

Yu Cynthia Xu, MD
Skyline Medical Office
Yu.C.Xu@kp.org
503-361-5400

3-29-2021

Dear Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education,

On behalf of myself and the staff at **Skyline Medical Office, Kaiser Permanente**, I would like to share the significant impact that Reach Out and Read Oregon has made in the lives of the children and families that the program serves within our clinic.

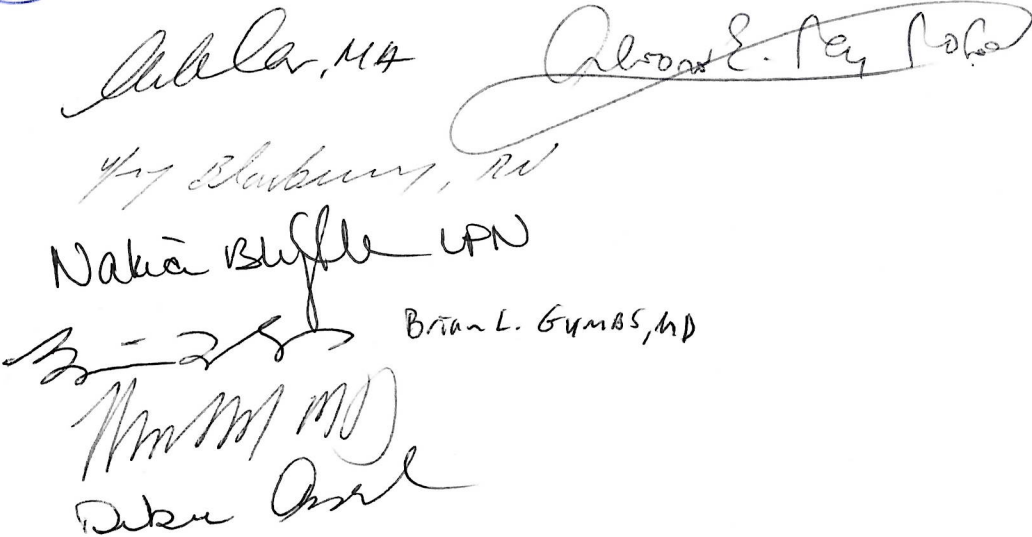
At their well child visits from 6-month to 5-year old, each child receives a book during the visit from our staff and clinicians and it's amazing to see these kids' eyes light up when they get the books. Sometimes, during the visit, the kids ask me or their parents to read the books to them. Other times, kids can read out loud themselves or tell stories from the book. Together looking at the book, I learn about the child's physical and mental development milestones. Parents are universally grateful for these books and tell us that the books also help them to enjoy reading together with their children. These books provide a vital opportunity for kids to be exposed to reading from an early age and enable pediatricians to help caregivers foster daily reading habits with their kids.

By investing in the growth and sustainability of Reach Out and Read Oregon, you are investing in the lifelong health and wellbeing of not only the children I provide care for but also of children across the state. Thank you for this opportunity to share the impact of Reach Out and Read Oregon on my patients, their caregivers, and families, and I urge you to support the program through funding under the Department of Education budget.

Kind Regards,



Yu Cynthia Xu, MD and all pediatric staff at Skyline Medical Office



Julia Lee, MD
Kyr Blackburn, MD
Nakia Buffle LPN
Brian L. Gumbas, MD
Diana Oshel