

LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 8, FILE 011346

FEBRUARY 6, 2002

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File #011346 is a resolution relative to acceptance and funding of a Books on the Go: Outreach to Milwaukee Preschoolers Grant by the Milwaukee Public Library.

Background and Discussion

1. This resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) to accept a Books on the Go: Outreach to Milwaukee Preschoolers Grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The purpose of the project is to provide outreach services to preschoolers living in poverty and cared for in daycare settings. This is a continuation grant.
2. The grant supports the city-wide strategic goals to foster and focus on the educational needs of children, to improve the literacy rate and expand services to youth and single parent households. It also supports MPL's objectives to provide materials and services for Milwaukee citizens, expand and diversify the collection for the target audience and utilize marketing techniques for library promotion.
3. The program includes contacts and visits to daycare centers, delivering "Books To Go" backpacks, facilitating library card distribution and scheduling follow-up visits to neighborhood libraries.
4. MPL collaborates with Wisconsin Early Childcare Association (WECA) and other support groups to provide educational opportunities for childcare providers in the use of the library and its resources for the benefit of the children. The in-service programs, workshops and conferences, called Super Saturday, are offered monthly through the grant. An advisory committee of representatives from MPL, MPS, the Marquette University Parenting Center, WECA and Coordinated Childcare (4 C's), Hmong Educational Advancements as well as parents and childcare providers continues to plan and implement the activities.
5. With the 2001 grant, all childcare providers and centers were invited to participate and encouraged to use library resources. The activities include issuing Books2Go library cards, backpacks and visiting childcare sites.
6. In 2002, the Library will be reaching English as a Second Language childcare providers, specifically the Spanish and Hmong speaking. Foreign language interpreters are used in assistance with the Books2Go Spanish hotline. The outreach activities are included in the day-to-day library services.

Fiscal Impact

1. The total for the Books On The Go: Outreach to Milwaukee Preschoolers Grant is \$78,245, funded by the Grantor share, \$73,900 (94%) and the City in-kind share, \$4,345 (6%).
2. The grant provides partial funding for 6 library positions and funds the supplies, materials, coordinator and translation services and equipment.
3. The grant period is from January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

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