

Grant Proposal for the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program

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Library Type: Public Library

Topic: Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program

Funds Used for: Program Supplies, Facilitation of the Program, and expenses

The Richmond Public Library (Main) is located in Richmond, Virginia at 101 East Franklin Street. The Richmond Public Library's mission is to "inform, enrich, and empower (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The Richmond Public Library supports many programs to inform, enrich, and empower its citizens in the community. One of Richmond Public Library's programs is the Kindergarten Readiness Program. This program is very vital to children that are starting to attend school. The program that I would like sponsored is a Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program. The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program is a program that will help students learn different skills in a hands-on-experience in the library. The grant that I will apply to is the Libraries Transform Communities: Engagement Grant. Here is the link to learn more about the Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries Guidelines project requirements: <https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/focusgrants/guidelines>.

Library's History with Anti-Racist Community Engagement

The Richmond Public Library (Main) promotes anti-racist community engagement through its programs, books, materials, and resources offered by the library. An example of how anti-racist community engagement is used is that the library promotes diversity in the different materials and programs that patrons want to learn about. There are also different programs that the library

sponsors to promote diversity and anti-racism such as African-American History Month, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust, Music of the Month, etc. In addition, the library also celebrates the work of different artists by providing a list of books patrons can explore and read about. For the most part, Richmond Public Library promotes anti-racism by providing programs, books, materials, and resources for patrons to explore. The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program is an excellent way for all students starting Kindergarten to prepare academically.

Library and Community Information:

Describe the library and the community it serves, including demographics, dynamics and challenges it faces.

The Richmond Public Library is located in Richmond, Virginia at 101 East Franklin Street. According to the United Census Bureau (2019), there were about 230,436 in Richmond, VA. There were about 3,414.7 per square mile (United Census Bureau, 2019).) The population in Richmond, Virginia is made up of 45.5% White, 46.9% of the population is Black/African American, American Indian and Alaska Natives Alone is 0.4%, Asians make up 2.1% of the population, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander is 0.0%, two or more races is 3.4%, and Hispanics make up 6.9%. One of the key challenges of Richmond City in particular is its SOL Pass Rates in Richmond City Public Schools. According to the Virginia Department of Education (n.d.) the 2018-2019 School Year, shows that 56 % of all students passed Reading SOLS, 56% of all students passed the Mathematics SOLS, and 60% of all students passed the Science SOLS. Overall, these percentages are low for a school district. If a little over half the students pass SOLS this presents a big problem for Richmond City Public Schools. The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program would be ideal for the community. The Richmond Public Library's mission is to "inform, enrich, and empower (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The Richmond Public Library

wants to strengthen their partnership with Richmond City Public Schools to ensure that children are being prepared academically. Another important aspect of the Richmond Public Library's strategic plan is for the Richmond Public Library to collaborate with communities in schools and in particular the elementary schools (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program would be paradigm for Richmond Public Library to capitalize off the already existing program which is the Kindergarten Readiness Program.

Topic or Issue that your Community Engagement Project will focus on.

The topic that my community engagement project will focus on is educating all children. This project supports anti-racist community engagement, because it focuses on educating all children despite ethnic background. This is important for my library because the strategic plan for Richmond Public Library wants a stronger partnership with Richmond City Public Schools. The Richmond Public Library will benefit from having this program because more and more students will have the opportunity to have a hands-on experience with the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Programs. In addition, this will allow students to advance academically before Kindergarten.

Describe the Library's Goals

The Richmond Public Library's primary goal is to help children be prepared when attending school (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The second goal for Richmond Public Library is to provide technology access to the citizens of Richmond (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The third goal is to develop the citizens of Richmond to become lifelong learners (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The fourth goal is for the library to improve its operations for effectiveness (Richmond Public Library, 2021). In addition, the last goal is for the library to provide the space to meet the needs of the community (Richmond Public Library, 2021). The Kindergarten Readiness Program is an existing program that focuses on some of the main concepts of

Kindergarten that will help prepare children. The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will provide more implementation of the skills that are needed for Kindergarten.

Describe the planning of the Engagement Program

The planning for the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will focus on skills that students need to know before entering Kindergarten. The Kindergarten Readiness Program will focus on basic skills such as students writing their names, students learning letters and letter sounds, students learning their numbers by writing them, counting objects, and identifying them (Richmond Public Library, 2021). In addition, some sight words will also be incorporated into the program. Each child that enters the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will be assessed. The assessment will cover basic skills children must know when entering Kindergarten. The engagement program will be led by three or four librarians. In addition, the Richmond Public Library will collaborate with Richmond Public Schools and provide an opportunity for 12 Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers to volunteer to teach concepts and skills in the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program. The teachers will alternate teaching lessons. There will be 3 teachers in each multipurpose room to assist 15 children. The other teachers will assist with other important tasks for the program. In particular, the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will have designated teacher's cover name writing and arts and crafts, reading skills, math skills, and science and social studies skills through community programs such as the Fire Department, Police station, etc. The program will be for the months of June to August. Parents are expected to fill out an application for their child/children for the months of January and February for the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program that will begin in June. The program will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays for about 2.5 hours in the Multipurpose Event Areas in the library. The limit of students will be 45.

Evaluation Plan:

The evaluation plan for the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will be how well students made progress and the overall organization, structure, and facilitation of the program. An assessment will be given at the beginning and end of the program to track the student's progress. The main focus will be on how the community was served with the program and the accomplishments of the participants in the program.

Budget for the Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program:

The budget for Kindergarten Summer Program will be outlined below. The Kindergarten Summer Readiness Program will need the **\$2,000** and an additional **\$3,000** for program expenses.

Staffing and Implementation of Program: \$1,050

Purchase of the Kindergarten Readiness Book: \$10.00 per book (\$450.00)

Printing Promotional Flyers: \$100.00

Refreshments/Snacks: Richmond Public Schools will provide refreshments, but special events will be funded with Refreshments: \$400.00

Technology Software: \$2,000

Curriculum: Richmond Public Schools will provide the curriculum, however supplement materials may be needed to accommodate students at different learning levels:\$ 1,000.

Transportation: Parents are responsible for transporting students.

References

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