



AGENDA
CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM

Committee Members:

Sunny M. Simon, Chair – District 11

Cheryl L. Stephens, Vice Chair – District 10

Pernel Jones, Jr. – District 8

Jack H. Schron, Jr. – District 6

Yvonne M. Conwell – District 7

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 19, 2023 MEETING**
- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**
 - a) R2023-0097: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to The Literacy Cooperative for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
 - b) R2023-0110: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$25,000, to Global Cleveland for the Welcoming Workforce Project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the

necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

- c) R2023-0112: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$35,000, to the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio for the Stronger Together Project from the District 9 &11 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

7. ADJOURNMENT

**Complimentary parking for the public is available in the attached garage at 900 Prospect. A skywalk extends from the garage to provide additional entry to the Council Chambers from the 5th floor parking level of the garage. Please see the Clerk to obtain a complimentary parking pass.*

***Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing assistance system. If needed, please see the Clerk to obtain a receiver.*



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

3:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Simon asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Conwell and Jones were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Schron and Stephens were absent from the meeting. Councilmember Miller was also in attendance.

In accordance with Rule 12F of the County Council Rules, Council President Jones appointed Mr. Miller as a Member Pro Tem of the Education, Environment & Sustainability Committee.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 5, 2023 MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Cowell, seconded by Ms. Simon and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2023 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2023-0097: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to The Literacy Cooperative for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Robert Paponetti, President and CEO of The Literacy Cooperative of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0097. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Paponetti pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2023-0097.

- b) R2023-0098: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$40,000, to Family First Childcare d.b.a. Family First Village for the GEDworks Program from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Dr. Michele Clark, Founder of Family First Village; addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0098. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Dr. Clark pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

Mr. Dominic Currence, student, addressed the Committee regarding his experiences utilizing the services at Family First Village. Discussion ensued.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2023-0098 was considered and approved by majority vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, with Ms. Conwell recusing herself from the vote.

Mr. Jones, Mr. Miller and Ms. Simon requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- c) R2023-0100: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$75,000, to the West Creek Conservancy for the acquisition and conservation of 15 acres of headwater habitat of the Chippewa Creek watershed from the District 11 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

[Clerk's Note: Resolution No.R2023-0100 was taken out of order and considered prior to Resolution No. R2023-0098.]

Mr. Derek Schafer, Executive Director of West Creek Conservancy, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0100.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Schafer pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Jones Resolution No. R2023-0100 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m., without objection.

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2023-0097

Sponsored by: Councilmember Turner	A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to The Literacy Cooperative for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

WHEREAS, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

WHEREAS, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to The Literacy Cooperative for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library; and

WHEREAS, The Literacy Cooperative estimates approximately 50,000 people by 2025 will be served annually through this award; and

WHEREAS, The Literacy Cooperative estimates the total cost of the project is \$630,000; and

WHEREAS, The Literacy Cooperative indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes:

- A. \$100,000 from the Bruening Foundation;
- B. \$65,000 from the Cleveland Foundation;
- C. \$5,000 from Sherwin Williams;

D. \$10,000 from Maple Heights City Schools; and

WHEREAS, The Literacy Cooperative requested \$10,000 from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$10,000 to The Literacy Cooperative to ensure this project is completed; and

WHEREAS, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 to The Literacy Cooperative from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

SECTION 2. If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

SECTION 3. That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

SECTION 4. That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

SECTION 5. If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

SECTION 6. To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 7. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the

expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 8. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: April 11, 2023
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal _____

_____, 20____



Cuyahoga County Council
 2079 East 9th Street, 8th Floor • Cleveland Ohio
 44115 (216) 698-2010

COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.): The Literacy Cooperative (TLC) for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL)	
Address of Requesting Entity: 1422 Euclid Ave, Suite 248 Cleveland, OH 44115	
County Council District # of Requesting Entity: N/A	
Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: Entire county.	
County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: Entire county.	
Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request: McKenzae Bartels	
Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity:	
Email: mbartels@literacycooperative.org	Phone: 216-776-6182
Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.: 90-0453660	Date: 3/27/2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

REQUEST DESCRIPTION (include the project name, a description of the project, why the project is important or needed, and timeline of milestones/tracking of the project):

Our world has changed dramatically since the pandemic ensued but one thing that remains constant is the importance of reading and preparing our youngest citizens for a future of lifelong learning. Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL) is a book gifting initiative that mails a brand new, age-appropriate book to enrolled children every month from birth until five years old, instilling a love of books and family reading from an early age. There is no cost to the family to participate in the program. Although there are no income restrictions to enroll, The Literacy Cooperative (TLC) targets outreach to families living in higher poverty zip codes. The Literacy Cooperative leads the program throughout Cuyahoga County where more than 37,000 children are currently enrolled, and more the 71,000 children are eligible. Since 2014, the Cuyahoga County Imagination Library has gifted over 1,000,000 books to more than 50,000 registered children.

As an intentional and added service to DPIL families, TLC leverages the relationship to inform families of valuable resources in the community and information relevant to helping families improve their economic situation. TLC shares information and resources with families through its social media channels, email communications, and family engagement workshops to help optimize their home literacy experiences and access services offered by partner organizations. We have more than 40,000 email addresses and/or cell phone numbers to connect to families.

DPIL is critical to a community like Cuyahoga County, **where 65% of children in the county are not prepared for kindergarten according to results from the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA).** In some school districts in Cuyahoga County, more than 70% of incoming kindergarten students lack the necessary foundation to fully engage in kindergarten learning.

DPIL fosters an increase in reading among children and their parents. TLC engages the Center for Community Solutions to conduct an annual survey of DPIL families. The results for 2022 include: 68% (83% in high poverty zips) of all families report that they read more often with their child since they began receiving DPIL books and 63% (76% in high poverty zips) of parents say their child asks to be read to more often. Nearly 90% believe their child will be better prepared for kindergarten. DPIL Book ownership allows for repeated readings between caregiver and child, and for the child to revisit a book repeatedly and independently, thus building up their mastery and comfort level. The books include customized tips for maximizing the reading experience, encouraging meaningful conversations between the adult caregiver and the child. In 2023, we will seek to obtain additional insights from families through focus group sessions. DPIL is enhancing what happens in the home.

Recently, Case Western Reserve University conducted an analysis on the relationship between KRA scores and DPIL participation. Not surprisingly, they found there is a positive relationship between DPIL participation and KRA scores for students in CMSD and first-ring school districts. Their analysis also found a positive correlation between the number of months a child is enrolled in DPIL and KRA performance. Books in the home are one of the best predictors of a child’s success in school. This research will continue to track DPIL’s impact in the coming years as more children have been enrolled for longer periods.

