



City of Dallas

Library Services for Young Children & Senior Residents

**Quality of Life
Committee
January 17, 2023**

Shannon Adams, Community
Services Administrator

Melissa Dease,
Communications & Youth
Services Administrator

Library
City of Dallas

Presentation Overview



- Senior Services
 - Background/History
 - Purpose
 - Current Programs
 - Future Programs
- Early Childhood
 - Background/History
 - Purpose
 - Current Programs
- Next Steps



Background/History



- What do "Senior Services" mean?
 - 60 and older
 - Senior Wellness and Safety
 - Senior Engagement
- Senior Services offered at all locations based up needs and demographics of branch service areas



Purpose of Senior Services



- To provide opportunities for socialization to help decrease/prevent isolation
- To enhance connections to resources to maintain independence



Current Program



- Medicare Assistance
 - Workshops
 - One-on-one informational sessions
- Healthcare Navigators
 - Parkland/Texas Health resource sessions'
 - Offered in English and Spanish
- Wellness
 - Chair yoga



Current Programs and Services



- Social Programs
 - Coffee Club
 - Crochet & Knitting
 - Inspired Aging
- Curbside Service
 - Seniors and disabled patrons can request curbside service
- Library materials
 - Large Print books
 - Digital audiobooks



Future Programs



- Memory Care Kits
 - Created for seniors experiencing memory loss or cognitive declines
 - Kits are designed to facilitate conversation, invite sharing, and ignite reminiscing about the past
 - Sample themes
 - Sensory Sounds: Seaside Days
 - Remembering the seasons: Winter, Autumn or Spring
 - Farm Reminiscence
 - Remembering the 60s



Early Childhood Services



Background/History



- What does Early Childhood Mean?
 - Ages 0 to 5
 - Pre-reading skills
 - Social-emotional learning
 - Brain building
- All early childhood services branded as #ReadingReady
- Early childhood services offered at all locations



Purpose of Early Childhood Services



- Build early literacy skills through practice
 - Talk, Sing, Write, Play, Read
- Promote school readiness
 - Letter knowledge; self-regulation
- Model for parents and caregivers
 - Parents are their children's first teachers



How Early Childhood Services Started



- Storytime/Hora de Cuentos
- Bookmarks @ NorthPark
- Books for Dallas Babies
- Once Upon a Month



New Programs: Reading Ready Play Spaces



- Reading Ready Play Spaces
 - Installed at all locations in late 2022
 - Encourages dramatic play, talking, vocabulary

Privately funded thanks to a very generous grant from the David M. Munson and Mona Campbell Munson Fund of The Dallas Foundation



New Programs: Reading Ready Kits



- Reading Ready Kits
 - 10,000 bilingual take-home literacy kits
 - Distributed at 5 WIC clinics in equity priority neighborhoods
 - Encourages parental role in early learning



New Programs: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten



- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
 - Promotes reading to newborns, infants and toddlers
 - Improves vocabulary and other school-readiness measures
 - Online tracking



New Programs: Here Comes Kindergarten



- Here Comes Kindergarten
 - Prepares children to start school
 - Includes knowledge lessons, like letters, numbers and shapes, as well as social-emotional skills, like expressing feelings

Supported by a Texas Reads grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission



Shared Spaces



- Playgrounds on site
 - Audelia Road
 - Vickery Park
- Co-located with DISD school
 - Hampton-Illinois and Jimmie Tyler Brashear Elementary School
 - Arcadia Park and Arcadia Park Elementary School
- Recreation Centers/Parks
 - Timberglen
 - Fretz Park
 - Grauywler Park
 - Kleberg-Rylie
 - Mountain Creek
- Community Centers
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. And Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center
 - Dallas West and West Dallas Multipurpose Center



Program Support



Friends of the Dallas Public Library makes many of these programs possible by securing private and corporate funding and through ongoing advocacy work.



Next Steps



- Senior Services
 - Continue to develop relationships with partners to offer more programming
 - Add more bilingual/Spanish language senior programming
- Early Childhood Services
 - Continued outreach to areas where parents, caregivers and children gather
 - MiniDPLs - bookshelves stocked with books for children to take home in areas where families gather
 - StoryWalks - movement and literacy boosting project that places an illustrated children's book, taken apart and displayed page by page, along a walking route in your community
 - Permanent and mobile ones will be located throughout the City
- Target metrics
 - Early Childhood Alignment with Racial Equity Plan
 - Increase early childhood literacy initiatives, i.e., Storytime, kindergarten readiness programs, early literacy outreach, from 12 to 48 at libraries serving equity priority areas by September 30, 2024. (from Racial Equity Plan)
 - Distribute 10,000 early literacy kits at WIC clinics with survey that measures usefulness of kit
 - Senior Services
 - Increase senior programming by 20%





City of Dallas

Library Services for Young Children & Senior Residents

**Quality of Life
Committee
January 17, 2023**

Shannon Adams, Community
Services Administrator

Melissa Dease,
Communications & Youth
Services Administrator

Library
City of Dallas