

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**REACH OUT AND READ TO BRING EARLY LITERACY,  
LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAM TO MORE FAMILIES IN OHIO**

The nonprofit's work to increase shared reading and foster healthy early relationships targets families with young children of color and in low-income households

CLEVELAND, Ohio ( Oct . 23, 2024) – [Reach Out and Read](#) — a national nonprofit dedicated to promoting early literacy , school readiness

Reach Out and Read served 165,326 young children in Ohio, distributing 270,155 books at more than 330,000 well-child visits.

“Creating a strong, statewide Alliance will help us reach more children under 5 and empower the Ohio families who need us the most,” said Dr. Ruth Coleman, National Senior Director of Growth at Reach Out and Read. “We’ve prioritized Ohio’s major metro areas and rural Appalachian communities. This approach will allow us to provide centralized oversight, targeted expansion, and sustainable funding, ultimately amplifying our impact on early literacy and school readiness for Ohio’s children.”

Reach Out and Read will partner with local, state, and regional leaders who know that Ohio must create more high-quality language and literacy opportunities for all young children. Data compiled by Groundwork Ohio highlights concerning trends, including:

x Only 42.7