On August 18, I participated in the Reach Out and Read program at Pediatric Associates in West Palm Beach, Florida. Sponsored by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, the program provides an important service to our community by promoting early literacy and teaching the importance of reading aloud to children. The Literacy Coalition has been active in our community for over 20 years, and Reach Out and Read has experienced similar success since its inception in 1999, distributing more than 309,000 books to families.

I am committed to ensuring that every child has access to the educational opportunities they need and deserve. A quality education begins early in life and at home. Reach Out and Read is an invaluable program that stresses the importance of reading in a child's development. I was pleased to have been a part of Reach Out and Read and will continue to support organizations, like the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, that help our children reach their full potential.

For more information on the Reach Out and Read program and the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, please visit: **http://www.literacypbc.org** **.**

Photo Courtesy of Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County