Project Start Date: ongoing

Project End Date: ongoing

IMPACT OF PROJECT:
<p>Who will be served:</p> <p>Children under the age of 5 living in Cuyahoga County are all eligible for enrollment in Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL) at no cost to the family. We prioritize outreach efforts to high poverty zip codes.</p>
<p>How many people will be served annually:</p> <p>There are currently 37,000 children enrolled in the program. In Cuyahoga County there are more than 71,000 under the age of five and therefore eligible for this program. Our goal is to increase enrollment to 50,000 children by 2025.</p>
<p>Will low/moderate income people be served; if so how:</p> <p>Yes. Our survey results clearly show the impact of the program is greatest in the areas of the county where poverty is greater than 25%. While the program is available to every child under age 5 in the county, we will focus our outreach efforts to promote enrollment in DPIL in areas with higher poverty.</p>
<p>How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:</p> <p>The county faces the challenges of high percentages of low literacy among adults and children who are not well prepared for kindergarten. DPIL addresses the latter in the shorter term and the former in the longer term. Our communication strategy to families allows us to share relevant and ongoing projects in the community in which they might participate and from which they might benefit.</p>
<p>If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:</p> <p>This program does not create jobs, but it will lead to a more educated workforce.</p>
<p>If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:</p> <p>Citizens who are more literate and well-read are more likely to be aware of current issues facing our community and nation. We want a citizenry in Cuyahoga County who understand the environmental challenges we are facing.</p>
<p>If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:</p> <p>Through its relationship with families enrolled in DPIL, The Literacy Cooperative shares tips, programs, workforce training opportunities, community resources and free events with families via email and through social media. In addition, TLC frequently provides both in person and virtual early literacy and family engagement workshops to DPIL families. If additional funding became available, TLC could facilitate more such efforts.</p>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Total Budget of Project:

\$630,000 for 2023

Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):

The more significant funding sources that are confirmed to support Imagination Library in 2023 include the following: Bruening Foundation \$100,000, Cleveland Foundation \$65,000, Sherwin Williams \$5,000, and Maple Heights City School \$10,000. Support for subsequent years is not certain and must be approved each year by the funding source. We expect enrollments to increase every year which will require more resources and funding.

Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:

\$10,000

Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:

The Literacy Cooperative will continue to seek local funds to cover the growing cost of the program to sustain it county-wide long-term. In addition to the philanthropic sector, conversations are progressing with local school districts, cities, libraries, and other community-based organizations to ensure this program continues to be available to all children in Cuyahoga County. DPIL is an evidence-based, cost-effective, and efficient program for reaching such a large number and percentage of families with young children to promote optimal early literacy experiences and environments in the county.

DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

Printed Name:

McKenzae Bartels

Signature:



Date:

3/27/23

Additional Documents

Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Impact Report 2022



Dolly Parton Imagination Library Participant Survey Report 2022

By: Alex Dorman, Research Associate

Introduction

In 2021, as a part of developing a comprehensive Impact Report, The Literacy Cooperative sent a survey to all parents active in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL). The findings were incredibly positive, and integrated well with research being conducted around the country evidencing the beneficial effects of participating in DPIL. Invested in exploring if those positive findings would continue to be sustained, The Literacy Cooperative conducted another survey with parents and guardians in October of 2022. DPIL participants were again asked to share their reading habits, experiences with receiving DPIL books, and the changes they were seeing in their children. Some new questions were also added to explore the “ripple effect” of parents sharing about their experiences with DPIL with other parents. And same as in 2021, special focus was paid to participants living in ZIP codes with higher rates of poverty.

Summary of Findings

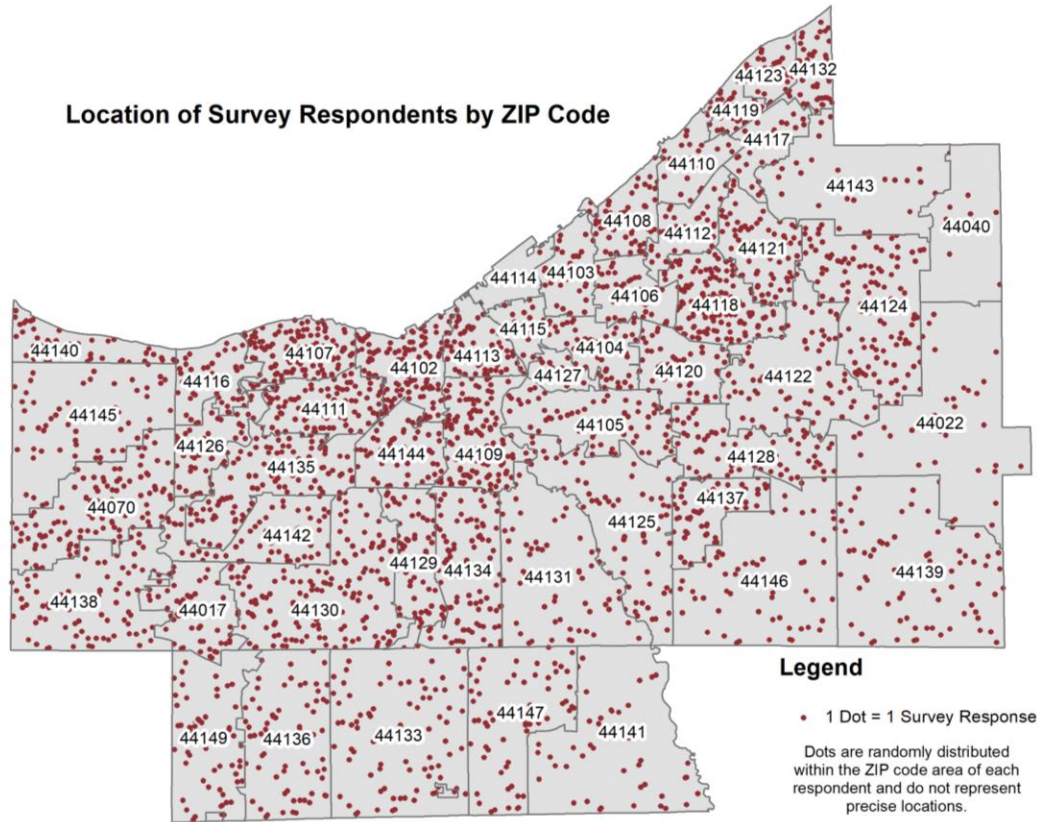
The results of the 2022 survey continued to provide support that enrollment in DPIL provides a multitude of positive impacts for families in Cuyahoga County. The vast majority of parents and children continue to enjoy the books they are receiving, participants are still reading to their children at increased rates, and children continue to be more interested in reading after receiving the books. Parents also report that they believe their children are becoming more ready for kindergarten, and often find that their children are using words they learned from reading DPIL books together. Parents are also overwhelmingly sharing with other parents about the benefits of DPIL. One particularly positive change from 2021 to 2022 was the increased Literacy Cooperative e-newsletter engagement, up to 56 percent from 48 percent just last year.

Another trend that is encouraging to see supported again is the enhanced impact DPIL seems to have for families living in high poverty ZIP codes. For nearly every question exploring experience with DPIL, participants from these ZIP codes tended to indicated more positive outcomes, ranging from their children asking to be read to more, to their children being more likely to repeat words they’ve learned in DPIL books. Parents were also more likely to engage with the Literacy Cooperative e-newsletter, and share information, tips, and events they learned from the Literacy Cooperative with other parents. Parents from these ZIP codes also reported on average a greater percentage of the books they had in their library coming from DPIL.

