



BACKGROUND

The Reach Out and Read Greater Philadelphia (RORGP) Coalition was founded in October 2002 to support and sustain ROR sites in Southeastern Pennsylvania. ROR Greater Philadelphia currently includes:

- 43 ROR locations affiliated with 18 healthcare organizations
- 600 primary care pediatricians, family physicians, osteopathic physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and nurses trained in the ROR strategies of early literacy guidance
- 36,000 children from 6 months through 5 years of age reached annually
- 67,000 new, developmentally-appropriate books given annually
- Committed volunteers in waiting rooms reading aloud to children

REACH OUT AND READ MISSION

Reach Out and Read makes literacy promotion a standard part of pediatric primary care, encouraging children to grow up with books and a love of reading. Reach Out and Read trains doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give new books to children at pediatric checkups from 6 months through 5 years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. By building on the unique relationship between parents and medical providers, ROR helps families and communities promote early literacy skills so their children enter school prepared for success in reading (www.reachoutandread.org).

THE NEED

In Greater Philadelphia there are many children and families who need Reach Out and Read:

- The Southeastern Pennsylvania region (5 county Philadelphia area - Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia) is home to 950,008 children under age 18 and 251,779 children under age 5 (Public Citizens for Children and Youth, 2008, based on U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006).
- In Southeastern Pennsylvania 168,718 children under age 18 live in poverty (Public Citizens for Children and Youth, 2008, based on U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006).
- It is estimated that 54,709 children under age 5 (more than one of every five children in that age group - 21.3%) are living at or below poverty level in Southeastern Pennsylvania (Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth, 2006, based on 2005 ACS, U.S. Census Bureau).

OUTLOOK FOR REACH OUT AND READ GREATER PHILADELPHIA

With limited sustainability funding from the ROR National Center, local ROR sites rely heavily on individuals, corporations and foundations to provide the necessary funds for new, developmentally and culturally-appropriate children's books, materials and staff.

ROR Greater Philadelphia is committed to expanding ROR to area primary care doctor's offices where at risk, impoverished children are being cared for. It is our hope that all pediatric physicians and nurse practitioners spread the message that reading aloud to children early and often is critical to their language development and later school success.

ROR Greater Philadelphia is affiliated with Reach Out and Read, Inc., a national nonprofit organization. For more information, please call 215-590-5989, email info@rorgp.org or log onto www.rorgp.org.



Reach Out and Read (ROR) Greater Philadelphia Sites

1. **Abbottsford/Falls Family Practice & Counseling**
2. **ChesPenn Health Services** *(Chester)*
3. **The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Care Network, Pediatric & Adolescent Care, Cobbs Creek**
4. **The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Care Network, Pediatric & Adolescent Care, Market Street**
5. **The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Care Network, Pediatric & Adolescent Care, South Philadelphia**
6. **The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Care Network, Pediatric & Adolescent Care, University City**
7. **The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Family Care Center**
8. **Delaware Valley Community Health Fairmount Primary Care Center**
9. **Delaware Valley Community Health Maria de los Santos Health Center**
10. **Delaware Valley Community Health Norristown Regional Health Center** *(Norristown)*
11. **Drueding Center/Project Rainbow**
12. **Eleventh Street Family Health Services of Drexel University**
13. **Esperanza Health Center**
14. **Esperanza Health Center Fifth Street**
15. **The Health Annex**
16. **Mercy Suburban Hospital Family Practice Center** *(Norristown)*
17. **Montgomery Family Medicine Residency Program-** *(Norristown)*
18. **Nemours Pediatrics, Philadelphia**
19. **Penn Family Care, Penn-Presbyterian Medical Center, University of Pennsylvania Health System**
20. **Penn Family Care, St. Leonard's Court, University of Pennsylvania Health System**
21. **Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Healthcare Center -- Cambria Division**
22. **Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Healthcare Center -- Lancaster Division**
23. **PHMC Health Connection**
24. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #2**
25. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #3**
26. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #4**
27. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #5**
28. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #6**
29. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #9**
30. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Health Care Center #10**
31. **Philadelphia Department of Public Health Strawberry Mansion Health Center**
32. **Pottstown Regional Healthcare Network Coventry Pediatrics** *(Pottstown)*
33. **Rising Sun Health Center**
34. **Spectrum Health Services Broad Street Health Center**
35. **Spectrum Health Services Haddington Health Center**
36. **St. Chris Care at Northeast Pediatrics**
37. **St. Christopher's Hospital for Children Pediatric & Adolescent HIV/AIDS Program**
38. **St. Christopher's Pediatric Associates Division of Ambulatory Pediatrics**
39. **St. Christopher's Pediatric Associates Primary Pediatrics**
40. **South Philadelphia Pediatrics, PCC**
41. **Temple Pediatric Care at Temple University Children's Medical Center**
42. **Thomas Jefferson University Department of Family and Community Medicine**
43. **Whitman Pediatrics**

All of the ROR programs listed above are in Philadelphia unless otherwise noted in parenthesis.

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