

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**READY READERS AWARDED \$15,000 GRANT FROM
SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS WOMEN'S FUND**

September, 2010 (St. Louis, MO.) – Ready Readers, an award-winning not-for-profit organization was recently awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund. The grant will provide support to the read-aloud program for preschoolers from low-income communities and toward the purchase of new high quality books for the preschool children to take home.

About Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund

Founded in 2006, the Spirit of St. Louis (SOS) Women's Fund connects women across the bi-state region through informed, focused grant-making. The group, a component fund of the Greater St. Louis Community Foundation, has more than 200 members. Each member contributes \$1,200 a year with 90% of all member gifts used to fund grants to St. Louis area nonprofit organizations. In 2010, SOS achieved the \$700,000 milestone in charitable giving with a total of 51 grants to 38 area nonprofit organizations over a span of four years. To learn more about SOS, visit www.soswomensfund.org or call (314) 880-4968.

About Ready Readers

Ready Readers, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization in St. Louis, inspires preschool children from low-income communities to become readers by reading aloud to them and by increasing their exposure to quality books and stimulating reading-related activities. Currently, more than 450 volunteers read weekly to more than 7,000 low-income 2-5 year old children who attend early childhood programs in the St. Louis area. The same reader always reads to the same children, allowing the children to associate a special person with the fun of reading. Six times during each school year and once in summer, readers also give the children personalized new books to take home for further enjoyment. This year, volunteers gave more than 49,000 high quality new books to the preschool children. Ready Readers also continues to give new and gently used donated books to needy classrooms. If you enjoy reading aloud to young children, join Ready Readers as a volunteer reader. For details about becoming a volunteer, donating books or becoming a sponsor of Ready Readers, visit www.readyreaders-stlouis.com.

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