

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

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Category of Request

 New Grant Grant ContinuationPrevious Council File No. 051289 Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. _____

Project/Program Title: Ready to Read with Books2GoGrantor Agency: State of Wisconsin Department of Public InstructionGrant Application Date: September 2006Anticipated Award Date: January 2007

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

The Ready to Read with Books2Go is a continuation grant supporting training developed in 2005 as an enhancement to the Books2Go program. Books2Go reaches preschool children through their child care provider. The Ready to Read program enhances the Books2Go program by providing in depth training on developing pre-literacy skills in children to child care providers and parents. In 2005 Ready to Read started as a pilot program focusing on 18 child care centers, 15 English speaking and 3 bilingual Spanish sites. The 2006 grant continued the momentum started in 2005 and perfected the program. The program was offered to 20 new sites once the 18 original sites completed 12 months of participation.

This training is based on training developed by PLA and ALSC and focuses on six skills necessary for developing pre-literacy skills in young children: narrative skills, letter knowledge, print awareness, vocabulary, print motivation, and phonological awareness. This program has a strong emphasis on brain development and incorporating fun, easy and educational activities that make a considerable difference in the children's lives. The library will continue to partner with 4C's, WECA and MATC to offer training to child care providers outside of the pilot group. Through these partners, childcare providers will receive credit toward certification or teacher continuing education credits. The library will work with these groups, hospitals, head start partner agencies, and childcare centers to provide training to parents. In addition, Family Early Learning Nights were offered to families with children ages birth to 5 years so they could learn about early literacy in a fun, low-key family atmosphere. The funds from this grant will be used to fund the consultants who lead the sessions, market the project, and purchase materials for the collection to support the program.

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

A. City-Wide:

1. Foster an environment that will focus on the educational needs of children.
2. Improve the literacy rate.
3. Expand support services to youth and single-parent households.
4. Support and build the capacity of programs that address the needs of youth families.

B. Library:

1. Expand outreach efforts to child serving agencies in the community.
2. Expand and diversify collections, particularly to target customer groups.
3. Strengthen literacy efforts.
4. Promote Milwaukee Public Library collections and resources through collaborations and programs.
5. Increase the number of library cardholders and card users in targeted groups.
6. Expand training for all staff.
7. Promote the library's services, resources and benefits to increase community awareness, usage and support.
8. Target neighborhood groups, churches, nursing homes, and community-based organizations to strengthen or forge partnerships and collaborations.

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

Materials and bilingual services are needed to expand library services to families with young children who currently do not use the library. Studies show that exposure to reading, books, and libraries is critical for developing literacy skills in children age five and under. Attendance at library programs indicated that these families were under served. The library will work with community agencies to identify and reach these children.

4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):
Results will be measured by the number of child care centers participating, the number of library cards issued to participants, the number of books checked out by participants, number of training sessions provided and attendance at those sessions, surveys from participants, and the number of follow-up visits to the library.

5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-Out Plan:
January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007:
January – February: Contract outreach educator.
February – December: Outreach educator visits child care centers, registers centers for Books2Go program, distributes Books2Go library cards, schedules first story time at library, schedules follow-up visits, monitors hotline, records statistics and writes reports as needed; implements marketing plan. Outreach coordinator conducts training.
December: Incorporate duties of outreach educator into staff duties; complete final evaluation.

6. Provide a list of Subgrantees:
N/A

7. If Possible, complete Grant Budget Form and attach to back.