Ready to Read at New York Libraries: an Early Childhood Public Library Staff Development Program

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Project Director
Out of the approximately 1.4 million children age 5 and under in NYS:

...one in four are living in poverty

...one in three are a victim of maltreatment

...1.2% are homeless

...60% of children in mid and high-income households vs. 40% in low income households are being read to every day

...44% of 3 to 4 year olds are not enrolled in preschool compared to 64% of low-income 3 to 4 year olds
Public libraries can level the playing field
National and State Early Learning Goals
Ready to Read at New York Libraries

Background and Planning

Early Childhood Public Library Staff Development Program

Early Literacy Initiatives

Early Literacy Resources and Research

Promotional Materials

DayByDayNY

Family Literacy Calendar

Video Tour of DayByDayNY

vimeo

Last Updated: October 23, 2014 -- asmc; for questions, comments or suggestions, contact Karen Balsen

Contact | FAQ | Feedback

The New York State Library is a unit within the

University of the State of New York - New York State Education Department
Public Library Survey Results

Respondents reported:

- Only 35-36% of children displayed reading readiness by kindergarten.
- A majority of respondents thought that 25% or fewer of families in their communities were not proficient in English.
- Many early literacy activities were desired but libraries were unable to offer them.
Public Library Survey Results

Respondents reported:

- **Training needs** include developing partnerships for early literacy programs, early childhood spaces, grant writing and outreach to underserved community segments.

- **Major barriers** to providing quality early childhood services are time and resources.
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Goals:

- Children will enter kindergarten with the skills to succeed in the school years ahead
- Public libraries will be positioned as early literacy community leaders
- Public library staff will be viewed as “Early Literacy Navigators”
The Program:

- Has five Foundation Training Components
  1. Early Literacy Community Asset Analysis
  2. Using Every Child Ready to Read 2®
  3. Early Learning Spaces
  4. Strategies for Successful Partnerships and Outreach to Families with Young Children
  5. Everyone Serves Families with Young Children

- Includes a train-the-trainer model
- Uses integrated evaluation tools
- Provides resources for libraries to reach families directly
The Advisory Group and Partnerships

New York State Head Start Collaboration
Reach Out and Read
Council on Children and Families
PULISDO

Collaborative Summer Library Program
NYLA/YSS
Cornell Cooperative Extension
United Way of New York

And others.........
Ready to Read at New York Libraries:
an Early Childhood Public Library Staff Development Program

A statewide staff development program designed to improve public library services that will help young children start kindergarten with the skills needed for school success.
Grant Updates

• 2014 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Planning Grant

• 2015 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant
Timeline

Spring 2014
• Awarded 2014 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Planning Grant
• Trained Cohort received training in Early Literacy Community Asset Analysis (ELCAA)

Fall 2014
• Applied for the 2015 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant
• Training Cohort begins training library staff in ELCAA
Timeline

Spring 2015
• Training Cohort trained in Every Child Ready to Read 2 (ECRR2)
• Training Cohort trains library staff in ELCAA and ECRR2
• Laura Bush Program Grant award announced

Summer 2015 – Spring 2018
• Training Cohort trained in remaining Foundation Components
• Training Cohort trains library staff in their region in all Foundation Components
• Enhanced training - webinars, screencasts, workshops – continues throughout the three years.
Special thanks to…

- The Advisory Group
- Training Cohort
- Public Library Systems
- NYLA & YSS
- Partners
Questions? Comments?

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