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STATE SEN. DIEGNAN AND CHIEF OF STAFF NAMED TO REACH OUT AND READ NATIONAL 2025 HONOR ROLL

State leaders recognized for championing early literacy, family connection, and statewide investment in pediatric care

TRENTON, N.J. (Dec. 5, 2025) – [Reach Out and Read New Jersey](#) is honored to name New Jersey State Sen. Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr. and his Chief of Staff Greg Tufaro to the 2025 [Reach Out and Read Honor Roll](#), a national recognition awarded to leaders advancing early literacy, caregiver-child connection, and equity in pediatric care.

Diegnan and Tufaro were nominated for their steadfast support of Reach Out and Read's mission and their pivotal role in securing state funding to expand early literacy access for families across New Jersey. Their advocacy has helped ensure that more pediatric clinics, particularly those serving vulnerable and underserved communities across the state, can provide books and literacy guidance during well-child visits.

"We are so pleased that New Jersey made the honor roll for the second year, with Senate Majority Leader Teresa Ruiz recognized in the inaugural class," said Kim Byam, Executive Director of Reach Out and Read New Jersey and Delaware. "We are honored and grateful to call Sen. Diegnan and Greg Tufaro our partners. They are champions who work hard every day for New Jersey families and children, and their support was instrumental in securing state funding for Reach Out and Read."

Reach Out and Read's approach reflects a powerful understanding that the pediatric exam room is one of the earliest and most trusted settings for supporting a child's development. During well-child visits from birth to age 5, clinicians give families new books and model shared-reading practices — simple moments that foster early language skills, strengthen relationships, and build the foundation for long-term learning.

In FY25, with the help of partners like Diegnan and Tufaro, Reach Out and Read supported 11.2 million well-child visits nationwide and reached 4.8 million children, including more than 76,000 across New Jersey. Honor Roll members are nominated by Reach Out and Read staff and medical leaders for sustained and meaningful impact through advocacy, partnership, funding, or community leadership. Diegnan and Tufaro are two of only 23 honorees nationwide named to the 2025 class.

Reach Out and Read New Jersey will formally present the Honor Roll awards to Diegnan and Tufaro Dec. 18 at the New Jersey State House.

To learn more about Reach Out and Read New Jersey and its impact, visit ReachOutandRead.org/NewJersey.

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About Reach Out and Read: As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, Reach Out and Read leverages the near-universal reach of the pediatric well-child visit to support caregivers in fostering healthy relationships with their young children through shared reading. In FY25, Reach Out and Read served more than 4.8 million children and provided 9 million free books across 11.2 million well-child visits. Around 70 percent of the children Reach Out and Read serves are from low-income families. The only national pediatric literacy model endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Reach Out and Read serves children in every state across the U.S.,