

Arlington Pediatric Center's Literacy Programs to support patients & their families

Through the literacy programs at APC, every patient can take a book home after every appointment as a way to promote literacy and school readiness, and encourage parents and children to read together. We rely on individuals and groups who donate books, or funds to purchase books, to ensure that APC can offer as many books to our patients as possible year-round.

2016 SNAPSHOT



3,465

Patients served by APC in 2016



16,321

Clinical visits provided to children 0 - 18 years of age



3,050

Approximate number of books received from donors



7+

More than 7 community groups & individuals supported APC's Literacy Programs

- **Reading success starts at home**

- As participants in the national Reach Out & Read (ROR) literacy campaign, APC providers encourage parents to read aloud with their children, strengthening bonds between parents and children to promote healthy cognitive development
- Through ROR, APC purchases new, age appropriate books given to children ages 6 months to 5 years at their well-child visits
- We also make sure new or gently used books are available for every patient at every visit to foster a path to reading success

- **Why books?**

- Over 95% of a child's brain develops during the first 3 years of life
- 1 in 3 children enter kindergarten with below grade level reading skills, increasing their likelihood of dropping out of school
- Exposure to books & language and reading with loved ones from an early age promote healthy brain development, combatting multiple effects of poverty that our patients may face

- **Our goal is that every patient at APC can take home a new or gently used book every time they visit APC**

- APC families will build an at-home library they can use and share for years to come

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Donate new or gently used books**

- APC always needs books for early readers (pre-K - grade 3) and young reader chapter books (grades 4—6)
- Examples include: board & picture books, biographies, up to date science & non-fiction books, graphic novels, etc.
- Books should not contain any overt religious or political themes
- We are not able to use books for adults or higher reading level chapter books
- Because only brand new books can be used in direct support of Reach Out & Read efforts, please be sure to let us know if you are donating new or gently used books

- **Make a gift:**

- Make an online donation at www.virginiahospitalcenter.com/supportAPC
- If you want your gift to be used to purchase new books for APC's Reach Out & Read initiative, please include a note in the comments box on the donation form

Contact Olivia Burnett for more information:

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