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Press Release

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Target and Heartspring teamed to provide free screenings

Wichita, Kan. – Target teamed with Heartspring to provide free early literacy screenings as part of May’s Better Speech and Hearing Month.

Three screenings took place at one daycare and two private pre-schools in Wichita. These screenings were funded through a \$2000 grant from Target. 55 children were screened by Heartspring speech-language pathologists and audiologists, and of the children screened, 40% required further speech evaluation and 15% demonstrated the need for further hearing evaluation.

Early intervention for children with developmental delay promises the hope of more successful outcomes in education as they grow older.

“If we identify one child to receive early intervention therapy, helping them get ready for school and /or decrease their needs in school through these screenings, then we've

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done our job. Every child is important to Heartspring and given the opportunity, we want to make a difference in every child's life that we can," said Cyndi Chapman, Heartspring Director of Pediatric Services.

Thanks to Target's support, Heartspring was able to reach out to area children by providing a free service.

"Target is so grateful for this opportunity to support the community. Heartspring is a great organization and I'm glad we could partner with them on this project," said Janine Efferding, Store Manager at Target East.

For more than 70 years, Heartspring has pioneered many breakthroughs for individuals with special needs. Today, Heartspring serves children with varying degrees of disabilities including autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Our expertise at Heartspring School is recognizing the special needs of children as individuals, then guiding them to their greatest potential in all aspects of their life. Through the years, we've used that expertise to help children through Heartspring Pediatric Services and individuals of all ages through the Heartspring Hearing Center. For more information please call Katie Bishop at 316-634-8821 or email at kbishop@heartspring.org

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