



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Book Collection Results in 4,500 Books for DHS SummerFood Program**

**PITTSBURGH** – Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, and Department of Human Services (DHS) Director Marc Cherna, today thanked all of those who assisted in collecting picture books and storybooks for children attending the DHS SummerFood Program. Participants donated more than 4,500 books which are being distributed through the SummerFood program sites.

“Allegheny County is proud to have great working relationships with organizations that are willing to step up to help improve the quality of a child’s life, and that is certainly true of our county employees as well,” said Fitzgerald. “We are extremely grateful to the many individuals and organization who willingly donated books during this campaign.”

Among those whose efforts deserve recognition are the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Library Association (ACLA), the Pajama Program Pittsburgh and Western PA Chapter, and First Book Pittsburgh at the University of Pittsburgh. The Children’s Museum ran a two month long book drive that was kicked off at a press conference and event held for Mr. Rogers’ birthday. More than 1,000 books were donated by the museum staff and their patrons. ACLA donated more than 300 books, First Book assisted with the purchase of 500 new books, and the Pajama Program donated more than 1,000 books and Highlight Magazines. Allegheny County employees also participated in a month long book drive.

“We are thankful to all those who helped in the donation of more than 4,500 books which were delivered to select SummerFood program sites,” said Cherna. “Every child should have a book they can call their own, and this drive helps in that effort.”

The SummerFood program provides a free breakfast, lunch and recreation program on weekdays for children up to the age of 18. There are more than 80 sites throughout the county. For more information about the SummerFood program, visit [www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/food.aspx](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/food.aspx).

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