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FOUNDATION
Building a Legacy of Literacy and Learning for Children in Need.

For Immediate Release

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Books for Kids and the Brooke Jackman Foundation Open a Library in Brooklyn

New library at the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn will provide a much-needed service to children and families.

(New York, NY—March 23, 2009) . . . The Books for Kids Foundation and the Brooke Jackman Foundation are excited to announce the opening of the **Brooke Jackman Library at the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn**. The New York City Family Justice Center library is the 58th BFK Library since its founding in 1986. Festivities were held at the New York City Family Justice Center, 350 Jay Street, in downtown Brooklyn. Members of the Center welcomed guests followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony presided by Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes; Anne Marie Principe, CEO/Executive Director of the Books for Kids Foundation; Erin Jackman, Executive Director of the Brooke Jackman Foundation; Jennifer DeCarli, Executive Director of the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn; and Deirdre Bialo-Padin, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Jennifer DeCarli, Executive Director of the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, spoke about the impact the Brooke Jackman Library will have on the hundreds of children who visit the Center each year. "We are honored to receive this generous gift from The Books for Kids Foundation and The Brooke Jackman Foundation at our Center," said DeCarli. "This library will enrich the experiences of the children at the Center as we continue to assist their families to break the cycle of violence." Refreshments and a tour of the Center followed the remarks

This Library will give children who have experienced violence and turmoil the opportunity to explore the magical world of reading, as well as provide a safe and comfortable environment to do so. **The Brooke Jackman Library at the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn**, contains hundreds of new books, sturdy shelves, child-friendly seating, a listening center, and much more.

"Books for Kids is honored to become a part of the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, and the Kings County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Bureau. We applaud the Brooke Jackman Foundation for funding this important project that will serve so many children and families who need us most," said Anne Marie Principe, CEO/ED of the Books for Kids Foundation.

About the Brooke Jackman Foundation

Our mission is to create and support programs enhancing the literacy and self-esteem of disadvantaged children and their families in and around the New York area. The Family Literacy Programs, Brooke Packs, and Brooke's Books are among the projects we sponsor that help thousands of children in diverse city, agency, and school programs.

The Brooke Jackman Foundation, a nonprofit, public 501(c)(3) organization, was created in October 2001 in response to the September 11 World Trade Center attack that claimed the life of Brooke Jackman, age 23. The Foundation honors Brooke's legacy: a deep love of reading and a profound interest in helping children.

About The Books for Kids Foundation (BFK)

The Books for Kids Foundation (BFK) is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to promote literacy among all children with a special emphasis on low-income and at-risk preschool-aged children. Books for Kids creates libraries, donates books, and partners with literacy programs to develop the critical early foundation and skills which young children need to be successful in life. For more information, please visit www.booksforkids.org.

About the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn:

The New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, is an initiative of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence in partnership with the Kings County District Attorney's Office. Representatives of City and State agencies, nonprofit organizations, including civil legal organizations, provide services on-site to domestic violence victims and their children. This public/private partnership helps domestic violence victims break the cycle of violence by streamlining the process of receiving supportive services. Clients may walk in and choose which services they want, including counseling, meeting with a prosecutor, assistance with emergency shelter and housing, and civil legal assistance – all in their native language while their children play safely in the next room. Since opening in July 2005, the Center has served over 21,000 clients seeking domestic violence services and nearly 4,000 children have visited the Center's Children's Room- Margaret's Place.

Media Contact Only

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