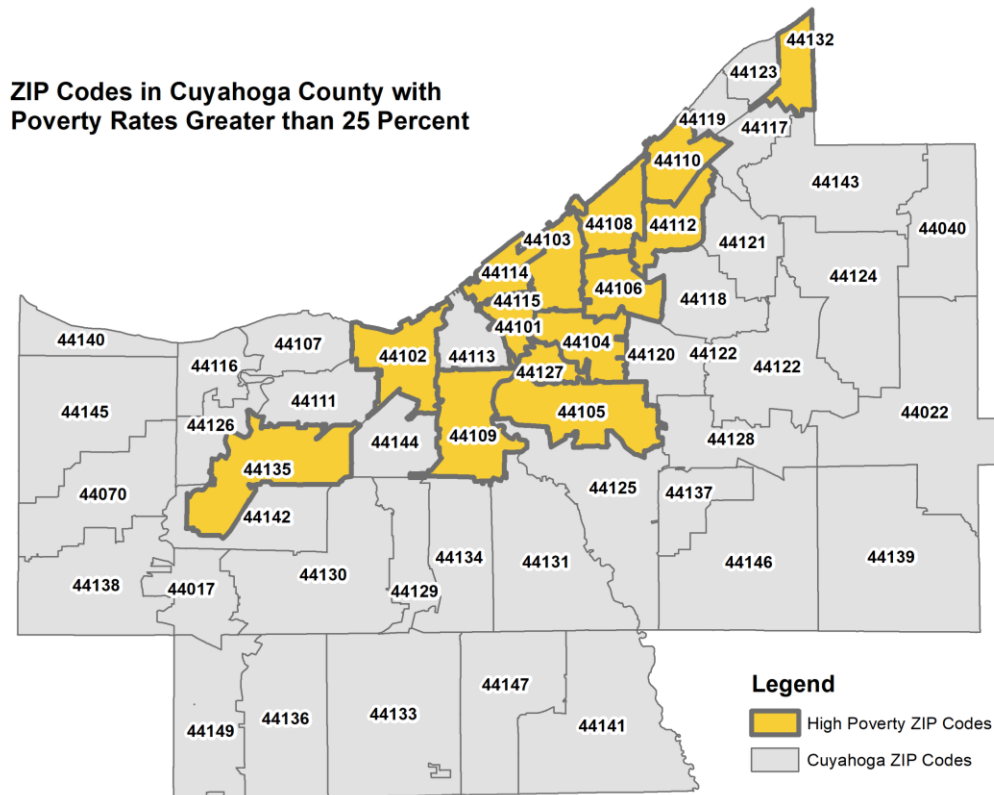
The results from this survey once again evidence the importance of The Literacy Cooperative and the DPIL for all families, but especially for those families in high poverty ZIP codes.

Survey Responses

The survey was open for about two weeks, and received 2,595 valid responses.

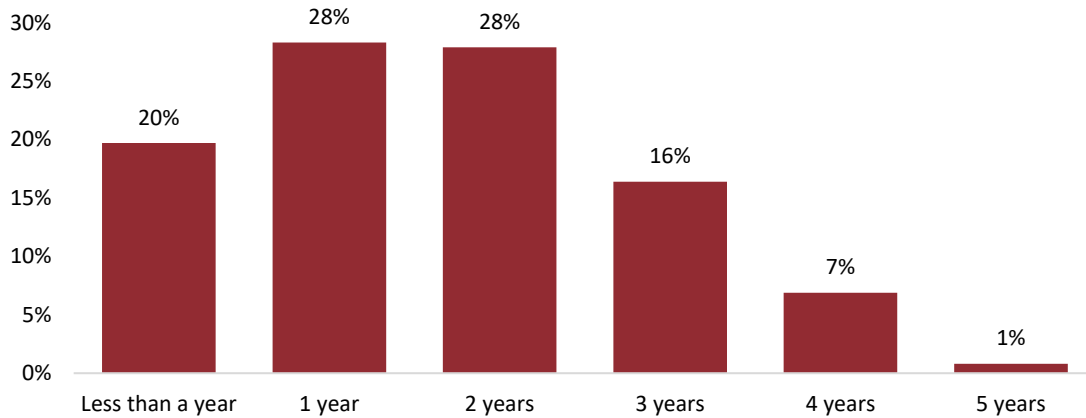


Of these responses, 598 or 23 percent came from 1 of 14 ZIP codes that were identified as “high poverty zip codes”, with poverty rates over 25 percent.



Time in the Program

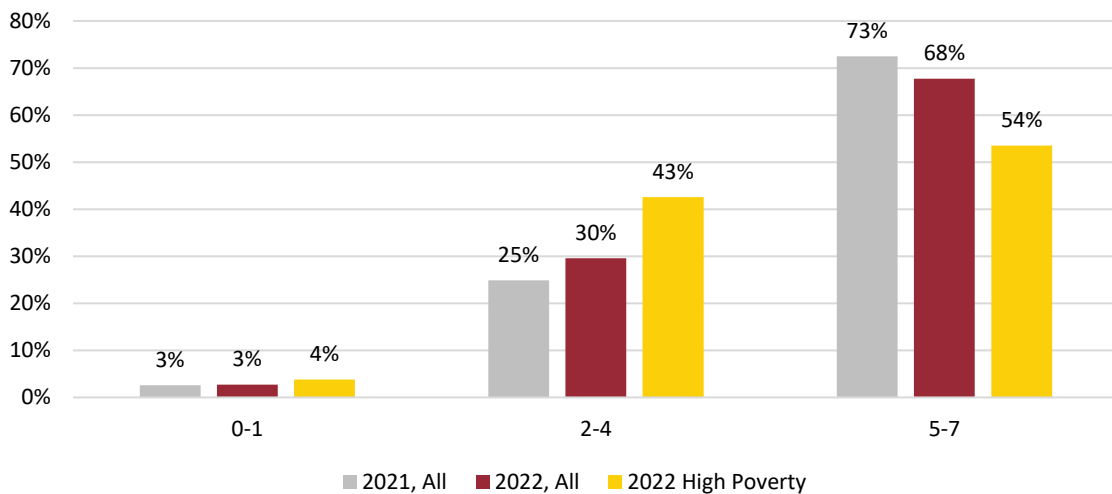
About twenty percent of respondents were in their first year of the program, and just over half the sample had been receiving DPIL books for 2+ years.



Frequency of Reading

Respondents were asked how many times their child has been read to in the last seven days. The majority (68 percent) said they had read to their child between five and seven times in the last week. Just under a third (30 percent) reported reading to their child between two and four times in the last week, and only three percent reported one or fewer times in the last week. This was a slight decrease from 2021, which saw 73 percent of respondents reading to their child nearly every day. Among higher poverty ZIP codes, respondents reported reading to their kids less frequently, with 54 percent reporting five to seven times a week, and 43 percent reporting two to four times a week.

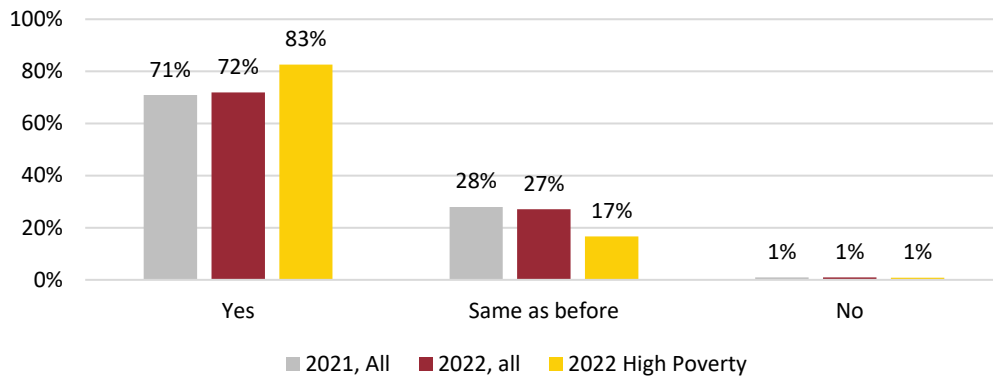
How many times have you or another adult read to your child/children in the last 7 days?



Impact of DPIL on Frequency of Reading

Well over two thirds (72 percent) of respondents stated that they read to their child more often since receiving DPIL books. This was consistent with the results from the 2020 survey. About 27 percent of respondents replied that they didn't change their reading habits with their child. At 83 percent, even more respondents from high poverty ZIP codes reported reading more to their child after receiving DPIL books. This is a strong difference that was also observed in 2021, and indicates a sustained particularly positive impact among this sample.

