

BEGINNING WITH CHILDREN

Goal: Rowan Public Library contributes to the positive development of children by motivating them to explore their world, develop their potential and strengthen their educational skills through outstanding programs, resources, and services.

Program Summary

- ▶ *Contributing to the positive development of the child.*
- ▶ *Promoting the joy of reading through story telling.*
- ▶ *Providing year-round reading activities, such as the summer reading program, to strengthen children's reading skills.*
- ▶ *Providing homework help.*
- ▶ *Encouraging lifelong learning.*
- ▶ *Partnering with schools and preschool programs to strengthen learning skills.*
- ▶ *Developing collections and programs especially geared for children.*
- ▶ *Modeling teaching and story telling techniques for caregivers.*

Objective 1: Increase by 600 copies the number of accelerated readers available to school age children by 2006.

Desired outcome: Library will be better able to meet customer demand for these books. Circulation may also increase

Activity A: Identify and purchase an additional 200 copies per year.

Activity B: Explore options for assisting customers in finding accelerated reading titles more easily.

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor

Cost: \$3,000 annually (new funds, or reallocation of existing funds)

Objective 2: Expand the preschool book collection for Stories To Go customers by adding 1,200 books by FY2005.

Desired outcome: The Stories To Go bookmobile collection will increase by at least 13%, and thereby allow us to provide every preschool customer two books to check out at each visit.



Activity A: Identify and purchase an additional 600 books annually.

Objective 2: (continued)

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor
Stories To Go staff

Cost: \$7,200 annually

Objective 3: Decrease the loss rate of bookmobile collection by 40%, or by 1,000 volumes by FY2005.

Desired outcome: More materials will be returned and available for children to check out.

Activity A: Improve communication with parents by developing new handouts in English and in Spanish by 2004.

Activity B: Work with centers to develop standard procedures for returning materials to the bookmobile by 2004.

Activity C: Develop and implement a rewards program for children who return their books by 2005.

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor
Stories To Go staff

Cost: Annual operating budget

Objective 4: Develop a more customer-responsive selection process for children's materials by purchasing at least 100 volumes annually based on customer requests by FY2004.

Desired outcome: Customers will have more input into the selection of children's materials.

Activity A: Develop a communication tracking method and educate staff on the process by FY2004

Activity B: Identify and purchase at least 100 volumes annually.

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor

Cost: Annual operating budget



Objective 5: Develop and implement two staff development programs on reader's advisory service and provision of information for children by FY2005.

Desired outcome: Children will be guided more effectively in the selection of books and in their search for information.



Activity A: Create and present training programs that will help staff guide children to materials and information.

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor

Cost: Annual operating budget

Objective 6: Expand children's access to Internet resources by increasing the number of children who qualify to access the Internet from the library by 90% by FY2004.

Desired outcome: More children will be granted access to use the Internet at the library due to installation of filtering software.

Activity A: Establish the current level of use by FY2004.

Activity B: Develop parent orientation and procedures by FY2004.



Activity C: Implement filtering software by FY2004.

Responsibility: Children's Services Supervisor
Information Technology Staff
Operations Manager

Cost: Annual operating budget

Objective 7: Improve all children's access to library resources by providing a graphically based children's catalog by 2004.

Desired outcome: Children will find the graphical catalog easier to use.

Activity A: Select and install a new library automation system that includes a catalog specifically developed for children.

Responsibility: Library Management Team

Cost: \$10,000 estimated