

State Library/LITERACY OFFICE  
300 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
217/785-6921 ofc  
217/785-6927 fax

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com>

(click on Departments, Illinois State Library, Who We Are, ISL Departments, then Literacy)

### NETWORK NOTES for SOS Literacy Grantees: FEBRUARY 2009

#### FY2009 GRANTEE INFORMATION:

RFP's for 2010 are available for downloading online at <http://literacy.kent.edu/illinois/grantinfo.htm> The due date is April 15, 2009. **All applications must be postmarked or have a receipt from a commercial carrier dated on or before that date or they will not be accepted.**

April 15, 2009 The third quarter financial report is due in Springfield on or before that day.

The Penny Severns Summer Family Literacy Grant applications are being reviewed. You will receive notice of approval or denial when decisions have been finalized.

Review your budget! The last date for a Budget Change Amendment is no later than May 1. See the Financial Management and Report Instructions on the web at <http://literacy.kent.edu/illinois/grantinfo.htm> for more information. **Over expenditures on any one line item in excess of 10% may incur a penalty after the final financial reports are submitted. If you need our assistance in planning your budget amendment, please call our office before May 1.**

**USE ALL OF YOUR BUDGETED FUNDS.** Under expended funds that are returned to the Secretary of State are NOT then made available for next year's literacy projects. In fact, in that case, it looks as if our adult literacy grant projects did not need all of the funding they requested.

#### FY2010 ADULT LITERACY GRANT INFORMATION SESSIONS AVAILABLE

The grant information sessions were recorded and are available as audio recordings online.

The Adult Volunteer Literacy recording is available at:

[http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il\\_ISL\\_2009\\_0130\\_1532\\_12](http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il_ISL_2009_0130_1532_12)

You may access the Family Literacy grant information session at:

[http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il\\_ISL\\_2009\\_0130\\_1330\\_27](http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il_ISL_2009_0130_1330_27)

The Workplace Skills Enhancement session is located at:

[http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il\\_ISL\\_2009\\_0202\\_1402\\_21](http://67.202.209.252/launcher.cgi?room=il_ISL_2009_0202_1402_21)

If you have not already run the WIMBA set up wizard, you will have to do that first before clicking on "Participant Login". If you have already run the set up wizard, click on "Participant Login". Then type in your name (any format will be accepted) and click on "Enter". This will take you to the Archive Room and just click "Archive Start" to run the session.

**NETWORK NOTES CALENDAR:** <http://literacy.kent.edu/illinois/calend.htm>

The calendar is available on line at the URL listed above. Please review the calendar carefully for events, due dates and local meeting information of interest to SOS adult literacy grantees. Please inform Diane Manning at [dmanning@ilsos.net](mailto:dmanning@ilsos.net) of meetings or events you want included on this calendar.

### **FY09 SPOTLIGHT ON ACHIEVEMENT AND SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE**

The annual Spotlight on Achievement and Spotlight on Service awards recognize outstanding achievement made by adult literacy students or families, and outstanding contributions to literacy made by adult literacy volunteer tutors.

Each of the 10 adult learners or families selected as Spotlight on Achievement winners will receive \$200, a commemorative plaque and a personalized Illinois Blue Book. The 10 volunteer tutors selected as Spotlight on Service winners also will receive a plaque, a personalized Illinois Blue Book and \$200 will be donated in their name to the agency for which they tutor. All awards will be presented at a special reception in Springfield at the Illinois State Library on **May 13**.

Nominations are available online at <http://literacy.kent.edu/illinois/calend.htm> for the 16th annual awards. The Secretary of State Illinois State Library Literacy Office and Illinois Press Association are co-sponsors of this prestigious event. The deadline for submitting nominations is **March 5**. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Manning at [dmanning@ilsos.net](mailto:dmanning@ilsos.net) or 1-800-665-5576, ext. 3.

