



Circle of Success®
I N C O R P O R A T E D

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Fred Meyer is a Business Champion of Early Literacy!
Fred Meyer supports over 70 children in the *Let's Read ~Imagination Library* early literacy program.**

On June 7, The Fred Meyer Foundation and the employees of Yakima's Fred Meyer store combined their financial support to enroll over 70 Yakima Valley children into the *Let's Read ~ Imagination Library* program. Jim Sebree, The Fred Meyer Foundation Committee representative, presented two checks totaling \$3,651 to Circle of Success executive director, Nancy Leahy. A grant award for \$2,500 came from The Fred Meyer Foundation that is based in Portland, Oregon and a second contribution check for \$1,151 came from the Yakima Fred Meyer employees. These funds will support the *Let's Read* enrollment of children aged zero to 5 years who then receive an age appropriate book every month until the age of 5.

The Fred Meyer Yakima employees organized the "Snack Attack" food booth at the Yak-Attack Soccer event in May and they volunteered for two days to help raise \$1,151 for *Let's Read* scholarships. Then, The Fred Meyer Foundation presented Circle of Success with a grant check for \$2,500 to enroll even more children!

Heather Wade, the Yakima Fred Meyer Store Director states, "*Our employees chose to participate in this exciting early reading program because it helps prepare children for school. We want to help give a jump start to the young learners in Yakima Valley.*"

Circle of Success manages the *Let's Read* program which is a community early literacy program that includes the *Imagination Library*, Newborn Baby Packets and a quarterly newsletter. It is supported by generous contributions from Yakima Valley businesses and community champions of literacy. The program began in July 2005 with 115 children and there are currently 2,353 children enrolled in the program.

The support from The Fred Meyer Foundation and the employees of Yakima Fred Meyer is vital to the Circle of Success goal of improving the school readiness of Yakima Valley children. The 2006-2007 “Business Champions of Literacy” include: Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital, Yakima Bears, Noel Corporation, and Yakima Theatres Inc. Circle of Success invites other businesses to support the improvement of the literacy of young Yakima Valley children.

For *Let's Read* program information, or to make a donation to the Circle of Success *Let's Read* program, contact the Circle of Success® office at 469.9888 or 1.888.973.7323

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Circle of Success, Inc is a private, nonprofit 501-c-3 organization that empowers parents to prepare their children to enter school ready to learn. Circle of Success manages the *Let's Read~ Imagination Library* program in the community in order to put children's books into the homes of young children.