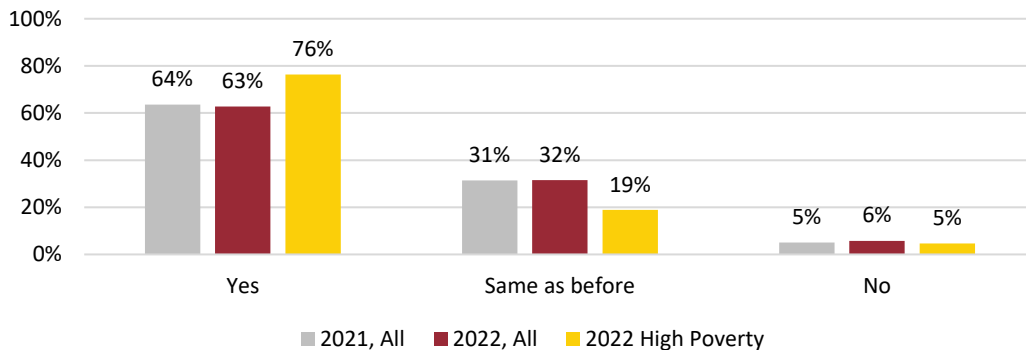
Do you, or other family members, read to your child/children more often since you began receiving Imagination Library books?



Impact of DPIL on Child asking to be read to

The majority (63 percent) of respondents replied that since receiving DPIL books, their child has been asking them to read to them more. About a third (32 percent) stated that there has been no change. These numbers closely mirror the findings from 2021. Again, the positive change since receiving DPIL books was more common in high poverty ZIP codes. Just over three quarters of the respondents from high poverty ZIP codes (76 percent) explained that their child has been asking to be read to more since receiving DPIL books. This is another particularly positive impact in this high poverty ZIP code sample compared to the general respondent sample.

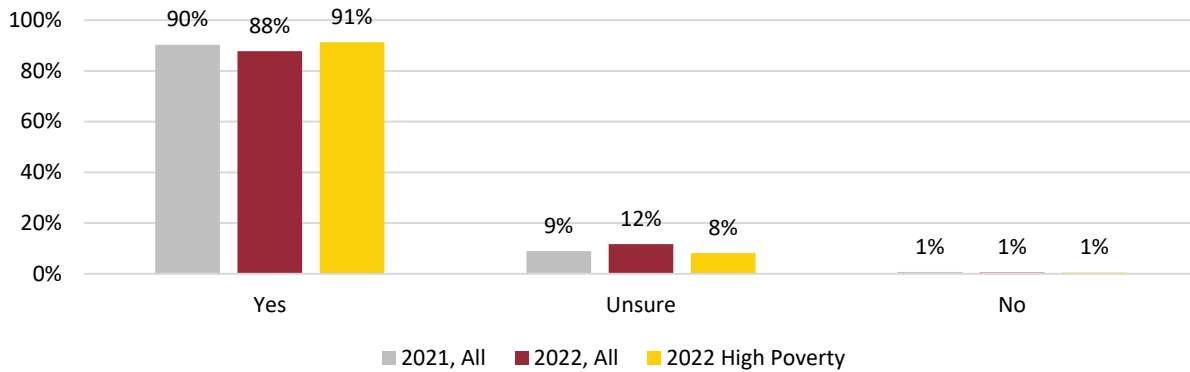
Since you've been receiving Imagination Library books, are your child/children asking you to read to them more often?



Impact of DPIL on Kindergarten Readiness

Just under 90 percent of respondents felt that participation in DPIL was helping their child better prepare for kindergarten. This response rate mirrors the 2021 responses, as does the slightly higher percentage of high poverty ZIP code respondents (91 percent) who felt DPIL participation was better preparing their child for kindergarten. Approximately twelve percent of the sample was unsure if DPIL was helping, and less than one percent felt DPIL was not helping their child prepare for kindergarten.

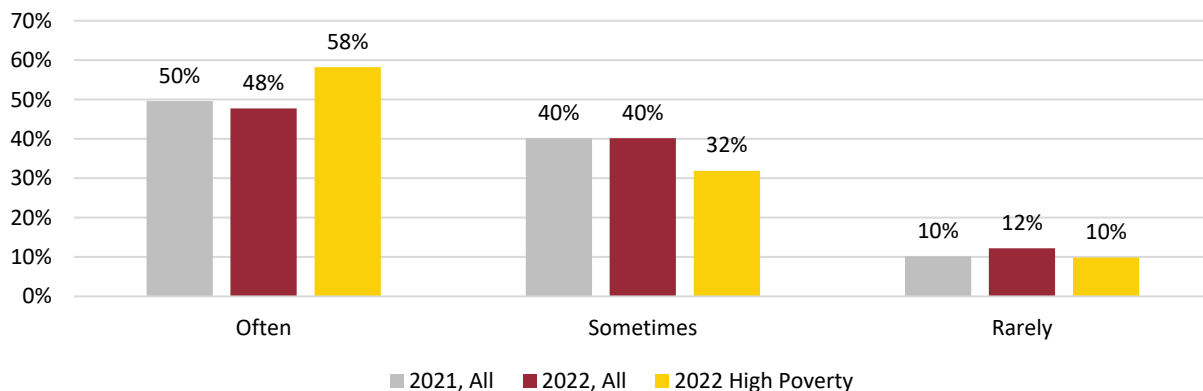
Do you believe participation in Imagination Library is helping your child/children better prepare for Kindergarten?



Impact of DPIL on Child Using New Words

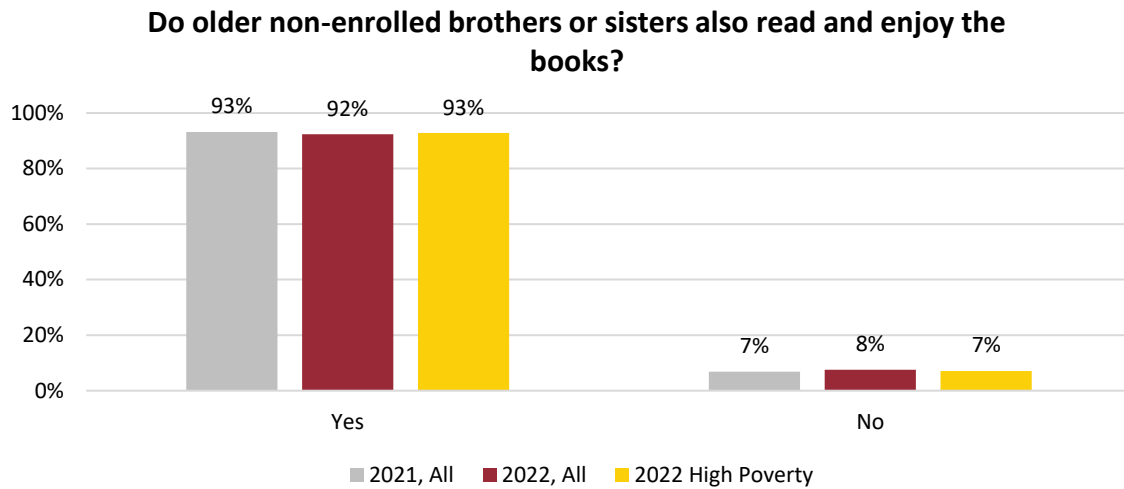
In exploring the impact of DPIL and children learning new words, about half (48 percent) of the respondents indicated that *often* they found their children using new words they learned from the books they've read. Forty percent indicated that this happened *sometimes*, and about twelve percent stated this rarely happened. These positive findings again mimic the findings from 2021. Of particular importance yet again, is the greater percentage of respondents in high poverty ZIP codes (58 percent) who reported often observing their kids using words they'd learned from DPIL books. This is a ten percent difference from the total population.

