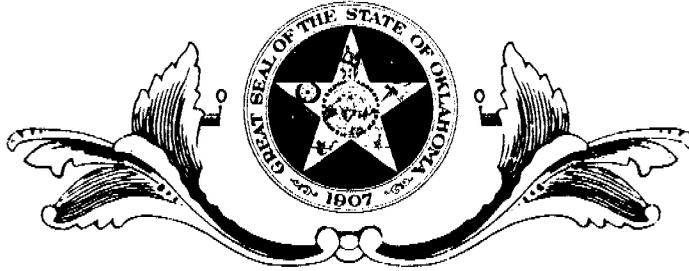


STATE OF OKLAHOMA



FILED

SEP 14 2011

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, Reach Out and Read was founded in 1989 by pediatricians in an effort to promote early child development and pediatric care by providing advice to parents on reading aloud and giving children culturally and developmentally appropriate books to take home after each pediatric visit; and

Whereas, by integrating books into standard pediatric visits, pediatricians help promote speaking and written language skills in young children that will increase the likelihood of school readiness; and

Whereas, each year nearly one million children are born into poverty and these low-income children face many obstacles for a healthy growing environment, including growing up without access to books; and

Whereas, Reach Out and Read Oklahoma currently has forty-four program sites located in Oklahoma, serving approximately 35,000 low-income children ages six months to five years, and distributed over 30,000 new age appropriate books; and

Whereas, Reach Out and Read Oklahoma is committed to making sure every child enters school ready to learn;

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim the week of September 26th through September 30th, 2011 as

"Early Childhood Awareness Week"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have herunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.



ATTEST:

Assistant SECRETARY OF STATE

Michelle Day

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 13th day of September, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and eleven and of the State of Oklahoma in the One hundred and third year.

Mary Fallin
GOVERNOR

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