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Waldenbooks Helps Local Adoption Agency Bring Joy to Children in Need

Hundreds of books and stuffed animals donated to Forever Families Through Adoption

Rye Brook, April 24, 2009. Joy Goldstein, Executive Director of Forever Families Through Adoption, a Westchester adoption agency, was thrilled when she learned in February that FFTA had been selected by the Waldenbooks in Rye Brook to be this year's beneficiary of their Easter book and bunny drive. The local book and bunny drive was one of many held by Waldenbooks all across the country.

During March and April, customers of the Waldenbooks in the Rye Ridge Shopping Center were asked to purchase children's books and stuffed bunny rabbits to donate to FFTA. Finally this week, the many boxes of stuffed toys and books arrived at the agency.

Carol Meister, Waldenbooks' Store Manager, was overwhelmed with gratitude at the generosity of her staff and customers. "Joy and I share a very special commitment to children in need, and so many people answered our call. I'm proud of how successful the book drive was because it means that hundreds of children can now be delivered a little happiness."

Joy, who has dedicated her life to finding forever families for children in need through domestic and international adoptions, agreed. "During financially difficult times, it is wonderful to know local families stepped up and purchased these items to help children in greater need and support our mission. The books and rabbits will be a special blessing for the children."

"In the past, the staff and families of FFTA have hand-delivered similar items to underprivileged children in orphanages in Aruba and impoverished communities in the Dominican Republic, as well as to those living in shelters here in New York. " Joy went on. "So we have seen first hand, time and again, how much happiness a stuffed animal can bring to a young child. And I can't tell you how rewarding it is to share a book with children who often don't have anyone else to read to them!"

Now, thanks to Carol and the Waldenbooks of Rye Ridge, FFTA and Joy will, once again, be able to spread a little joy to local children in need.

About Forever Families Through Adoption: *FFTA is a New York and Connecticut-authorized, not-for-profit, adoption placement agency founded on the belief that every child, regardless of racial or ethnic background, or physical or emotional challenge, has the right to grow up in a loving, nurturing, secure, and forever home. Joy Goldstein is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who counsels birth and adoptive parents and frequently lectures on adoption topics.*

For information on how to donate: <http://www.foreverfamiliesthroughadoption.org>