How often do you find your child/children using new words they have learned from books you have read?



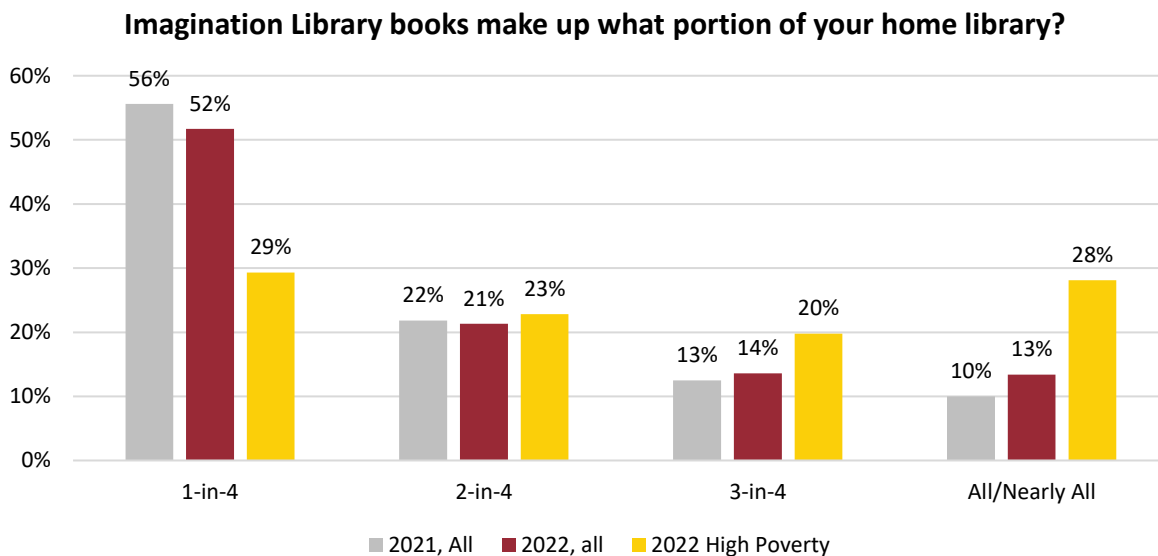
Impact of DPIL on Other Older Children in the Household

When respondents were asked if the older non-enrolled siblings of children enrolled in DPIL also read and enjoyed DPIL books, over nine out of ten (92 percent) respondents indicated that they did. This was very similar to the responses from 2021.



DPIL Books and Home Libraries

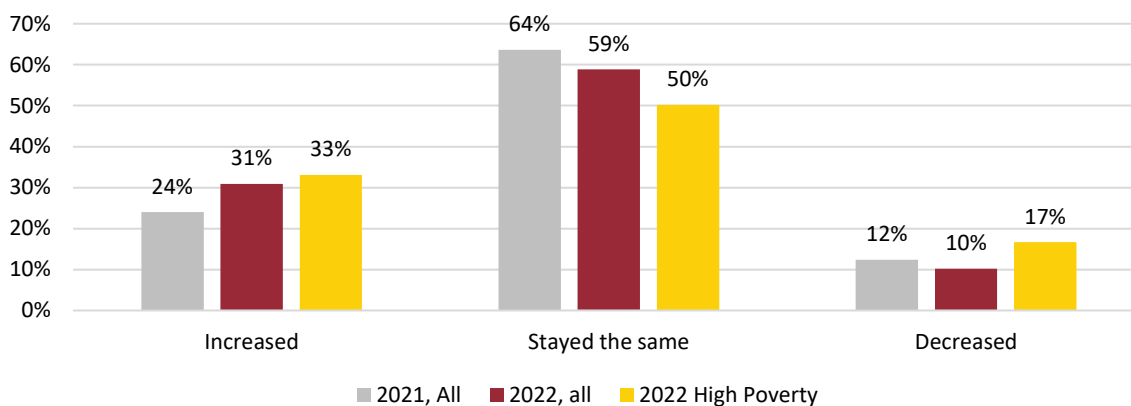
Over half (52 percent) of the respondents indicated that a quarter of their home libraries were comprised of DPIL books, and 21 percent stated that DPIL books made up half of their home libraries. Respondents from higher poverty ZIP codes reported that DPIL books made up a larger percentage of their home libraries comparatively; nearly half of respondents (48 percent) from high poverty ZIP codes stated that DPIL books made up anywhere from three quarters to nearly all of the books in their homes.



Public Library Use Among Enrolled Households

For the majority of participants (59 percent), enrolling in DPIL had no effect on their public library use. For nearly a third (31 percent) of respondents, public library use increased, and for ten percent library use decreased. These results were similar for high poverty ZIP codes, with slightly more respondents indicating library use decreased.

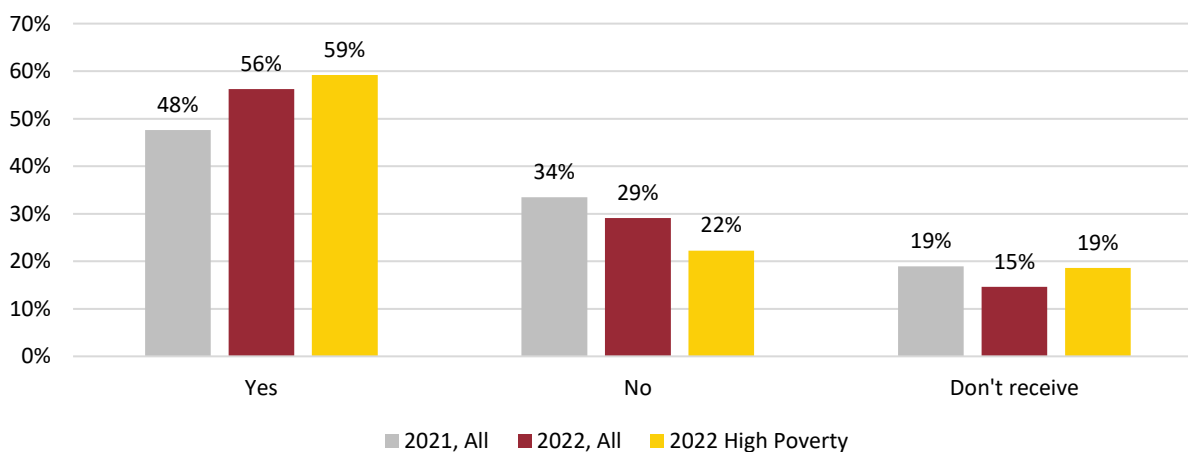
Since participating in Imagination Library, our public library use has



DPIL Newsletter Engagement

Participants were asked about whether they regularly read The Literacy Cooperative’s Imagination Library Newsletter, and over half (56 percent) of the respondents indicated that they did. This was a strong increase from 2021. Fifteen percent of participants said they don’t receive the newsletter. Relatedly, respondents were asked if they have ever taken advantage of any of the information, offers, or events included in the Imagination Library Newsletter. About 28 percent of participants indicated they had, and 35 percent of high poverty ZIP codes indicated they had. This was a sizeable increase from the 22 percent of participants in 2021 who indicated having taken advantage of the newsletter.

