



# Cochise Health & Social Services

Mary Gomez, Director

\*\*\* MEDIA RELEASE \*\*\*

"Building A Healthier Future"

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: COUNTY HOSTS "STORY HOUR" TO PROMOTE CHILDHOOD LITERACY**

Cochise Health and Social Services is delighted to host "Story Hour" with local educator Joan Reichel from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm each Friday in April. During this time, stories and activities will be provided targeting 1st through 4th graders; however, all ages of family and friends are welcome to attend. Weekly story topics will depend on the group and include themes such as friendship, humor, travel, and imagination. Also featured will be simple activities using paper, markers, crayons, scissors and glue. Story Hour will be held in Bisbee at 1415 Melody Lane, Building A, in the conference room adjacent to the Health Services lobby, and there is no cost to attend. Plenty of free, shaded parking is available.

Ms. Reichel is a retired grade-school teacher and librarian who volunteers with Friends of the Copper Queen Library and the Cochise Area Reading Council to support literacy in the Bisbee area. The Friends of the Copper Queen Library is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that supports the library by purchasing books and sponsoring events that increase community use of the library. The Cochise Area Reading Council is a group of teachers who work on literacy projects to support teachers, students, and parents. The council is part of the State Reading Association and the International Reading Association, and its activities are funded through Safeway's eScrip™ program.

Mary Gomez, Director of Cochise Health and Social Services, is pleased to announce this opportunity for families, commenting, "Cochise Health and Social Services is happy to partner with Joan Reichel and the Cochise Area Reading Council to offer these free events for the youngsters who are living in our service area. We wanted to offer this opportunity particularly in this area of town for those folks who don't/can't get up to Old Bisbee for Story Hours at the library. As an additional benefit, we would love for kids to come and enjoy our beautiful new lobby and associate the Health Department with something fun and entertaining like these wonderful Story Hours, instead of only where they come for "shots." We are hoping that lots of kids and parents take advantage of this great opportunity. Everyone is always welcome here."

For more information please contact Ms. Reichel at 520-432-2732.

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**About Cochise Health and Social Services**

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Cochise Health and Social Services promotes health and quality of life for all Cochise County residents through education, service, and leadership. For more information, please visit our website at <http://cochise.az.gov/health>. Recent media releases may be viewed at <http://cochise.az.gov/healthnews>.

*Public Programs, Personal Service: [www.cochise.az.gov](http://www.cochise.az.gov)*

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