

Oldham County Fiscal Court

Grant Application

Date of Application: October 2, 2024

Official Name of Organization: Early Childhood Council, Inc

Address: c/o Oldham County Health Department, 1786 Commerce Parkway, La Grange, KY 40031

EIN: 46-1288774

Date and Place of Incorporation: November 17th, 2016, Oldham County Health Department Fiscal agent

Name, Complete Address, Email and Phone Number of Contact Person:

Carol Hughey
4730 Grand Dell Drive, Crestwood, KY 40014

ECCouncilInc@yahoo.com, 502-550-6150

Purpose of Organization or Mission Statement and Services Rendered: Children birth to 5 years old possess the foundation that will enable personal and school success. They will live in strong family units that are supported, strengthened and empowered within their communities.

The Council seeks to serve a public purpose in concert with the goals of the OCFC. Specifically, the Council will use funding to promote activities that will play an educational role for the Oldham countians, particularly students/children birth to five years that research has proven to promote kindergarten readiness and school success.

Proposal for funding. On a separate page, please provide the following:

- Statement of need for project- Page 2
- Proposed use of funds to remediate the need
- Project budget

Submission Guidelines-

Email complete applications to: Becky Zocklein rzocklein@oldhamcountyky.gov

STATEMENT OF NEED FOR PROJECT

- 34% of children in Oldham County in 2023 were found NOT READY FOR KINDERGARTEN with only 66% READY.
- The area of most delay/need for the last 5 years has been consistent. The area of cognitive and general knowledge with each year between 48%-55% of children NOT READY in this area of development. (
- There are approximately 3,420 children in Oldham County birth up to 5 years (2020 Census).
- Most children with NOT READY FOR KINDERGARTEN skills in cognitive and general knowledge are reside in 40031 & 40014 zip codes.
- Spanish speaking families, not in settings outside the home have limited literacy opportunities in the home and transportation.
- The Early Childhood Council with local donations can only support 170 5-year subscriptions (birth to 5 years) for children in 40041 and 40031 that are at risk for NOT BEING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN.
- Of the 3,420 children in Oldham County 48%-55% will NOT BE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN if the Oldham County Early Childhood Profiles for the past 5 years are predictors of the next 5 year. If so, 1,680-1,925 children over the next 5 years will NOT BE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN.

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS TO REMEDIATE THE NEED

Project:

Books age appropriate to children birth to 5 years old are mailed by Dolly Parton Imagination Library. 1 book a month for \$13.50 annually until the child ages out at 5 years old. Books include reading/sharing guides for parents specific to each book as well as a link for online guidance and enrichment. *Census reports approximately 3,420 children residing in Oldham County meet age eligibility to receive Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books.*

Strategy:

The target audience is birth up to 5-year-old children in 40031 and 40014 zip codes. The age-appropriate books mailed to the home monthly offer book reading opportunities by the home caregivers multiple times a week with guides that prompt questioning. Caregivers teach basic cognitive/general knowledge skills such as letters, naming and objects progressing to memory, retelling the story and letter sounds.

Short-Term Goals:

The enhanced home literacy environment promotes early onset of caregiver reading and increased frequency and duration of reading. An increase in positive attitudes about reading, increased motivation to read and look at books, increased requests by children to be read to by their caregivers and general book play. Increased

interaction between caregivers and children, increased time spent with a parent and increased practicing reading.

Intermediate Goals:

Increased emerging literacy skills promote concepts about print, alphabet knowledge, expressive and receptive vocabulary, and phonological memory (cognitive and general knowledge).

Long Term Goals:

KINDERGARTEN READINESS in the area of cognitive and general knowledge.

PROJECT BUDGET

The Council is requesting \$20,000 to provide 296 children with a 5 year subscription to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at risk population in Oldham County to the priority populations. (A book a month for 5 years = 60 books delivered to the child by mail to build the family library for shared reading).

\$20,000 will provide 296 additional Five Year Subscriptions combined with 1419 already enrolled = 1893 children subscribed for 5 years; *55% of 3,420 children residing in Oldham will receive a 5 year subscription to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.*

Focus/Priority Populations

- Children in Spanish speaking homes.
- Children who live in 40014 or 40031 zip codes where most of the FREE Lunch eligible children reside.

Sources:

- 2020 Census
- Kentucky Early Childhood Profiles- Source: <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/ECP>