

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM

OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: Library Board

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Category of Request

- ☐ New Grant
- ☐ Grant Continuation
- ☐ Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No.

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Project/Program Title: Work Rewards: Family-Based Career Exploration and Planning

Grantor Agency: MetLife Foundation

Grant Application Date: December 16, 2002

Anticipated Award Date: January 31, 2003

Please provide the following information:

1. Description of Grant Project/Program (Include Target Locations and Populations):

The Milwaukee Public Library will collaborate with Milwaukee Public alternative schools, other community youth-serving agencies and local professionals to investigate the various paths to meaningful work and to inspire youth to pursue positive choices toward future success.

The Milwaukee Public Library serves Milwaukee residents seeking careers in many ways. We offer print materials focusing on various job-finding tools and skills. We offer computer resources that provide information about job opportunities and a means to communicate applicant interest.

For at-risk youth, the job search experience can be an unfamiliar and daunting task. Past failures in the educational process, poor academic performance and lack of positive role models often lead to diminished expectations regarding career outcomes. To make career planning more familiar, specialized materials and experiences can help facilitate a better understanding. Specialized materials like career related video recordings targeting teen audiences could assist teens in their efforts to understand the types of careers available.

Further, the Milwaukee Public Library could facilitate experiences that help at-risk youth and their families better understand the changes taking place in the world of work and what it takes to overcome obstacles and achieve career goals. The Milwaukee Public Library will facilitate a series of literature-based intergenerational career discussion forums bringing together community professionals, at-risk youth and their families to discuss career success.

2. Relationship to City-wide Strategic Goals and Departmental Objectives:

City-Wide:

- Expand support services to youth and single-parent households.
- Support and build the capacity of programs that address the needs of youth and family.
- Improve the literacy rate.

Library:

- Expand outreach efforts to public/private schools and other child-serving agencies in the community.
- To extend library services to at-risk young adults.
- To facilitate partnerships between the library and youth serving agencies.

3. Need for Grant Funds and Impact on Other Departmental Operations (Applies only to Programs):

Recent events in the city of Milwaukee have offered us glaring reminders that when young people lack guidance and direction, the possibility of getting off-track increases. Being off-track can lead to serious and sometimes tragic consequences. The recent headline crimes featuring teen perpetrators have us all wringing our hands and seeking answers. Less tragic, but with equally significant consequences, off-track teens can experience low grades, fail to resist negative peer pressure, suffer from low self-esteem, engage in drug experimentation and participate in other risky behavior. Helping young people to stay on track is important to all of us. Today's youth will grow to become tomorrow's troublemaker or tomorrow's responsible citizen. Let's take the time today to offer information and experiences that will help them and their families to make decisions toward becoming the latter.

To be a responsible citizen, it takes effort, opportunity – and let's face it – a solid, steady income. Career planning is an involved process that includes many aspects. On some level, the entire educational process is a mechanism to help young people find out what they want to do for a living during their adult lives. High school, especially the final years of high school, represents a transition. Students get involved with career decision making. But what if you are a student who has struggled to just stay in school or even dropped out? Career planning in these circumstances can be a daunting challenge. In these cases, individuals need the help of their families and their communities to get focused and realize a career dream. In spite of past circumstances, particular information and experiences can help young people make positive career decisions and an effective entrance into adulthood.

The purpose of this program is to explore with teens and their families what it takes to plan a successful career and to develop a means to facilitate family career planning.

4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):

Results will be measured in each of three areas: collaboration, collection development, and participant responses. Successful collaboration will be measured by commitment of youth serving agency, level of student attendance, and presenter feedback. The information will be gathered with attendance rosters, letters of agency commitment and presenter response surveys. Successful collection development will be measured by the number of items added to the collection that meets the needs of at-risk youth seeking career

information. Participant responses will be measured by participant response questionnaire surveys distributed at each intergenerational sharing session.

5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-out Plan:

March 2003 – March 2004

March 2003 – May 2003	Planning with collaborators
June 2003- August 2003	Collection development, promotion
September 2003 – November 2003	Facilitate program series

6. Provide a List of Subgrantees: N/A

7. If Possible, Complete Grant Budget Form and Attach to Back.