

## LIBRARY SYSTEM

# Donation getting books into the hands of children



The Avedis Foundation, Pottawatomie County Health Department and Pioneer Library System Foundation are partnering on an initiative to provide free books for children at the health department. Pictured with some of the materials are, from left, Amber Cole, Development Officer, Pioneer Library System and Foundation; Brenda Potts, Regional Director for the health department; Jessi Ryel, Partnership Director for the health department; Ruth Ann Larman, Administrative Programs Officer for the health department; Angie Porter, Child Development Specialist; Earlene Mason, Admission Specialist; and Wanda Haynes, Branch Manager of the McCloud Public Library.

PHOTO PROVIDED

The Pioneer Library System Foundation, in partnership with the Pottawatomie County Health Department, and through a generous donation from the Avedis Foundation, will be spreading literacy into the community in even more ways.

A \$6,000 donation from Avedis is supplying free

books that will be given away to children when their families visit the Pottawatomie County Health Department for vaccinations, well-baby checks and other medical needs.

The initial rollout of books will feature about 1,000 total books and 140 different titles, with board books, paperbacks and

hardbacks included.

Books were selected by staff from the Pioneer Library System's Readers Services department, and they'll all have a healthy living theme, with titles like the tooth care encouragers "Going to the Dentist" and "Zebras Don't Brush Their Teeth."

The program will have

an emphasis on targeting low-income families, such as those with mothers involved in Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), who may be less likely to be able to provide books to their children. The health department also will display literacy-centered posters produced by PLS in its waiting room.