



The Children's Home Society of New Jersey Receives \$8,000 Grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to Support Early Childhood and Adult Literacy

TRENTON, NJ – The Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) an \$8,000 grant to support the Fun with Books and Music (FWB&M) – Early Literacy Program. CHSofNJ uses a holistic approach to help adults and children develop literacy and pre-literacy skills, providing assistance in learning how to read and supporting positive parent-child interactions and bonding.

As an experienced provider of early childhood services, including services for children with disabilities, the FWB&M Facilitator Elaine Rodriguez and her staff work closely with children to develop social, emotional and cognitive skills such as sitting quietly, asking for help, and sharing with others. During each of the program's nine weekly sessions, the topic or theme covered during the Children's Education component becomes a part of the Parent and Child Together Time, allowing staff to observe the interactions between parent and child and encourage the use of newly acquired language and skills.

"CHSofNJ is so grateful to Dollar General for this generous grant in support of our Fun with Books & Music literacy program," said Maritza I. Raimundi-Petroski, CHSofNJ's Director of Maternal/Child Health, Family and Community Support Services. "Not only does this program support early childhood literacy, but it also helps parents learn to read and communicate effectively, thereby enabling them to be involved and capable advocates for their children."

"At Dollar General, we are passionate about our mission of **Serving Others** throughout the communities we serve," said Rick Dreiling, Dollar General's chairman and CEO. "It's exciting to see the Dollar General Literacy Foundation's outreach in action as we partner with organizations to further education and literacy and make a real difference in people's lives." The Dollar General Literacy Foundation supports initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$92 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than five million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

About the Children's Home Society of New Jersey

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey is a not-for-profit child and family service agency whose mission is to save children's lives and build healthy families. Founded in 1894, the agency protects abused or neglected infants and at-risk children by ensuring stable, permanent, and loving homes for each and every child it serves. All services are confidential and most are free. For more information, visit The Children's Home Society of New Jersey website at www.chsofnj.org.

About the Dollar General Literacy Foundation

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education as part of the company's mission of **Serving Others** for over 20 years. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$92 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than five million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education. For more information about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and its grant programs, visit www.dgliteracy.org.

About Dollar General Corporation

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