Funding Family Literacy Programming

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Session Overview

- Introductions
- Overview of family literacy funding
- Legislation related to family literacy
- Funding case studies
- Tips for funding
- Addressing challenges
Introductions

• Name
• Organization & Title
• What interested you about this session?
Policy Paper Overview:

Changing the Course of Family Literacy

Paper can be found at: ed.psu.edu/goodling-institute/policy/changing-the-course-of-family-literacy
## A Funding Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ABE/GED/ESL</th>
<th>Parent &amp; Child Interactive Activities</th>
<th>Parent Education</th>
<th>ECE</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>WIA, Title IA, 21st Century Learning Center Grant, DFSS, BIE</td>
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<td>0%</td>
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<td>Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Church, Salvation Army, Grants</td>
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Overview of Legislation
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- ESSA programs are funded through the DOE
- 21st Century Community Centers
  - Title IV, Part B of ESSA
  - Supports learning centers for children & families in areas of high-poverty with low-performing schools
  - 2018 Budget Allocation: $1.2 Billion
- Alaska Native Education Equity
  - Title IV, Part B of ESSA
  - Funds dedicated to providing programs and resources for Alaska Native communities
  - 2018 Budget Allocation: $35.4 Million
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

• Education of Migratory Children
  • Title I, Part C
  • Funding for educational opportunities for those children moving between various states
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $374.7 Million

• English Language Acquisition
  • Title III of ESSA
  • Funds provided for three initiatives: National Professional Development Program, Native American and Alaska Native Children, and Asian American Pacific Islander Data Disaggregation Initiative Program
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $737.9 Million
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

• Indian Education
  • Title VI, Part A
  • Funding for those agencies, tribes, and institutions serving Native American students
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $180.2 Million

• Native Hawaiian Education
  • Title VI, Part B of ESSA
  • Funding for educational programs serving Native Hawaiian students
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $36.3 Million

• Ready to Learn Programming
  • Title IV, Part F of ESSA
  • Funding for educational television, digital media and other technological media
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $27.7 Million
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

• Funded through the DOE

• Adult Basic & Literacy Education
  • Title II of WIOA—Adult Education and Family Literacy Act
  • Funding for grants through states to local educational and literacy programs
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $616.9 Million
  • Not all states use this money for family literacy
Higher Education Act of 1965

• Funded through the DOE

• Federal Work-Study Program
  • Funding for students pursuing post-secondary education at participating institutions
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $1.13 Billion
  • Example: America Reads at Penn State
Federal Work Study that supports Family Literacy

- Positions can be provided through the institution itself; a federal, state, or local public agency; a private nonprofit organization; or a private for-profit organization.

- At least 7% of FWS allocation must be used for community service jobs, including: reading tutors for preschool – elementary aged children, math tutors for students K-9th grade or literacy tutors in a family literacy project performing family literacy activities.

- Students must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility and award amount.
Title I
(Elementary & Secondary Education Act)

• Funded through the DOE
• Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies
  • Known as Title 1
  • Title 1, Part A of Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
  • Funding for local agencies and schools to children failing or at-risk of failing
  • 2018 Budget Allocation: $15.8 Billion
Community Services Block Grants

• CSBG Regulations
• Offered through Office of Community Services, HHS
• Grants provide funding for those programs and initiatives that target issues of poverty within a community
• 2018 Budget Allocation: $715 Million
Head Start

• Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007
• Offered through HHS
• Funding for programs and resources that make children ready for school
• 2018 Budget Allocation: $9.8 Billion
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

• Social Security Act, Title IV, Part A
• Offered through HHS
• Funding for assisting families in moving off of public assistance, rewarded to states, territories and tribes
• 2018 Budget Allocation: $16.7 Million
Family & Child Education (FACE)

• Authorized through CFR, Title 25 32.2 & Funded through Department of the Interior, Environment & Related Agencies Appropriations Act
• Offered through DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIE)
• Funding for early childhood education & family education for Native American children aged 0 to 5
• 2018 Budget Allocation: $18.8 Million
Funders

Examples of FL Funders
Potential Funders

- Dollar General: BETH
- Barbara Bush Foundation: X Prize & Communities Competition
- United Way
- American Library Association
- Public Libraries
- School districts
- Community colleges
- State funding
- Local funders
FL Case Studies

Examples of how family literacy programs are tackling funding
Bryia Public Charter School
Washington, DC

• Family focused charter school funded since 1989 with Even Start Demonstration Projects.

• Current funding includes AEFLA (adult ed); foundation funding (ECE and some workforce activities); DC formula per pupil funding; community schools funding for coordinator (to integrate components); DC funding for support services and access to post-secondary.

