



News Release

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CHILDREN'S READING FOUNDATION AND MSA PARTNER WITH AREA DOCTORS TO PROVIDE BOOKS FOR BABIES

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Children's Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia (CRFMC), along with sponsor Mission Support Alliance (MSA) are pleased to announce a partnership with area doctors in its Books for Babies program. Beginning this month, books will be delivered to expectant parents during prenatal visits with their OB/GYNs.

Sara Schwan, Executive Director of The CRFMC shares, "An ideal time to impress upon parents their important role in raising a reader is when they are awaiting the birth of their child. Children are learning every minute starting from day one. Reading with a child, especially an infant, is the best way to prepare them for school and life success while bonding and interacting."

The Books for Babies program provides expectant parents with a children's book and information on the importance of reading 20 minutes with a child each and every day. The \$10,000 annual donation has been funded by MSA since 2010 and provides high quality board books that are age appropriate to newborns. Most importantly, the Books for Babies initiative provides a key community message clearly articulating to parents to read with a child, the most important 20 minutes of your day.

MSA President Bill Johnson states, "A strong foundation in reading and literacy will help ensure a child's success in school and beyond. We value this partnership with The Children's Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia and commend the work they do in our community."

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About MSA

Mission Support Alliance, a team of [Leidos](#), [Jacobs Engineering](#) and [Centerra Group](#), has responsibility for the Mission Support Contract at the Hanford Site. MSA provides a number of cross-cutting services to the DOE and other contractors at the Hanford Site to facilitate cleanup activities. MSA is responsible for areas such as site infrastructure, utilities, transportation, environmental integration, safety, emergency services and training, external affairs, information management and portfolio management. MSA: Partnering to move the mission forward. <http://msa.hanford.gov/msa>

About CRFMC

The Children's Reading Foundation was formed in 1996 by five citizens and eight Washington school districts with the belief that the entire community is responsible and part of the solution to reading proficiency. In 2001, the foundation expanded to become the national organization and as a result the Mid-Columbia Chapter was born. Today, the CRFMC continues to promote the vision that every child learns to read early and read well. CRFMC coordinates the READY! For Kindergarten and Team Read Programs. Over 30,000 books are distributed annually through our First Teacher Libraries, the READ Up Summer Slide prevention programs, Books for Babies and other avenues. <http://read20minutes.com/>