### **NEW RESOURCE FOR LATINO IMMIGRANTS**

ÉXITO EN EL NORTE/Success in the U.S. is an educational Spanish video/DVD series created specifically for Latino immigrants. The series communicates key points on transitioning successfully to life in the U.S, providing must-know information on such topics as finances, housing and health care among others. Created by Iowa State University, it also includes discussion guides for each title, for use in outreach programming. The first of three of these (for Education, Healthcare and Immigration titles) are complete and available online: <http://www.exitovideos.com/series.htm>

### **FREE PARENT EDUCATION HANDOUTS**

At the web site of Washington Learning Systems, you will find free and reproducible Infant-Toddler language and early literacy activities in English and Spanish. To download materials go to <http://www.wlearning.com> and click on the purple button that says "Free Parent Education Handouts" on the home page. Please let them know of other languages that are needed. They are also considering developing EARLY MATH video materials to help parents support math when reading and talking to their children. If you have any suggestions regarding what you would like to see developed in this area, they would

appreciate your ideas. They view language, early literacy, and math as interwoven in early development.

The materials on the web site include twenty home and community activities for adults and children birth to three that encourage early language and literacy development. They are appropriate for children with disabilities as well as children who are developing typically. Each of the twenty activities includes an activity description, and hints for making the activity fun and developmentally appropriate. In addition to the activities, you can download an activity checklist that helps parents and caregivers notice their children's skills, and also cue adults to examine and grow their own interactions with children. The materials are specifically designed to address the three key skills of 1) language development, 2) sounds and rhythms, and 3) general book and print awareness. The files are in PDF format to allow easy and secure downloading. The materials are made available by Angela Notari-Syverson and colleagues, and may be copied and distributed as long as they are not sold.

### **LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ON THE ROAD TO LITERACY CONFERENCE**

The 2009 LVA On The Road to Literacy Conference will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009, in Chicago on the UIC campus. This conference is designed for tutors and adult learners. The conference will feature over 20 sessions on topics related to basic literacy, health literacy, learning disabilities, employment, and much, much more. Five professional development units (PDU) are available for qualified participants. The registration fee (\$18 for tutors and staff, \$13 for adult learners) includes all workshops, a boxed lunch and refreshments. The event culminates with a Tutor of the Year Award at the closing session; nominations are due February 28, 2009. To register to attend the conference or nominate a tutor, please visit LVA's website at: <http://www.lvillinois.org/OnTheRoad2009.asp>

**Please share information about the On The Road To Literacy conference with your tutors and adult learners!**

### **FAMILY LITERACY RESOURCE BINS**

We are pleased to be able to share over 200 family literacy resources with you through the Secretary of State Illinois State Library Literacy Resource Bins. We have six resource bins devoted to Family Literacy. These bins cover topics from how to start a family literacy project to how to evaluate family literacy projects. Additional bins relate specifically to Parenting Education and Parent & Child Together Activities. Titles in these family literacy bins include: Beyond the Library Card: An ESL Curriculum for Effective Library Use, Building a Successful Family Literacy Program: Peaks and Pitfalls Included and *Parents on Board, Building Academic Success Through Parent Involvement* videotape. For a complete list of resource bins go to <http://literacy.kent.edu/illinois/litresource1.pdf>. Please note bins 19 and above for family literacy resources.

### **FAMILY LITERACY RESOURCES**

Thanks to Betsy Rubin at Literacy Works:

**1. Your Baby's Development** - flyers from Zero to Three, in English or in Spanish. 9 separate handouts describe baby's development from 0-36 months. NOTE: They may be too dense with text to use with parents, but you may wish to use as a staff resource or adapt for use with families.

[http://www.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ter\\_par\\_agebasedhandouts&JServSessionIdr001=qr8asx69e2.app13b](http://www.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ter_par_agebasedhandouts&JServSessionIdr001=qr8asx69e2.app13b)

2. Research shows that **parent mutual self-help support groups** help strengthen families. See this **fact sheet** by the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP):

<http://www.friendsnrc.org/download/parentmutual.pdf>

3. **Raising Children in a New Country** This booklet was created as a tool for refugee and immigrant serving agencies, as they help newcomer parents adjust to the different laws, norms and practices around raising children in the United States. This is a book that can be used WITH parents themselves. <http://www.brycs.org/documents/RaisingChildren-Handbook.pdf> (To order print or CD copies of the Handbook, email [info@brycs.org](mailto:info@brycs.org) or call 1-888-572-6500.)