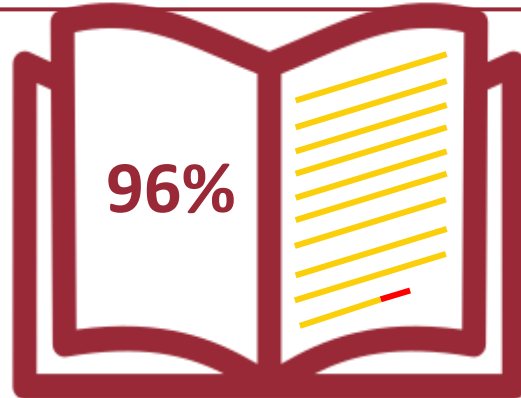
Do you regularly read our Imagination Library e-newsletter?



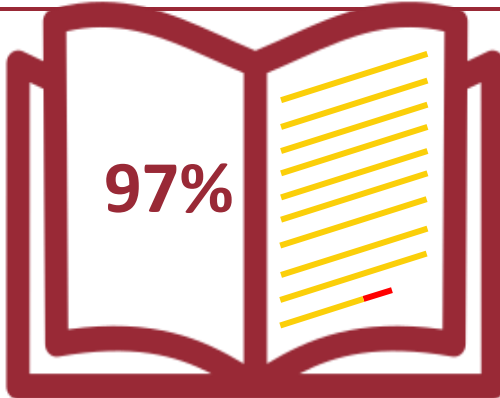
Satisfaction with DPIL Books

Participants were asked if their child enjoys DPIL books, and approximately 67 percent of participants indicated that they're children *always* enjoyed the books, and 29 percent stated that their children *usually* enjoyed the books. For high poverty ZIP codes, 80 percent of children *always* enjoyed the books, and 18 percent usually *enjoyed the books*.

Percent of Children who Usually or Always Enjoy the DPIL Books

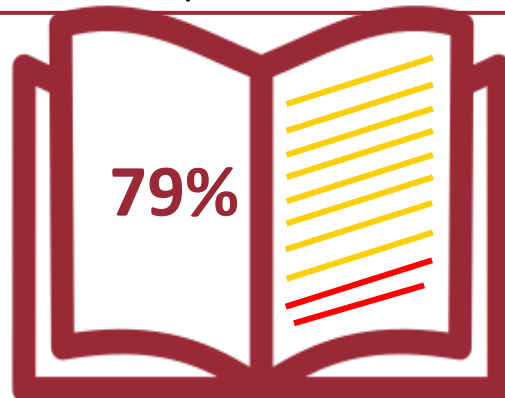


Percent of Participants who appreciated the uniqueness, variety, and diversity of characters in DPIL books



When asked if participants appreciated the uniqueness, variety, and diversity of the characters in the Imagination Library books, the response was almost a resounding unanimous (97 percent) “yes”.

Percent of Participants who found the reading tips on the inside flap of DPIL books to be useful

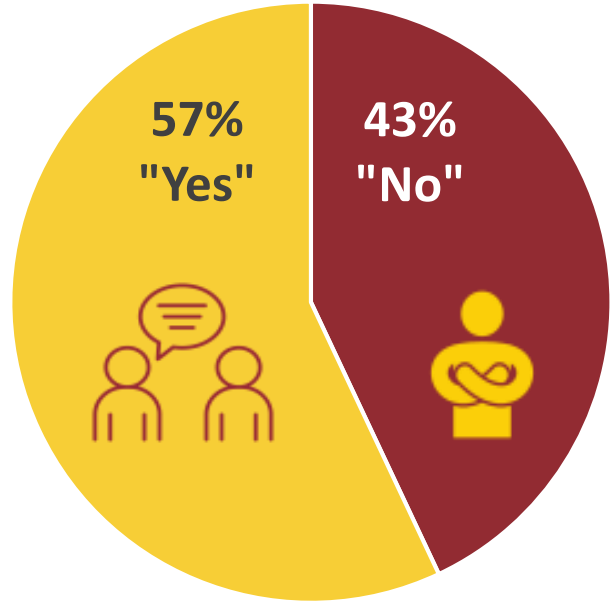


Finally, participants weighed in on whether the reading tips found on the inside flap of the Imagination Library books were useful to them. Seventy nine percent of the total population indicated that these tips *were* helpful to them, however amongst high poverty ZIP codes, 90 percent of participants agreed.

The Ripple Effect

The Literacy Cooperative was interested in exploring the “ripple effect” of DPIL engagement, or more specifically, do parents/guardians engaged with DPIL spread news of the program to other parents/guardians. So for the first time participants were asked if they shared information, tips, and events that they learn about from the Literacy Cooperative with other parents? Over half (57 percent) replied that they did, while 43 percent said they did not. Of particular interest, in high poverty ZIP codes, 70 percent of respondents indicated that they did share information from the Literacy Cooperative with other parents. This is again a particularly sizeable difference between the general population and the high poverty ZIP codes.

Do you share information, tips, and events with other parents?



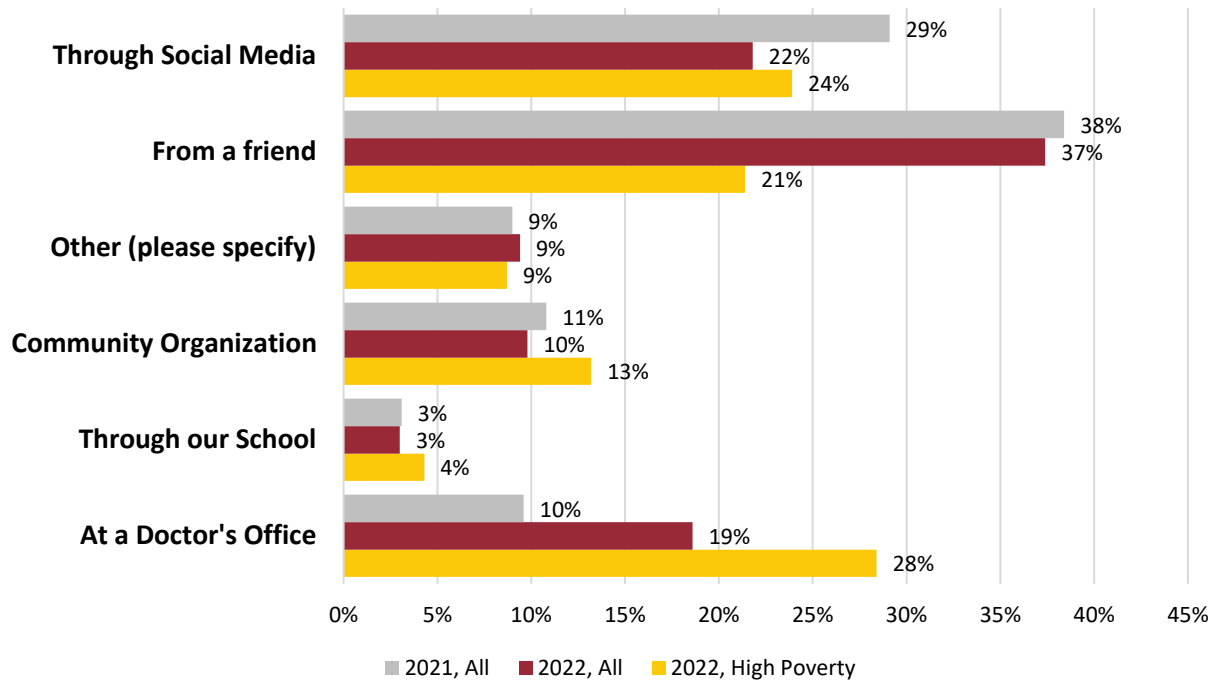
19 out of 20 parents share about DPIL with other parents



The Literacy Cooperative was also interested in learning if the Ripple Effect also extended to parents/guardians sharing about DPIL generally. So participants were also asked if they referred other parents to DPIL, and the results were definitive. Ninety six percent of respondents indicated that they *do* refer other parents to DPIL, meaning for every 20 parents in the program, 19 of them are referring other parents to DPIL.

