Program # 80006A - Early Childhood Resources-Current Service Level	Version 3/28/2006 s

Priority:	Education	**Lead Agency:**	Library
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	**Program Contact:**	Renea Arnold
Related Programs:			
Program Characteristics:			

Executive Summary

Early Childhood Resources (ECR) seeks to improve the reading readiness of children entering kindergarten by providing their parents and caregivers with early literacy and brain development information, hands-on literacy activities and demonstrations of the best way to share books with their children. Services are directed toward families whose children are at risk of low literacy. This program supports the Education Outcome Team's Strategy 2, "Prepare children to learn" by 1. Supporting parents and caregivers in preparing their children to learn, and 2. Educating parents and caregivers about what students need to succeed in school.

Program Description

Library staff partner with other County departments, pediatric clinics & community agencies to provide workshops & mentoring to parents, caregivers and early childhood educators to increase their ability to promote children's early literacy skills. Services are provided in four primary ways: 1. Parent Education Classes teach parents how to talk & read interactively & how to play with rhymes with their children to increase readiness to read. An early childhood parent educator provides literacy guidance to parents in social service agencies, teen parent & substance abuse programs, childcare centers & schools. 2. Childcare Provider Education Classes & On-Site Mentoring teach caregivers effective ways to support early literacy through 12 different 2-hour workshops. 3. Early Literacy Storytimes in childcare centers, childcare homes, schools, Head Starts, parent-child development centers & social agencies model for parents & caregivers how to develop children's literacy. 4. Collections of quality children's books are selected & delivered to childcare homes & centers, pediatric clinics and public agencies.

Program Justification

ECR partners with other organizations to try to reduce the 28% of MC's 5-year-olds who enter school unprepared. (The Oregon 2002 Kindergarten Readiness to Learn Report). The ability to read does not develop naturally, but depends on the experiences & environment provided by the adults in a child's life. "Parents and caregivers play roles of inestimable importance in laying the foundation for learning to read" (Becoming a Nation of Readers). This program teaches parents & caregivers how to prepare children for learning to read. Early literacy experiences create the basis for future reading success. In fact, Knowledge of alphabet letters at entry into kindergarten is a strong predictor of reading ability in 10th grade (Ehri & McCormick, 1998). Program evaluations show 1. parents gain clear knowledge in interactive reading techniques, phonological awareness (playing with rhymes), & their role in their children's preparedness. 2. Childcare providers increase their visits to libraries & encourage children's rhyming games & letter recognition. ECR links directly to Education strategies 1-3:("Ensure the basic needs of children are met as they relate to school success"; "Prepare children to learn, either directly or by assisting parents & caregivers"; & "Promote reading at grade level by third grade").

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY04-05)	Current Year Purchased (FY05-06)	Current Year Estimate (FY05-06)	Next Year Offer (FY06-07)
Output	Parents and caregivers served (duplicated)	4,613	4,750	4,800	5,000
Outcome	% of parents' knowledge growth of ways to help their kids' literacy development	0%	0%	0%	50%
Output	Children served (duplicated)	8,933	9,000	9,500	10,000
Output	Books delivered	104,362	120,000	150,000	200,000

Performance Measure - Description

Outcome measure: Based on pre & post training survey.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure No. 26-36 "Renew Five-Year Local Option Levy for County Library Services", November 2002 General Election – The Library levy will: Keep Multnomah County libraries open six days a week for an average of 53-58 hours each; Restore Monday hours at Central Library and the four busiest branches; Keep Central Library and neighborhood libraries open Sunday afternoons; Continue library services for young and school-age children – story hours for babies and toddlers, homework help, Summer Reading and services for children in childcare; Continue services for seniors, job seekers, small businesses, those speaking English as a second language, delivery to homebound; Buy library books, magazines and other materials.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Personnel	$128,950	$258,633	$150,476	$267,512
Contracts	$20,461	$41,039	$10,620	$18,880
Materials & Supplies	$29,128	$58,423	$46,512	$82,688
Internal Services	$3,224	$6,467	$7,854	$13,962
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	**$181,763**	**$364,562**	**$215,462**	**$383,042**
Administration	$0	$0	$60,537	$107,621
Program Support	$0	$0	$24,782	$44,056
Subtotal: Other Exps:	**$0**	**$0**	**$85,319**	**$151,677**
Total GF/non-GF:	**$181,763**	**$364,562**	**$300,781**	**$534,719**
Program Total:	**$546,325**		**$835,500**	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.00	3.50
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	$1,218	$0	$2,362	$0
Program Revenue for Admin	$0	$0	$298,419	$534,719
Total Revenue:	**$1,218**	**$0**	**$300,781**	**$534,719**

Explanation of Revenues

The Admin revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (57%) and library-generated revenues such as book fines, interest earnings, Library Fund balance, and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (7%). General Fund revenue represents about 36% of the Library's total revenue.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #80015, Ready to Learn
Reduction of 1.0 FTE; restoration is possible pending Library Foundation funding.