



Meeting Street

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The PGA TOUR Wives Association Supports Meeting Street's Language and Math Educational Model for Students in The Grace School

Meeting Street is very excited to announce that The PGA TOUR Wives Association has awarded a \$ 7,000 grant to support the acceleration of language and math proficiency for second grade students enrolled in The Grace School. The funds will directly support curriculum materials for 15 students in the first year, and dozens more in subsequent years.

With this grant Meeting Street will be able to continue implementing the Responsive Classroom framework, and compatible reading and math curricula, in small, fully inclusive classrooms. By applying the Responsive Classroom framework, the Houghton Mifflin Reading Program, and the University of Chicago's Everyday Math, The Grace School will be able to bring these tools to second graders of widely varying abilities and socioeconomic, racial, and cultural backgrounds.

The Grace School offers one of the first fully inclusive K-8 education programs in the country where children with severe/profound disabilities learn side-by-side- all day, every day – with peers who are typically developing. Kindergarten and first grade are now fully inclusive and in the fall of 2008 second grade will also be fully inclusive. The goal is that one grade will become fully inclusive annually until 2014.

For over sixty years, Meeting Street Early has been involved in assessing and supporting the educational needs of children of all abilities. With the support of the PGA TOUR Wives Association, Meeting Street will be able to improve and expand upon the educational tools currently being used for the student's in inclusive classrooms.

"The Grace School at Meeting Street is so fortunate to have the support from an organization like the PGA TOUR Wives Association. Their commitment to the programming and services that we provide to our students is amazing and we look forward to be able to implement these language and math advances to our already successful educational model for our students of all abilities," explained Karen Higbie, Team Leader for The Grace School at Meeting Street.

"As an organization, we support those programs that positively impact the lives of children and their families," explained Amy Wilson, President of the PGA TOUR Wives Association. Meeting Street's commitment to education for all children, regardless of their abilities, is

exactly the type of program that fits into our goals for outreach to those in need. We are pleased that our donation will support the expansion of such a worthwhile program."

Each year, Meeting Street supports more than 3,000 children and young adults and their families, providing personalized services to meet each individual's unique needs and learning style through its core programs: Meeting Street Early Intervention, Bright Futures Early Learning Center, The Children's Network, The Grace School, The Carter School, and Meeting Street Therapeutic Services. For more information, visit Meeting Street's new website at www.meetingstreet.org.

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