



March 3, 2008

Alamo Reading Council  
222 Hampton Way  
San Antonio, Texas 78249

Dear Friends:

Over 100 years ago, a vision was founded on hope. Hope that we can make a difference in the lives of children - each life touched uniquely by the care and involvement of our supporters. Through your in-kind gift of books, you help us provide the essential necessities of childhood, inspiring many happy memories.

One such memory came to us recently from a volunteer and a toddler who had not yet taken his first steps. Developing motor skills can be challenging to any pair of young legs, but in this case, our toddler, with an abusive and neglectful past, was also very timid about trusting the hands that guided him. A volunteer noticed this and with fingers wrapped around her thumbs, she led his footsteps along the carpeted floor. Each time she visited, she took those little hands and traced the previous day's path with brand new footsteps, safely holding him and encouraging with a language filled more with emotion than words. A few days after the toddler rose into a confident stance and walked on his own, the volunteer who had held on so tightly before, proudly let go of his tiny grasp as he left the emergency shelter for his new permanent home.

The secure surroundings in which our children grow to trust are made possible by your generosity. We wholeheartedly thank you, on behalf of our staff and most importantly, on behalf of our first-time walkers.

Sincerely,

Anne Zbinden  
Vice President of Community Relations

Gifts to The Children's Shelter are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. This letter should be retained to support charitable contributions for tax purposes. No goods or services or other benefits have been provided to you for this gift in excess of those excluded by the minimis provisions of the federal tax law, unless noted. Tax ID 74-1109660



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February 2008—April Hernandez (left) of The Children's Shelter and Irma Benavides, Alamo Reading Council Treasurer.