

Wisconsin Read To Lead

2016 Annual Operations Report

The Read to Lead Development Council met a total of four times in 2016. The dates and topics covered include:

1. April 4, 2016
 - A discussion was held around a proposed grant awarding process, application, scoring criteria, and timeline. The process was approved. Read to Lead 2.0 was discussed by Secretary Anderson. A new focus on reading and pre-reading skills of children in low-income families, birth to 3rd grade. Also discussed were three year appointments for members wishing to remain on the Council.
2. May 23, 2016
 - Jason Wutt (DCF Point of Contact) and Barb Novak (DPI Point of Contact) discussed the selection process that led to the three applications recommended by the scoring panel. Council members expressed concern that the top scoring applications were limited in geographical diversity as they represented Milwaukee and Madison only. The Council had an extensive discussion regarding ways to address this geographical limitation, which resulted in a proposal to award the top four highest-scoring applications a grant that was below the requested amount.
3. September 29, 2016
 - The meeting started with a brief review of the 2015/2016 grant award winners. Dr. Scott McConnell from the University of Minnesota spoke about what quality early childhood literacy programs look like and gave a few examples of quality programs. Following the presentation Secretary Anderson lead a discussion on the direction of the Council now that it is housed at the Department of Children and Families.
4. December 20, 2016
 - The Council reviewed four intervention programs for early literacy. These programs included UpStart, Talking is Teaching, LENA Start, and Ready4K. There was a discussion around what the next steps for the Council should be and if they should support the implementation or one or a combination of these programs. It was decided that more information was needed and a meeting was scheduled for March of 2017.

On May 31, 2016, Secretary Anderson and State Superintendent Evers announced the five recipients of the Read to Lead Development Grant Fund grant (see Table 1).

The Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) released their annual report on November 22, 2016. This report recommended improvements to the process for awarding grants in order to avoid potential scoring mistakes. The report also highlighted the importance of ensuring that funding amounts are verified. As of the end of FY 2015-16, funds available in the Fund were fully committed. In addition, the amount appropriated from GPR for FY 2016-17 is also fully committed. There are currently no available funds in

the Fund. Finally the report asked that the next Operations Report to the Legislature include outcomes from previous grants. Outcomes from the 2015 grant recipients are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1. 2016 Grant Awards

Grant Recipient	Location	Amount Awarded
CESA 6	Oshkosh	\$40,000
COA Youth and Family Centers	Milwaukee	\$50,000
Indianhead CAA	Ladysmith	\$23,600
Milwaukee Public Library	Milwaukee	\$40,000
United Way of Dane County	Madison	\$46,433
	Total	\$200,033

Table 2. Outcomes of 2015 Grant Awards

Grant Recipient	Amount Awarded	Summary of Outcomes
Children’s Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin	\$30,000	Individuals have completed 55 hours of classroom instruction and 100 hours of practicum time with students. All 10 individuals have completed the IMSLEC and ALTA exams for certification.
Kettle Moraine Correction Institution	\$3,000	64 children were given two books and a DVD of their incarcerated father discussing the importance of reading and reading one or more of the books.
Northern Water Learning	\$30,000	Provided parents and caregivers with opportunities to foster oral language development through home visits, playgroups, traveling story hours, and a big fun play date. Enhanced the literacy component of 4K with school parent education and staff professional development. Partnered with businesses and organizations to support literacy, donated 667 books to low-income children and families, provided a summer buddy reading program, and supported adults through tutoring.
Sparta Area School District	\$30,000	Purchased Headsprouts and Earobics for use in the 4K classroom. Videos were also created with Pre-K teachers that parents and community member can watch at home to learn new shared reading techniques and gain confidence reading with their children.
St. Catherine School	\$19,000	12 of 15 students had an increase in CTOPP phonological awareness standard score. In first grade scale scores and percentiles went

		up for 26 of 34 students on the TOWRE. In second scale scores and percentiles went up for 25 of 32 students and in third grade scores increased for 17 of 24.
Marquette University	\$20,000	The Milwaukee Summer Reading Program operated in 10 classrooms and had 162 students complete the project. All objectives were met or exceeded, for example, 100% of students read at least five books, 96% improved their vocabulary by 11 words for three topics, and 81% improved their reading comprehension by an average of a .55 grade level.

Read to Lead Development Council Members:

Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of Children and Families

Barbara Novak, Designee of State Superintendent Tony Evers

Senator Luther Olsen, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

Representative Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Chair, Assembly Committee on Education

Senator Chris Larson, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Committee on Education

Representative Sondy Pope, Ranking Minority Member, Assembly Committee on Education

Donna Hejtmanek, Reading Specialist at Northland Pines School District in Eagle River, WI

Jill Riley, Administrator at the University of Wisconsin – Madison Preschool Lab

Henry Tyson, Superintendent, St. Marcus School in Milwaukee, WI

Steven Sorenson, Attorney at Davis & Kuelthau, S.C.

Jeff Roepsch, Advanced Solutions at Johnson Controls

Kathryn Champeau, Wisconsin State Reading Association

Steven Dykstra, Associate Director, Mobile Urgent Treatment Team at Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division

Michele Erikson, Executive Director of Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.

Ann Hardginski, Youth Services Librarian at Kimberly-Little Chute Public Library

Pamela Heyde, WI Branch of the International Dyslexia Association Representative

Rachel Lander, Associate Scientist at the School of Education at UW-Milwaukee

Janis Serak, Executive Co-Director at WI FACETS