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Promoting and Protecting Public Health

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Douglas County WIC Distributes Books to Children

Characters from children's literature will come to life on Wednesday afternoon as the Douglas County WIC Program (Women, Infants and Children) celebrates the Week of the Young Child with a special reading event at the 120th and Dodge Street WIC offices.

The Douglas County WIC program received funding to buy several dozen children's books. The staff, who will be dressed as their favorite children's book character, will read the books to children during their regular appointments that afternoon. Each child who visits the clinic from 1-4 p.m. will receive the gift of a book to take home.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to impact the lives of some of Douglas County's youngest residents," Health Director Dr. Adi Pour said. "Not only can we give the family some valuable information on nutrition, we can also introduce the child to the lifelong joy of reading."

Some of the books will have nutritional themes and others will have stories. While the children listen to the stories, they will sit on a blanket on the floor and will receive a nutritious treat made from a WIC-approved recipe that will be given to their mom.

"We are excited to be able to do this for the special people we work with throughout the year," said WIC Manager Kathy Blanke. "These will be the first books that many of these children will own."

A grant from the Early Childhood Consortium of the Omaha Area and Educational Service Unit No. 3 covered the cost of the books.

www.douglascountyhealth.com

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