



Centered in Care
Powered by Pride

1500 South Main Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76104

phone 817-702-3431

JPShealthnet.org

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Kris Newcomer
knewcomer@jpshealth.org
817-702-1610

First baby of 2017

The baby is the first beneficiary of new literacy initiative

Fort Worth, Jan. 1, 2017 — The first baby born at JPS Health Network in 2017 is a boy who arrived at 8:04 a.m. Giovanni Eliazar Alvarado was born weighing 6 pounds, 2 ounces. His parents are Diana Castorena and Jose Alvarado of Fort Worth. Giovanni is the couple's first child.

Baby Giovanni also becomes the first beneficiary of Books for Tarrant County Babies, a new literacy partnership between JPS and the Fort Worth Library. All mothers who give birth at John Peter Smith Hospital will receive a copy of the bilingual book "Read to Me," by Judi Moreillon, and a Fort Worth Library card.

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price will present the first book to the baby's parents, along with JPS President and CEO Robert Earley, Fort Worth Library Director Gleniece Robinson and Leslie Oliver, president and CEO of the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation.

Books for Tarrant County Babies is a joint initiative of the JPS Foundation and the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation.

"The partnership with JPS Health Network is ideal," said Robinson, "because more than 4,700 babies are born at Tarrant County's public hospital every year, many of whom may not have books in their home. Studies have shown that children who do not have books in their home or are not exposed to 20,000 words a day before age three are less likely to be ready for kindergarten."

Advisory

Members of the news media are welcome to join us at noon as Mayor Price presents the first book to the first baby of 2017. JPS is at 1500 S. Main St. in Fort Worth (76104,) on the northwest corner of Main Street and Allen Avenue. Call or text Kris Newcomer at 817-922-9281 and we'll meet you at the front entrance.

End