• Partnership with Mary Center access to comprehensive health; care and social services; University of DC access to post-secondary.

• All staff participate in grant writing.
Metropolitan State University Family Literacy Program
Denver, CO

• Started as small scale program in the housing authority in 1994.

• ESL, PACT and parenting funded with AEFLA; Spanish GED anonymous funder; some PACT and home visits with Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visit (federal funds through CO human services); ECE private funding; some institution matching funds.

• Partnerships with 2 school districts—continuum of services for ESL students to transition to adult education, also partner with workforce centers.

• University helps identify and write grants, but have to compete with the priorities they want funded.
Project of Easton
Easton, Pennsylvania

• Began as an Even Start Family Literacy Program; funded for over 20 years
• Program provides all four components: AE, PE, ILA, and ECE
• Partnerships with community college for ESL, trainings, and certificates for adults; other partnerships are not official – but exist with the school district and library
• Current funding is Pennsylvania ACT 143, Dollar General, United Way, private donations, foundations
• Have a designated person in larger organization to do research for funding and applies for current funding.
Public Education Foundation (PEF)  
Las Vegas, Nevada

• Program has existed since 2008; started out as Toyota Family Literacy Program
• Funded through Toyota Family Literacy (just ended), Foundation money, community block grants, corporation foundations.
• Partnerships in community – local college and school districts
• Funding used for salaries, supplies, incentives, mileage, overhead, indirect
• Constantly looking for funding – conversations, databases, research, google, re-applying and re-inventing the program
Louisville Free Public Library (LFPL)
Louisville, Kentucky

- LFPL contacted Jefferson County Public Schools Adult Education
  - LFPL provide space for programming, staff for PACT
  - Adult Ed would provide other programming
- Several initiatives run through different funding streams:
  - Supporting family home libraries: Dolly Parton Imagination Library & NCFL’s Unite for Literacy
  - Adult education: Kentucky Skills-U
  - Family education programming: partnerships with William B. Keenan Trust, Even Start, TFL, Toyota Families in Schools grant, Barbara Bush Foundation
  - Transportation to families: LFPL funding
Hawkeye Community College Family Literacy Program
Waterloo, Iowa

• Began in 2005 funded through the Iowa Department of Education; AE funding through community colleges; in 2013 State legislature put a line item in budget for AE and Literacy.

• Decision made in 2009 if Community College would continue funding Family Literacy – program situated in a high-need area so they continued.

• Current funding primarily with local funders (e.g., schools, Kiwanis, churches) and private foundations (e.g., United Way, Community Foundation of NE Iowa)

• Much of their funding goes toward materials –free books and literacy materials (funders like to support this rather than salaries)

• Funding found by constantly looking and talking to the community
Tips & Challenges
How to respond to funding needs
Tips

• Collect BOTH types of data – stories and numbers because you never know what you need when applying for a grant.

• Success stories, more than numbers and percentages, speak to funders

• Networking and participation in meetings are helpful ways to find out about funding.

• Advocate for Charter Schools and per pupil funding for FL.

• Get the word out with year-end report with photos and statistics.

• Invite funders to see what you do—reach out to them.
Forming Partnerships

• Identify needs in the community: partnerships happen because both partners have a need to fill

• Conduct a community needs assessment

• Understand the goals of each partner: make sure each partner is on the same page as far as programming and terminology
  • Example: do both partners have the same concept of family literacy?

• Apply for funding opportunities together

• Partner with the community and get the word out – if you want to help the children, help their parents.
Applying for Funding

• Read the questions carefully and answer what they are asking.
• Answer all questions on the grant application even if they are asked more than once.
• If a RFP is funding a particular model or approach, demonstrate that you understand and can develop and implement that approach.
• When possible, talk to the funder about your idea and get input.
• Read the RFP very carefully from start to finish before you begin writing and understand all expectations. Note font size, character limits, forms to be completed, etc.
• Write clearly and to the point.
• Proofread.
• Go to the online application right away and make sure you can use the online platform.
Challenges

• Every grant has its particular requirements, hard not to get siloed—e.g. ECE funders forget about the children—Integration piece critical

• Hard to find funding for ECE, particularly infants and toddlers, everyone thinks it’s important but not willing to fund—Find a way to demonstrate cost-benefits.

• Programs may not be eligible for some funding when they serve undocumented immigrants.

• Programs need to adapt to the ebbs and flow of funding allocations and opportunities.

• Community does not see value of family literacy like they did 20 years ago. Need to spread the word to expand the model.
Discussion & Other Ideas

Working together on our funding needs
Questions

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