**Summer Reading Funding Opportunity**

In 2022, only 37.7% of Sacramento County 3rd grade students could read at grade-level. The pandemic made data difficult to acquire but the latest testing shows a 6.5% decline in 2022 from 2019 reading levels. The combination of the COVID 19 and the already identified literacy crisis in Sacramento will negatively impact this generation of children, their future and the future of our city.

**Summer Reading, kindergarten readiness and school attendance remain the top three factors impacting a child’s ability to read at grade-level. According to research, reading five age-appropriate books is what it takes to hold onto earned reading skills. Summer Reading programs are a great way to engage children during summer recess and prevent summer learning loss.**

**Summer of 2024 will be imperative to prevent further reading skill degradation. Summer reading programs serve a vital role in accelerating grade-level reading proficiency.**

**Sacramento Literacy Foundation Goals**

1. To put diverse high-quality books in the hands and homes of our poorest students.
2. To advocate for evidence-based reading instruction in K-3rd grade classrooms through curriculum, teacher training, and afterschool programs.
3. To support and fund summer reading in Sacramento County.

**Grant Dollars Available**
Funding for Sacramento Literacy Foundation’s children’s literacy efforts are provided primarily by its Children’s Literacy Endowment. This funding will be granted out to the community for qualified activities.

**What We Will Fund**.

Project-specific grants for organizations that provide summer reading programs for children and youth, ages birth through 18, in Sacramento County. Service areas inside the SHRA Promise Zone will be prioritized.

**What We Will Not Fund**
Funds may not be used to replace state or local funds for staff or school personnel, or for celebration supplies, food and refreshments.

**Eligibility**

* To be eligible for funding, proposals must meet the following basic criteria:
Applicant agency must have 501(c)(3) status or operate under the fiscal sponsorship of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or be a public elementary school.
* Program must serve children in Sacramento County.
* Program must have measurable results.

**An award-winning application will meet all eligibility requirements and:**
1. Discuss the community served by the program and demonstrate why this program is important within the community.
2. Demonstrate how the organization works in collaboration with other community agencies or programs targeting children and youth literacy.
3. Show the reach/impact that the program has or has capacity to reach.
4. Provide a program budget.

**Requirements of a funded project:**
1. Host a site visit by members of the Grants Committee.
2. Submit a report no more than 1 year after receiving the grant.

**Timeline**
February 1, 2024 – Summer Reading grant application period opens
April 4, 2024, 5:00PM – Grant application period closes
May 2, 2024 – Grant recipients are notified; Big Day of Giving

**Submission Process**

Please e-mail us if you have any questions about the eligibility of your specific grant application. For more information [**www.sacramentoliteracy.org**](http://www.sacramentoliteracy.org).

Thank you for supporting reading literacy in our region and helping to ensure grade-level reading fluency for every child.

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| Name of Organization (Lead Agency):  |
| Executive Director Name:Email:Phone: | Program Contact Name:Email:Phone: |
| Organization’s Mailing Address: Fax:Website URL:  | **For collaborative applicants only**, list additional partners who will share responsibility for implementation of these grant dollars:Organization:Point of Contact:Email:Phone:Organization:Point of Contact:Email:Phone:*\*If this is a collaboration, please include a signed letter of support from your collaborative partner with your application.* |
| Proposed Project/Activity Title: |
| Ages Served:* 0-5 years
* Elementary
* Middle School
* High School
 | Type of Project/Activity:* New
* Existing
 | Amount Requested:$ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Number of unduplicated clients to be served: |

**A complete proposal for funding will answer these questions within these word limits:**

* **What project/activity are you doing? – 200- 500 words**
* **Who will participate? – 200 words**
* **How do you collaborate with others in the literacy community? – 200 words**
* **When and where will project/activity occur? – 100 words**
* **This funding will cover what costs? – 100 words**
* **How do you know it improves reading/writing skills of young people? – 200 words**

*Please include a program budget with your proposal and, if applicable, verification of 501c(3) status (or fiscal sponsorship) and board of directors list. Deadline is April 4, 2023. E-mail your application or questions to* *info@sacramentoliteracy.org**.*

The information provided in this proposal is accurate and complete. I am responsible for the implementation of activities proposed in this funding request, and am a key point of contact for questions about this proposal:

Signature Printed Name