Where Participants Learned about DPIL

Participants were asked how they learned about DPIL, and the results show a couple interesting differences from 2021 to 2022. Primarily, *less* participants learned about DPIL from social media, and *more* participants learned about the program from visiting the doctor’s office. Participants in high poverty ZIP code were the most likely to report learning about the program from the doctor’s office, whereas the total population was most likely to learn about the program from a friend. Over a third of the sample learning about the program from a friend coincides with the aforementioned Ripple Effect that was observed earlier, in which 96 percent of participants reported sharing about DPIL with other parents/guardians.



County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2023-0110

Sponsored by: Councilmember Sweeney	A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$25,000, to Global Cleveland for the Welcoming Workforce Project from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
--	---

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

WHEREAS, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

WHEREAS, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund in the amount of \$25,000 to Global Cleveland for the Welcoming Workforce Project; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland estimates approximately 2,500 people will be served annually through this award; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland estimates the total cost of the project is \$80,000; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland indicates the other funding source(s) for this project includes:

- A. \$25,000 from Bank of America;
- B. \$30,000 from an anonymous donor; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland requested \$25,000 from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund to complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$25,000 to Global Cleveland to ensure this project is completed; and

WHEREAS, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000 to Global Cleveland from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Welcoming Workforce Project.

SECTION 2. If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

SECTION 3. That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

SECTION 4. That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

SECTION 5. If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

SECTION 6. To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 7. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the

Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 8. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

_____ County Council President _____ Date

_____ County Executive _____ Date

_____ Clerk of Council _____ Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: April 25, 2023
Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Journal _____
_____, 20____



**Cuyahoga County
Council**

2079 East 9th Street, 8th Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115
(216) 698-2010

COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.): GLOBAL CLEVELAND	
Address of Requesting Entity: 1422 EUCLID AVE # 1652, CLEVELAND, OH 44115	
County Council District # of Requesting Entity: 3	
Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: N/A	
County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: N/A	
Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request: ALLISON RETTER	
Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity: N/A	
Email: allison@globalcleveland.org	Phone: 216-702-0959
Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.: 27-5245539	Date: 4/5/23

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Name:

Welcoming Workforce

Needs and Project Description:

Global Cleveland seeks County Council American Resource Act dollars to support its efforts to create a robust regional workforce by connecting employers who need skilled workers with international talent that is seeking family-sustaining jobs in Northeast Ohio.

In the wake of COVID-19, our region is faced with almost unprecedented economic uncertainty and concern that we do not have enough workers to fill current job vacancies, let alone those created by future growth.

- 80% of employers are currently experiencing a talent shortage.
- Ohio's young professionals continue to migrate out of state and our population continues to age.
- Many companies are discouraged from hiring international talent because they are unaware of how to start and find the visa process cumbersome and confusing.

Talent shortages have more than tripled in the last decade across the country, and the need for skilled and qualified talent in Northeast Ohio exceeds the national average. COVID has only exacerbated this problem. Our region needs to take immediate action to ensure its workforce needs are met and our economy can prosper. International workers have a wide variety of skills, needs, and readiness to work, and immigrants and refugees are ready to help address Ohio's talent gaps.

The Welcoming Workforce program builds on Global Cleveland's existing work by explicitly helping employers overcome barriers to hiring international workers and students, providing services that have helped spur the success of immigrant workers in other rust-belt cities. The program connects workers to jobs through job fairs at major local universities, emphasizing the benefit of hiring international students and new immigrants. It connects immigrant groups and employers to allow for cluster hiring, especially among newly arrived refugee groups, since hiring multiple workers from the same language and cultural background reduces the per-worker challenges greatly. Global Cleveland's Welcoming Workforce team is responsible for outreach to companies and connecting with the industries that could most benefit from international workers.

Global Cleveland works to connect the international talent pool to open jobs while simultaneously providing support and guidance to both local employers and international employees. In addition to the initiatives outlined above, we work to educate employers directly. Our year-long Global Employer Summit Series offers free informational webinars for businesses to learn how they can tap into the international workforce, covering topics such as CPT, OPT, H1-B visas, and our Global Entrepreneur-in-Residence (GEIR) program.

Included in this submission is Global Cleveland's 2022 report "Here are the Workers", an urgent call to action for the business community to include international newcomers in the workforce. Here Are The Workers and its accompanying Welcoming Workforce reports outline the why and how to hire international students, refugees, and skilled immigrants.

Project Start/End Date:

Ongoing

IMPACT OF PROJECT

Who will be served:

Global Cleveland serves immigrant newcomers, refugees, and international students, as well as local companies who are seeking skilled talent to fulfill their workforce needs.

How many people will be served annually:

Estimated 2,500

How will low/moderate income people be served:

Global Cleveland's welcome workforce initiatives is focused on dismantling barriers in order to connect international newcomers to family-sustaining jobs. As such, most of the services benefit those with low to moderate income.

How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:

Our workforce initiatives compliment other ongoing projects at Global Cleveland, including our Global Entrepreneur-in-Residence program and Global Rising Leadership Development program, both of which support international newcomers looking to grow roots in Northeast Ohio.

If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:

N/A

If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:

N/A

If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:

Global Cleveland's efforts in workforce development, specifically integrating international talent to fulfill current workforce needs, not only helps fill empty jobs in Northeast Ohio but will also develop a model that can be replicated in other parts of the state.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total Budget of Project:

\$80,000

Other Funding Sources of Project:

Bank of America - \$25,000

Anonymous - \$30,000

Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:

\$25,000

Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:

Global Cleveland conducts fundraising year-round to ensure it can continue its vital programming. Since the Welcoming Workforce initiatives build upon Global Cleveland's existing work, funding from operating grants can be used to sustain the project going forward.

DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

Printed Name:

ALLISON RETTER

Signature:

Allison Retter

Date:

4/5/23

Additional Documents

Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:

Here Are The Workers .pdf
Welcoming Workforce Reports pdf

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2023-0112

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Simon and Turner	A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$35,000, to the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio for the Stronger Together Project from the District 9 & District 11 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
--	--

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County received \$239,898,257 from the Federal Government through the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”); and

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County calculated 100% of the ARPA dollars as loss revenue under the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule; and

WHEREAS, since all the ARPA dollars have been calculated as loss revenue, the ARPA dollars have been deposited in the County’s General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive and County Council have authorized \$86 million of the ARPA dollars for community grants to benefit the residents of Cuyahoga County (the “ARPA Community Grant Fund”); and

WHEREAS, of the \$86 million for community grants, \$66 million have been encumbered for equal distribution to each County Council District; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$17,500 from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund and \$17,500 from the District 11 ARPA Community Grant Fund, for a total amount of \$35,000, to the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio for the Stronger Together Project; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio estimates approximately 10,132 people will be served annually through this award; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio estimates approximately 3 permanent and temporary jobs will be created or retained through this project; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio estimates the total cost of the project is \$90,380; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio is estimating the start date of the project will be May 2023 and the project will be completed by December 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio requested \$35,000 from the District 9 & 11 ARPA Community Grant Funds to complete this project; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Council desires to provide funding in the amount of \$35,000 to the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio to ensure this project is completed; and

WHEREAS, this Council by a vote of at least eight (8) members determines that it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue to provide for the usually, daily operations of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby awards a not-to-exceed amount of \$35,000 to the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio from the General Fund made available by the American Rescue Plan Act revenue replacement provision for the Stronger Together Project.

