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Half Price Books

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Half Price Books to Present 2,500 Books Donated by Community to Phoenix Children's

Donated Books Benefit Hospital's Reach Out and Read Program and Pediatric Literacy

PHOENIX, Ariz. (May 1, 2006) – Half Price Books presents the Phoenix community's donations of more than 2,500 books to the Reach Out and Read (ROR) program at Phoenix Children's Hospital during a dedication ceremony **Tuesday, May 2, at 1:30 p.m., at the hospital's General Pediatric Outpatient Clinic located in Building B, second floor, 1919 E. Thomas Rd.** Half Price Books employees, along with hospital staff, will present the community's donation to hospital patients. The donated books will replenish Phoenix Children's Half Pint Library.

The program is now in its fourth year at Phoenix Children's, and the books are used in conjunction with the hospital's Healthy Steps program, which adds a child development and parenting expert to the pediatric team who assists the pediatrician by answering parent's questions specific to their child's development. The Half Pint Library program and ROR have added an additional element to Healthy Steps—teaching parents the importance of literacy to their child's development. Through the program, children can choose a book from the Half Pint Library to take home with them to start their own personal library.

“More than 240,000 books were collected for the program nationally this year, and we're pleased to be able to present these books to Phoenix Children's Hospital on behalf of the Phoenix community,” said Kathy Doyle Thomas, executive vice president of Half Price Books. “By working with programs like Healthy Steps and Reach Out and Read, we help stop the cycle of illiteracy.”

The Half Pint Library book drive took place January through March, and patrons were encouraged to drop off new or gently-used children's books at both area Half Price Books locations, where the store staff then sorted and prepared them for delivery to the hospital. Now in its eighth year, the national program has provided more than two million books for children to share and enjoy.

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Abbreviated Details and Photo Opportunities:

Who: Half Price Books, Phoenix Children's Hospital staff and patients. DeAnn Davies, Healthy Steps Program Coordinator at Phoenix Children's, will speak about the importance of pediatric literacy. Hospital patients will be on hand to accept the books.

What: Presentation of 2,500 books donated by the community to Phoenix Children's, and a dedication of the Half Pint Library for patients.

When: Tuesday, May 2, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Phoenix Children's Hospital's General Pediatric Clinic 1919 E. Thomas Rd., Building B, Second Floor

Please check in at the main entrance to be escorted to event.

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