



MEDIA ALERT

Rep. Woolsey to Read to Children at Russian River Health Center in Support of Reach Out and Read Literacy Program

WHEN: 10:00 – 10:40 AM
Friday, August 14, 2009

WHAT: Russian River Health Center's doctors and nurses are sending families home from checkups with free books and a very important prescription – "read aloud to your children." **Representative Lynn Woolsey (CA-06)** will visit the health center to support this message by reading to a group of young patients.

West County Health Centers' participates in **Reach Out and Read**, a program that trains **doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud** and to **give books to children at checkups from 6 months to 5 years**. Through Reach Out and Read, each child starts kindergarten with a home library of up to 10 new, carefully-chosen books and a parent who has heard at every regular pediatric checkup about the importance of books and reading. Bilingual books are available in 12 languages.

Russian River Health Center is one of 17 ROR Programs in California's 6th congressional district that participate in Reach Out and Read, providing books to more than 14,500 children annually. Reach Out and Read serves children at 524 locations across the state, reaching more than 568,000 infants, toddlers and preschoolers each year.

WHERE: West County Health Centers
Russian River Health Center
16319 Third Street
Guerneville, CA

WHO: Representative Lynn Woolsey (CA-06)
Dr. Jason Cunningham
Ms. Marty Dekay-Bemis
Ms. Mary Szecsey

VISUALS: Representative Woolsey reading books to children gathered around her.

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