SECTION 2. If any specific appropriation is necessary to effectuate this agreement, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management is authorized to submit the requisite documentation to financial reporting to journalize the appropriation.

SECTION 3. That the County Council staff is authorized to prepare all documents to effectuate said award.

SECTION 4. That the County Executive is authorized to execute all necessary agreements and documents consistent with said award and this Resolution.

SECTION 5. If requested or necessary, the Agency of the Inspector General or Department of Internal Audit is authorized to investigate, audit, or review any part of this award.

SECTION 6. To the extent that any exemptions are necessary under the County Code and contracting procedures, they shall be deemed approved by the adoption of this Resolution.

SECTION 7. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health or safety in the County; and any additional reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council,



**Cuyahoga County
Council**

2079 East 9th Street, 8th Floor • Cleveland Ohio 44115
(216) 698-2010

COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:	
Name of Requesting Entity (City, Business, Non-Profit, etc.): The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio	
Address of Requesting Entity: 3659 Green Road, Suite 220 Cleveland, OH 44122	
County Council District # of Requesting Entity: Cuyahoga County Council District 11	
Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: 3659 Green Road, Suite 220 Cleveland, OH 44122	
County Council District # of Address or Location of Project if Different than Requesting Entity: Cuyahoga County Council District 11	
Contact Name of Person Filling out This Request: Brenda Saridakis	
Contact Address if different than Requesting Entity: 3659 Green Road, Suite 220 Cleveland, OH 44122	
Email: bsaridakis@diversitycenterneo.org	Phone: 216-752-3000 x230
Federal IRS Tax Exempt No.: 20-1966761	Date: 3/8/2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

REQUEST DESCRIPTION (include the project name, a description of the project, why the project is important or needed, and a timeline of milestones/tracking of the project):

Project Name: Stronger Together: Capacity Building Request to Ensure Longevity of The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio

Project Description: The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio respectfully requests a one-time gift of \$35,000 to recover from lost revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic and build the capacity to sustain its programming into the future. This Capacity Building request will ensure the longevity of an organization whose justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) education is especially relevant in our current climate.

The Diversity Center has been part of the fabric of the Greater Cleveland community for nearly 100 years, working toward its mission of eliminating bias, bigotry, and racism. This mission is achieved by elevating the JEDI mindset through educational programs in schools, workplaces, and the community. Services include youth programming, JEDI consulting for businesses, and a robust professional group to inspire equity among emerging leaders in Greater Cleveland.

The Capacity Building funds requested in this application will cover one-time temporary costs, including consultants. The Diversity Center relies on a small staff of fifteen full-time employees and will utilize consultants to ensure the organization implements best practices without increasing overhead costs. Temporary costs include an HR consultant advising the organization on staff retention strategies, including competitive pay; a Donor Database Consultant cleaning up The Diversity Center's donor database and advising on efficient practices; and a Marketing Consultant assisting with updating the organization's website and creating engaging collateral. All of these components will strengthen the organization, resulting in the retention of staff, effective engagement of donors, and expanded marketing to grow The Diversity Center's service footprint.

Project Need: The need for The Diversity Center is clear as racism and discrimination continue to divide our community. In 2020, Cuyahoga County joined other Northeast Ohio locations in declaring racism a public health crisis.

However, despite the growing need for JEDI education, The Diversity Center has suffered in recent years from lost revenue that threatens to reduce the organization's ability to function. Like many nonprofits, the COVID-19 pandemic's negative impact on charitable giving and in-person programming has hurt The Diversity Center financially. In addition, the organization's unique mission and prominence in the community have led to a backlash, fueled by the Critical Race Theory debate, that resulted in \$250,000 in lost revenue as local schools pulled out of programming. The Stronger Together campaign will position The Diversity Center to increase revenue in the future by more effectively engaging donors and the public.

Timeline and Milestones: Grant money will be expended over an 18 month period after receipt of funds. Milestones include hiring various consultants, development of staff retention strategies, cleanup of the database, revamping of the website and development of new marketing strategies, and establishment of data collection and analyzing practices.

Project Start Date: 5/1/2023

Project End Date: 12/31/2024

IMPACT OF PROJECT:**Who will be served:**

This project will serve individuals from kindergarten through adulthood throughout Cuyahoga County. The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio has a large presence and currently provides programs in Cuyahoga County, Lorain County, and Summit County.

How many people will be served annually:

The Diversity Center served 10,132 individuals last year. We anticipate a growth in numbers due to our capacity-building efforts.

Will low/moderate income people be served; if so how:

Yes. The Diversity Center provides programs at an overall reduced rate and a sliding scale when possible. To the best of its ability, the organization works with participating schools, businesses, and individuals to provide equal access to programs, regardless of income.

How does the project fit with the community and with other ongoing projects:

Cuyahoga County has declared racism a public health crisis, acknowledging the urgency of finding a sustainable solution to systemic inequities that threaten the lives of Black, brown, and other historically marginalized residents. The Diversity Center believes that understanding a problem can inspire change and education is the first step to dismantling the racism built into our society.

If applicable, how many jobs will be created or retained (specify the number for each) and will the jobs be permanent or temporary:

Three temporary jobs will be created.

If applicable, what environmental issues or benefits will there be:

No known environmental issues or benefits are associated with this Capacity Building project. However, addressing racism, bias and bigotry does address environmental justice.

If applicable, how does this project serve as a catalyst for future initiatives:

This Capacity Building project will build the foundation for future initiatives at The Diversity Center. Temporary jobs created through this project will build a structure for the organization to deliver more robust programming and better engage donors/the public. The Diversity Center plans to expand its reach into more communities, including Cleveland Metropolitan School District. This Capacity Building project will ensure that anticipated growth can be sustained.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**Total Budget of Project:**

\$90,380

Other Funding Sources of Project (list each source and dollar amount separately):

N/A

Total amount requested of County Council American Resource Act Dollars:

\$35,000

Since these are one-time dollars, how will the Project be sustained moving forward:

Positions created through this funding will set the organization up to sustain growth. The HR Consultant will increase staff retention, reducing onboarding costs for the organization and providing consistent service delivery. The Donor Database Consultant will improve The Diversity Center's ability to engage donors and secure gifts. The Marketing Consultant will increase the organization's engagement with the public, resulting in more contracted services. These positions are temporary and will be one-time costs with long-term benefits.

DISCLAIMER INFORMATION AND SIGNATURE:

Disclaimer:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for financial assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge and agree that all County contracts and programs are subject to Federal Guidelines and Regulations, the Ohio Revised Code, the Cuyahoga County Charter, and all County Ordinances including all information submitted as part of this application is a public record.

I understand that any willful misrepresentation on this application or on any of the attachments thereto could result in a fine and/or imprisonment under relevant local, state, and/or federal laws or guidelines.

I agree that at any time, any local, state, or federal governmental agency, or a private entity on behalf of any of these governmental agencies, can audit these dollars and projects.

Printed Name:

Peppy ZONE FISHER

Signature:



Date:

3/7/2023

Additional Documents

Are there additional documents or files as part of this application? Please list each documents name:

- 1. Capacity Building project proposed budget
- 2. Strategic plan