

Department: Library **Program Contact:** Annie Lewis
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education

Executive Summary

Every Child Initiative (ECI) prepares children for kindergarten by offering education, motivation and support for parents and caregivers to provide language and literacy experiences that foster children's brain development and early literacy skills. This builds the foundation for learning to read. Experts in early learning and literacy, ECI staff deliver engaging programs and hands-on literacy activities that open up the wonder of stories, music, culture and play. Services are directed toward families living in poverty and those learning English.

Program Summary

Every Child staff, who are trained in child development, brain development and early reading research, visit parents and caregivers in social service agencies, childcare centers, Head Start centers, teen parent programs, treatment facilities, and other locations serving adults with children birth to age five. They teach parents and caregivers easy techniques to prepare their preschool children for learning to read. Classes, taught in English, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Russian and Vietnamese, show adults how to read, talk, sing, play and rhyme with babies, toddlers and preschoolers so that children develop the pre-reading skills they need before they enter kindergarten.

From birth to age five, children go through a critical window for brain development that supports literacy. Reading, talking, singing, playing, writing and rhyming with children during this sensitive time determines a child's future as a reader. Many parents and caregivers don't know how early this window opens — and closes — and how tremendous an impact simple actions can have on their children's future ability to read. Children must have early experiences with language, books, and writing tools to become successful readers.

Research shows that children most at risk for being unprepared for kindergarten are those who live in poverty, have parents who speak a language other than English in the home, have few books in their homes, and whose mothers have limited education and/or low literacy. These children start kindergarten with significantly lower cognitive skills than their more advantaged peers because they likely lacked the opportunity to have rich language and literacy experiences in the five years before they attend school. Every Child Initiative reaches these parents on-site and shows them easy ways to help their children gain pre-reading skills during these important years. Program evaluations show that parents and caregivers gain clear knowledge of their role in their children's preparedness for reading.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of parents, caregivers, and adults served in Every Child Initiative outreach	20,456	21,000	21,000	21,000
Outcome	% of participants who show an increase in five reading and literacy activities	61%	70%	61%	65%
Output	Number of books circulated in Every Child Initiative	1,614,496	1,612,000	1,417,000	1,417,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

Output: The number of parents, caregivers, and adults served in all Every Child Initiative outreach, including those who receive welcome baby gifts for their new baby.

Outcome: The evaluation measures an increase in five behaviors: 1. Reading and sharing books together; 2. Talk about pictures and new words; 3. Rhyming or singing together; 4. Children play with books or pretend to read; 5. Children ask to be read to. The source of the data is the biannual Every Child a Reader program participant survey.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The budget reflects the passage of Measure 26-143: "Form Library District with permanent rate to fund library services," November 2012 General Election. The district summary states in pertinent part: "If approved, the Multnomah County Library District would be formed with a permanent rate dedicated to library services, operations, books, materials, programs, activities and oversight of the district. Formation of a District would ... prevent reductions in services, programs and activities, and hours."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$0	\$920,554	\$0	\$1,002,066
Contractual Services	\$0	\$12,500	\$0	\$49,900
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$306,898	\$0	\$323,557
Internal Services	\$0	\$43,753	\$0	\$46,270
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$1,283,705	\$0	\$1,421,793
Program Total:	\$1,283,705		\$1,421,793	
Program FTE	0.00	8.25	0.00	8.25

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The revenue allocated to this program offer reflects an intergovernmental service reimbursement from the Library District (99.96%) and resources from the County's Library Fund (0.04%). It represents a pro-rated share of property taxes (97.69%) and other revenues such as overdue fines, interest earnings, grants, and user charges for services provided to library patrons (2.31%).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 80007-19 Every Child Initiative

No significant changes.