



BE THE INSPIRATION

District Grant Final Report 2018-2019

This report must be completed and uploaded on matchinggrants.org within 30 days after completion of the project but no later than 2 years after the date of approval of the project.

District Grant # P-2557

Rotary Club: Fort Collins After Work

Project Title: Early Childhood Literacy

Project Description:

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done and where did the project activities take place? Explain how the beneficiaries and other community members were involved?
Our project had 3 components:
 - 1) Seminars: This was a coordinated effort with Children's Speech and Reading Center (CSRC) in Fort Collins. One of their programs is to provide community education and outreach programs in literacy development for teachers, parents and expecting parents. CSRC is Colorado's only 501(c)(3) nonprofit that focuses on reading and speech development. These seminars will present easy, engaging, constructive and useful methods as described above to engage and promote reading literacy in their young children. These seminars were held at: Macaroni Kids Fair with about 2500 participants, Autism Resources with about 500 participants, A Faith Based Health Resource Fair – Loveland with about 250 participants. There were also several dyslexia outreach seminars. These included: Kruse Elementary Multi-Sensory Instruction (12 teachers), Teacher Training for Professional Development at Thompson School District (~ 35 teachers).
 - 2) BEAR Hugs: Children in Early Childhood reading programs and Literacy development received a backpack containing an age appropriate book, a flip chart of alphabet letters and corresponding picture, foam alphabet bath letters toys to build reading skills and a flyer for parents reviewing the ways to promote reading in their young child. Our backpacks are called BEAR Hugs (Backpacks for Early Ability in Reading).
 - 3) Little Libraries / Colorful Bookcases: Our project will also focus on free access to age appropriate books in areas that young readers are found with their parents. The libraries and bookcases were built refurbished and painted by the shop students at Centennial

High School. Books were provided by CSRC, Rotaract book drives and some board books for babies were purchased by Rotaract. However, at some point these should be somewhat self-sustainable in the future since the concept is take a book, leave a book. Bookcases were placed at the House of Neighborly Services in Loveland which focuses on providing services to low income families, Estes Park Learning Place focusing on early childhood education though adult learners (a variety of age level books were placed here), and Partners of Larimer County.

2. How many Rotarians participated in this project? 3
3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.
 - Neil Harrison who lives near Martinez Park in Fort Collins, CO installed a Little Library in his front yard. This is a great location for children that may not have easy access to books.
 - Dave Boon – director of the Children’s Speech and Reading Center coordinated the seminars and searched through books for the backpacks
4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project? many
 - Every child and adult that takes a book from the Little Libraries and bookcases benefit from this project.
 - Every parent and teacher that attended a free seminar by CSRC benefitted from backpacks and information on how to read to their students and children. The number of people that attended these seminars was approximately 3300.
5. Who are the beneficiaries and what is the expected long-term community impact of this project?
 - The bookcases and libraries will be a constant presence in our community. Hopefully books will come and go but for now Rotary After Work and CSRC are committed to keeping the shelves filled with books for young readers.
 - We believe the availability of books, reading challenges and tips for parents will benefit children at risk of literacy deficiencies and affect their success in school as they enter kindergarten and beyond. This project hopefully encourages reading accomplishments, makes literacy fun and promotes self-esteem as they learn to read.
6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was their role?
 - Centennial High School’s shop classes built our bookcases. They became quite creative and built not only regular (but colorful bookcases) but also bookcases built like houses. They created plaques that acknowledge Rotary After Work, the district and the high school as collaborators in this project.
 - Hewlett Packard made the alphabet flip charts that are included in the backpacks. These flip cards have an alphabet letter on one side and an accompanying picture on the other.
 - Rotaract had a companion literacy grant with us. They contributed to the cost of book shelves and libraries and they provided prizes for the reading challenge. They also did a book drive and purchased board books which were lacking in the drive.
7. Income:

Income Source	Amount
Rotary After Work	500

District	1000
Total Project Income	1500

8. Expenditures: (number receipts starting with 1 and indicate a receipt # (s) for each expenditure) (Do not include travel expenses)

If international project convert amounts to US dollars	Receipt # (s)	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount
Centennial High School	1	240.00	540.00
50 Animal Backpacks (Amazon)	2, 3, 4	1000.00	552.95
50 Foam Alphabet Bath toys (Amazon)	5	250.00	414.50
Seminars	NA	0	
Marketing	NA	10.00	0
Total project expenditures		1500.00	1507.45

9. Please explain any variance of more than 5% between the budgeted amount and the actual amount including the reason for the variance and why the alternative was chosen.
- The cost of materials for the bookcases and plaques were more than anticipated. This grant was submitted during a school break and estimates were used.
 - Backpacks were originally priced with bears abut once we were ready to order the cost was not as low as previously seen online. So, since the bookcases were over budget we purchased adorable animal backpacks that were less expensive than budgeted and we could afford to put in the alphabet bath toys at more than we had budgeted. The number of backpacks and toys remained the same.

10. Project score (5=strongly, 4=agree, 3= neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)

	Project Score	Comments
The overall project was successful	5	
The grant process worked well	5	
My interaction with partner clubs was good	NA	
We achieved the results we expected	5	

11. Did you upload photos in your project on matchinggrants.org under the Photos tab? (If not, please do so)
- yes
12. What worked well on this project and why?
- I think everything worked well. The project itself was an idea that people could get behind.
13. What did not work well and how would you suggest improving it?
- It was actually more difficult than anticipated to place the bookcases. I am not sure why – bureaucracy for some places. Regardless they are all out there.

- We also did not pass out backpacks at the CSRC seminars as there was unprecedented attendance. So backpacks were passed out to preschoolers through the CSRC to 50 at risk early learners.

14. How was this project publicized?

- It was not publicized

Project Inventory

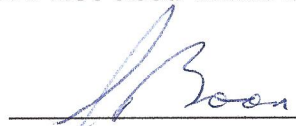
Please list all items provided in this grant that are over \$75 in value and are not expendable.

Item Purchased	Date of Purchase	Cost	Destination/ Location	Comments
Bookcases and Little Libraries	April 17, 2020	\$540	CSRC, Early Learning Center	
Backpacks and toys	March 9, 2020	\$967.45	children	

By signing this report, I confirm that to the best of my knowledge these District Grant funds were spent only for eligible items in accordance with Trustee-approved guidelines, and that all the information contained herein is true and accurate. Receipts for all grant-funded expenditures are attached. I also understand that all photographs submitted in connection with this report will become the property of RI and will not be returned. I warrant that I own all rights to the photographs, including copyright, and hereby grant the District, RI and TRF a royalty free irrevocable license to use the photographs now or in the future, through the District and the world in any manner it so chooses and in any medium now known or developed. This includes the right to modify the photographs as necessary in the District's and RI's sole discretion. This also includes, without limitation, use on or in the web sites, magazines, brochures, pamphlets, exhibitions and any other promotional materials of the District, RI, and TRF.

Please attach all receipts or an invoice and a copy of the check used to pay the invoice. Funds over \$100 not used must be returned to the district grants treasurer.

Certifying signature of primary contact



Date:

4/28/20

Print name

June Boon

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