

**Priority:** Education  
**Program Offer Type:** New Program  
**Related Programs:**

**Lead Agency:** Library  
**Program Contact:** Renea Arnold

**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

Early Childhood Resources (ECR) enhanced program offer seeks to improve the reading readiness of children entering kindergarten by extending proven outreach programs to the growing number of Spanish-speaking parents in Multnomah County. By adding .5 FTE bilingual staff, ECR will be able to provide early literacy training, information and support to the 11.2% of parents in the county who speak Spanish at home with their children (2004 American Community Survey).

**Program Description**

ECR supports the development of early literacy skills in bilingual children under 5 by strengthening their parents' ability to provide quality early learning environments. Children's pre-reading skills are strongly influenced by interactions with their families before coming to school. Children whose parents are non-English speakers are most at risk of low literacy. This enhanced program will provide instruction, information, support and books for parents in five more pediatric health clinics (from 7 to 12), and reach non-English speaking parents in child care centers, elementary schools, child care homes, county agencies & social service programs. Pediatric health providers encourage parents to read daily with their children by writing "prescriptions" for parents to read 20 minutes a day and providing free children's books at well-child visits for 0-5 year olds. National studies show that parents are positively influenced to read to their children by their children's medical providers, and those families who receive books from pediatric health providers report an increase in book sharing with their children.

**Program Justification**

This program directly links to the Education Outcome Team's strategies #1, 2 & 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 and caregivers"; "Promote reading at grade level by third grade"; and submit offers that "are culturally appropriate and meet the school-related needs of English Language Learning Youth or their parents/caregivers). The ability to read does not develop naturally, but depends on the experiences and 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). With enhanced funding of \$110,000, an estimated 8,000 more children will receive quality children's books, and an estimated 8,000 more parents/caregivers, including those who are Spanish-speaking, will receive instruction in stimulating their children's early literacy development (\$65,000 for clinic start-up at 5 clinics & \$45,000 for .5 FTE bilingual staff).

**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)	0	0	0	8,000
Outcome	Parents will report that they will read more often with their children	0%	0%	0%	30%
Output	Children served (duplicated)	0	0	0	8,000
Output	Books delivered	0	0	0	50,000

**Performance Measure - Description**

The number served (Measures 1 & 3) nearly doubles from current service level because more people can be reached through pediatric health clinic staff than by the direct library staff contact (current model of service). Measure 2 tracks how library programs delivered in Spanish change the behavior of ESL parents - specifically those who are Spanish-speaking.

**Legal/Contractual Obligation****Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	2006	2006	2007	2007
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$38,387	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$70,200	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$3,883	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$112,470</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$112,470</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$112,470</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$112,470	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$112,470</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

This program offer would be funded by an additional transfer from the General Fund.

**Significant Program Changes**

Last year this program was: