCENT MEDICINE



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January 30, 2017

Dear Students, Parents, and Faculty of Christ the King Catholic School,

Thank you for your kind donation of books accumulated through your January Outreach Book Drive this year. The number of books collected and your generosity is overwhelming! The books donated by Christ the King Catholic School yearly for the past 11 years have been very important in keeping our Reach Out and Read Program going at the USA Children's Medical Center throughout the year.

The University of South Alabama Children's Medical Center, which is the pediatric teaching clinic for the USA Children's and Women's Hospital, became a member of the Reach Out and Read initiative 12 years ago. The clinic received a small initial grant plus yearly sustainability funds to allow us to buy discounted books from Scholastic to provide a new book to children at their check-ups from 2 months to 5 years of age, as well as offering advice to parents to encourage an early love of books in their children. The goal of the program is to encourage better childhood literacy in children who may be disadvantaged by being in low income families.

New or gently used donated books from this book drive allow us to hand out books at well-visits at ages outside of the official guidelines of our grant. We serve children from birth to 18 years of age, so any age level of book is lovely. We appreciate any gently used children's books because to allow us to hand out books even at sick visits. What nicer way to make a child feel better when they are ill and frightened than to give them a book to keep! Thank you again for your generous support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cindy Sheets, MD'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cindy Sheets, MD
Reach Out and Read Program Director
USA Children's Medical Center