#### **LABOR DEPARTMENT RE-EMPLOYMENT WEB PORTAL**

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced a new CareerOneStop reemployment portal. The website is designed to provide employment, training, and financial assistance during the process of job transition. Users can find information on unemployment insurance benefits, health-care coverage, dealing with job loss, and job hunting. Access the web site at <http://www.careeronestop.org/ReEmployment/Default.aspx>

#### **RURAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (RAC)**

A product of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Rural Initiative, the Rural Assistance Center was established in December 2002 as a health and human services portal geared toward rural communities. RAC offers extensive lists of resources on more than 70 topics, and professional librarians provide custom assistance to clients via phone and email. Access the RAC at <http://www.raconline.org/about/>

#### **PUBLICATION ON CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING INDICATORS**

Child Trends recently released A Guide to Resources for Creating, Locating and Using Child and Youth Indicator Data, at [http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child\\_Trends-2009\\_01\\_05\\_FR\\_ChildIndicatorGuide.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2009_01_05_FR_ChildIndicatorGuide.pdf) which is a comprehensive list of resources on child well-being such as books, Web sites, newsletters, journals, briefs and other resources that describe child wellbeing and its indicators and are organized according to their content. This resource may be useful to those agencies applying for funding who need statistics on children to support their grant proposals.

#### **THE IMMIGRATION PROJECT (CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS)**

The Immigration project is the only agency in Central and Southern Illinois accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals. The Immigration Project offers legal immigration services, including scheduling free private consultations, completing forms, and giving presentations to groups on immigration topics they choose. Each immigration lawyer and specialist is accredited by the BIA and is bilingual (English/Spanish). Though based in Bloomington, they travel regularly to other cities across the central and southern Illinois region. Contact the agency to be added to an email of their monthly schedule. In addition, they provide flyers in Spanish and English, available at [www.immigrationproject.org](http://www.immigrationproject.org) See our website or contact Christine D. Howe, Outreach/Scheduling, 309/829-8703 (central IL), ext. 105, 618/452-7018 (southern IL), ext. 105, FAX 309/807-2753.

### **COMCAST FOUNDATION - GRANT POSSIBILITY**

Comcast provides financial support to the organizations that make their communities stronger. They're most excited by literacy, volunteerism, and youth leadership programs. Comcast is intent on finding organizations and programs that can show that they really do make a difference. (In other words: they're all about results.) Organizations receiving support from The Comcast Foundation are proactively identified by their local Comcast systems or are part of their national programs such as Comcast Cares Day. Their primary focus is in funding diversity-oriented programs that address literacy, volunteerism and youth leadership development. Only 501(c)(3) organizations operating within Comcast communities will be considered. Ongoing deadline. More information at their web site - <http://www.comcast.com/corporate/about/inthecommunity/foundation/comcastfoundation.html>

### **NCAL'S CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY**

On February 12th, the National Commission on Adult Literacy was represented on a panel that appeared before the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness (of the House Committee on Education and Labor). The written and supplemental testimony for this appearance is available from the Publications page of both the Commission's website ([www.nationalcommissiononadulthoodliteracy.org](http://www.nationalcommissiononadulthoodliteracy.org)) and CAAL's site ([www.caalusa.org](http://www.caalusa.org)) -- as items NC-CAAL4 and NC-CAAL5.

### **GUIDE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S LITERACY EFFORT BOOKLETS**

This publication listing all of the funded projects and giving general information about our statewide adult literacy program is online at this web site - [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/ldl8.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ldl8.pdf) These booklets will also be mailed to funded projects.

