



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ELLIOT HOSPITAL and BOB'S DISCOUNT FURNITURE TEAM UP TO PROMOTE EARLY LITERACY IN CHILDREN

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Bob's Discount Furniture (BOB's) outreach staff visited Elliot Health System on Monday, November 28, 2016 to read to children, *Oh, the Things You Can Do that are Good for You!* by, Tish Rabe. The effort is part of Bob's year-long partnership with Reach Out and Read to help increase literacy and promote the importance of reading in children. Dressed up as the Cat in the Hat, two members of the Bob's outreach team read the story to children from the Elliot Child Care Center.

As part of the visit, the Bob's outreach team donated 100 copies of *Oh, the Things You Can Do that are Good for You!*, 100 Cat in the Hat character hats, 100 Bob's Discount Furniture blankets and a face painter. Bob's partnered with Reach Out and Read to create the year-long "Rocking the Road to Read with Bob's Outreach" to increase early literacy by bringing smiles and books to local children.



Photo captions: Top left- children dancing along. Top right- Emilie Rourke is all smiles listening to the presentation. Bottom left- Sharon Vallee and Cathy Poulin from Bob's Community Outreach team acting out the story. Bottom right- Dakota Bunnell having her face painted like the cat in the hat.

About Elliot Health System - Elliot Health System is a non-profit organization serving the healthcare needs of the community since 1890. The largest provider of comprehensive healthcare services in Southern New Hampshire, Elliot Hospital, a 296-bed acute care facility and the first community hospital in the state, serves as the cornerstone of the health system. Elliot is home to Manchester's designated Regional Trauma Center, Elliot Breast Health Center, Elliot Urgent Care, a Level 3 Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Elliot Physician Network, Elliot Regional Cancer Center, Elliot Senior Health Center, Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire, Elliot Health System / Dartmouth - Hitchcock 1-Day Surgery Center, Elliot Memory & Mobility Center, NH Arthritis Center, Elliot Retail Pharmacy, Elliot Medical Centers in Londonderry and Hooksett, and The Elliot at River's Edge. For more information about any of Elliot's services, call Elliot Direct at 603-663-1111 or visit www.elliorthospital.org.

About Reach Out and Read - Reach Out and Read is an evidence-based nonprofit organization of doctors and nurses who promote early literacy in pediatric exam rooms nationwide by giving new books to children and advice to parents about the importance of reading aloud. Reach Out and Read builds on the unique relationship between parents and medical providers to develop critical early reading skills in children from birth. As a result of this literacy intervention, Reach Out and Read families read together more often, and their children enter kindergarten better prepared to succeed, with larger vocabularies and stronger language skills. Nationwide, Reach Out and Read's 20,000 medical providers serve 4.5 million children and their families annually at 5,500 pediatric practices, health centers, and hospitals with a focus on those that serve low income communities. For more information, please visit www.reachoutandread.org.

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