



MEDIA ADVISORY
#05-15

DHS COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND SCHOOLS' CHANCELLOR FARIÑA LAUNCH LITERACY PROGRAM IN 20 FAMILY SHELTERS

*DHS, DOE, Scholastic, NYC Service, and literacy partners collaborate
to bring on-site libraries to children in shelter.*

March 27, 2015 – DHS, DOE, Scholastic, and NYC Service will on Monday host an event at a Bronx shelter to highlight the pilot literacy program in 20 family shelters. The pilot program created on-site libraries in shelters, with reading materials donated by Scholastic for the use of the school-age residents. The program seeks to serve approximately 1,000 families and over 4,000 children.

DHS Commissioner Gilbert Taylor and DOE Chancellor Carmen Fariña will attend this event along with the shelter provider, HELP USA President and CEO Thamas Hameline, Ph.D; Scholastic's President of Family and Community Engagement Greg Worrell, and NYC Chief Service Officer Paula Gavin.

In addition to donated books from Scholastic and DHS' partnership with DOE, four literacy partners will assist DHS and NYC Service in implementing this project: Jumpstart, Literacy Inc., Read Aloud, and Literacy Partners. DHS and NYC Service have recruited and are training volunteers to assist in the shelters' libraries. Additionally, DHS has partnered with the Queens, Brooklyn, and New York Public Libraries to support the participating shelters.

When: Monday, March 30 from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Where: 785 Crotona Park North
Bronx, NY 10460

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