### **CHICAGO LATINO BOOK & FAMILY FESTIVAL**

The 2009 festival will be held on March 28 and 29 at the Unity School, 2101 South Laramie Avenue, Cicero, Illinois. Edward James Olmos, actor and community activist, will present the Chicago Latino Book & Family Festival; a weekend event that promotes literacy, culture and education in a fun environment for the whole family. The event, which is free to the public, will be open from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

### **BOOK GRANT FOR RURAL LIBRARIES**

The Libri Foundation was established in 1989 for the sole purpose of helping rural libraries acquire new, quality, hardcover children's books they could not otherwise afford to buy. Since October 1990, the Foundation has donated over \$2,800,000 worth of new children's books to more than 2,200 libraries in 48 states. For many children in rural areas, the local public library is often their primary source of reading material. At a time when more and more children and their parents and teachers are using the public library, these same libraries are facing increasing financial hardships and are unable to buy the books their young readers need. The Foundation works with the library's Friends of the Library or other local organizations because they believe in community involvement and want to encourage and reward local support of libraries. The Friends, or other local sponsors, can

contribute from \$50 to \$350 which the Foundation matches on a 2-to-1 ratio. Thus, a library can receive up to \$1,050 worth of new, quality, hardcover children's books through the Foundation's Books for Children program. The local librarian, familiar with the needs of the library and the community, selects the books the library will receive from the Foundation's 700-title booklist, which has been highly praised by participating librarians for the quality and variety of fiction and nonfiction titles offered. The majority of books have been published within the last three years, but old favorites are also offered. All of the books have been highly recommended by recognized authorities in the library and education fields. The books donated through the Books for Children program are used for storytelling; toddler, preschool, and after-school programs; summer reading programs; "book buddy" programs in which older children read to younger children; holiday programs; teacher check-out and curriculum support; early childhood development programs; school projects and to just provide children with a "good read." The Foundation awards grants three times a year. Application deadlines are: (postmarked by) January 15th, April 15th, and August 15th. Access at <http://www.librifoundation.org/>

### **BOOK GRANT FOR CBO'S**

The Lisa Libraries donates new children's books and small libraries to organizations that work with kids in poor and under-served areas. Some of the libraries established have been at day-care centers, prison visiting areas for children of incarcerated parents, and after-school programs. The Lisa Libraries supplements under-filled shelves as well as provides books to many children who may never have owned a book before. In 2002, the Lisa Libraries contributed over 14,000 books to nonprofit organizations across the country. Interested applicants should write to The Lisa Libraries and include the following: information (letter, brochures, news items) about your program; the number of children served; age range of children served; a breakdown of how the books would be used; most recent ruling on your tax exempt 501(c)(3) status; current annual budget; and a list of current funding sources. Book donation values vary depending on funding and need. Ongoing deadline. <http://www.lisalibraries.org/>

### **FREE BOOKS THROUGH THE LITERACY EMPOWERMENT PROJECT**

The Reading Resource Project is an ongoing program that runs throughout the year. The program distributes books FREE of charge for Read Across America Day and other literacy programs. Recipients merely pay shipping, handling, and administrative costs, which is only \$0.65 per book (\$65 per set of 100 books). Reading Resource Project books come in sets of 100 books per set. There will not be more than four copies of the same book in any set. Reading levels are available for Pre-K through Second Grade. Book selection and quantity is dependent upon availability, so there is no guarantee of specific titles. Books are sorted and shipped as close to a project's needs as possible, with regard to reading level and topic. Reading Resource Project books are available in a limited quantity on a first come, first served basis. Requests for quantities of less than 30 sets can be shipped within 3 to 4 weeks; larger orders may require a longer time period to fill. Ongoing deadline. Access at [http://www.lefbooks.org/reading\\_resource\\_project/](http://www.lefbooks.org/reading_resource_project/)

## **LUMINA FOUNDATION GRANT OPPORTUNITIY**

Lumina Foundation firmly believes that education is the best way to help people achieve their potential and improve our nation's future. Therefore, they address issues that affect access and attainment in postsecondary education in the United States - particularly among traditionally underserved student groups. These students include 18- to 24-year-olds and adult students who face barriers to an education by virtue of their income, preparation or family background. Lumina Foundation supports the following types of endeavors, working diligently to ensure that all funded projects promote access, attainment and adult learning: research, activities, and innovative programs. Grants vary in size by their potential for impact. Direct-service grants to students and families tend to be relatively small, and those that affect entire systems tend to be larger. The median size of a typical grant is \$75,000; the average size is about \$200,000. The usual term for grants is one to three years, although exceptions sometimes apply to initiatives they sponsor. Ongoing deadline. Access at <http://www.luminafoundation.org/>