Sample Press Release for Public Officials Participating in:
 *Grace Goes to Washington* Reading Project

[Fill in Your Name Here] read children at [Fill in Name of Local School] a story book – and taught them an important lesson about leadership.

Many children, asked to name a leader, think first of men – the leaders they see most often in the news, the ones celebrated with holidays and statues. As they see more women leaders, it becomes easier to envision wider possibilities – including, for girls, the chance that they could step into such roles themselves.

*Grace Goes to Washington,* the sequel to *Grace for President*, tells a story about a girl who takes a field trip to Washington, DC with her class. Exploring government buildings and national monuments, Grace feels closer than ever to her dream of becoming president someday. But she and her classmates have a lot to learn about what it means to serve the needs of the people, especially when the people want different things! Hearing the story of Grace and meeting [Fill in Your Name Here] put women’s leadership in the spotlight.

[Insert your quote here along with any info about you such as: Senator Smith has represented the third district, including North County, for eight years. A social worker by training, she chairs the committee on human services and also sits on the transportation committee.]

*Grace Goes to Washington*, written by Kelly DiPucchio with illustrations by LeUyen Pham, also provides an easily understandable overview of the three branches of government, illustrates checks and balances in an accessible and fun way, highlights girls and women in public leadership, and teaches elementary-age children the value of kindness, courage, and independent thought.

The book, published by Disney-Hyperion, was made available to women lawmakers across the country – both in Congress and in state legislatures – by Teach a Girl to Lead®, a program of the non-partisan Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University. Support for distributing the book came from the Hess Foundation, **The Honorable Constance Hess Williams, and Comcast NBCUniversal**. After reading the story to children, lawmakers donate their copies to school libraries.

CAWP created Teach a Girl to Lead® to inspire girls and young women to follow in the footsteps of women leaders, past and present. Making women’s political leadership visible to America’s youth will help both boys and girls grow up with more inclusive ideas about who can lead.