

2022-2023 4th Quarter Progress Report

Funding Sources:

State of Louisiana, LaSC, Act 170

The Murphy Institute

GRANT/FUNDING RECIPIENT:

40th Judicial District Court

NAME AND BRIEF NARRATIVE OF PROGRAM:

The Literacy Clinic: A Prevention-by-Way-of-Intervention Transformative Program

Program Goals, Objectives, Expected Outcomes/Results Activities, and Related Performance Measures (Duplicate pages as needed for each goal identified). What are the goals, objective(s), and expected outcomes/results for this program: Indicate the goals/objectives for this program. Indicate the expected outcomes/results for each goal. Explain how each goal, objective, outcome/result is measured. Identify activities that will be implemented to achieve expected outcomes, the person(s) responsible for implementing the activity, and the expected completion date.

1. Program Goal (Goals are the intended broad, long-term results. Goals are clear statements of the general end purposes toward which efforts are directed.)

- **The Literacy Clinic will increase high school equivalency graduation rates among criminal-court-involved adults in St. John the Baptist Parish**

The 40th JDC Public Defender Office and Orleans Public Defenders Office screen potential adult candidates for enrollment in the Literacy Clinic at point of entry in the PDO system; the Court directs candidates to enroll at sentencing, providing the candidate a status appearance schedule and point-of-contact information for enrollment in Hi-Set preparation courses. Upon enrollment, candidates are Clinic participants, who subsequently complete a literacy spectrum assessment. Participants receive Hi-Set preparation instruction. Fluency and comprehension reading assessments are collected and analyzed to show participants' movement from nonliterate to literate. Participants must appear monthly in accordance with the status appearance schedule received at sentencing, for progress reports; participants also receive life coaching support through monthly life coach sessions. Entry and exit interviews are used to measure participants' movement on the literacy spectrum. The Clinic collects and analyzes data on the number of participants receiving earned compliance credit (ECC) from the Department of Corrections, as a result of successfully completing the Clinic.

- **The Literacy Clinic will increase at-grade-level reading rates among children in grades K-2, attending public schools in St. John the Baptist Parish and Orleans Parish**

At the school level, the Clinic collects information on children in grades K-2. This information consists of test scores and the results of other tools used to assess reading fluency and acquisition of early literacy skills at each grade level, K-2. The objective is to work with teachers and other support staff to move students along the literacy spectrum to be proficient at the start of 3rd grade. Assent and Consent forms are obtained from parents and/or guardians of K-2 grade Clinic participants. Parent focus groups are used to gain insight into parents' perspectives on the impact of their children's participation in the Clinic over the project term. These focus groups provide frameworks for the Clinic to match families with services (e.g., through Families in Need of Services) that they may need to support learning out of school and to troubleshoot other challenges at home that create barriers to student achievement.

2. Program Objective(s) (*Objectives are intermediate outcomes--specific, measurable steps towards accomplishing the goal, that identify the expected outcomes and results. The program objective must include a percentage, a specific dollar amount, or a number.*)

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

Prevention—K-2

- Annually move 75% of kindergarten, first, and second-grade children enrolled at Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School and Behrman Charter School from one proficiency level to the next proficiency level, i.e, well-below, below, at, or above benchmark, using the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessment by evaluating phonemic awareness, phonics, or oral reading fluency.

Intervention—Adults

- Annually provide 20 adults pleading to probation for non-violent, non-sex-related offenses in the 40th JDC and Orleans Criminal District Court support in enrolling in literacy instructional courses
- Monitor these 20 adults' progression over a period of eighteen (18) months
- Match these 20 adults with continuing educational services, as needed, to complete HiSet within eighteen months of program enrollment

3. Relevant Activity (Activities) (*An activity is a distinct subset of functions or services within a program to meet the Program Objective.*)

Prevention—K-2

Relevant Activity (Activities): DIBELS data collection and progress measurement

The Clinic will collect, analyze, and report on baseline DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) data for K, 1st, and 2nd grade children at partnering school/s (currently Lake Pontchartrain Elementary and Behrman Charter). Middle and end-of-year DIBELS data will be collected, analyzed, and reported on using regression analysis to indicate impact/efficacy of school participation in The Literacy Clinic. Interventions integrated throughout as literacy-building activities include: parent-child read-along-night; Accelerated Reader program and spirited competition; classroom libraries; Pastors-Read-Along; and literacy-focused field trips.

➤ **October 7, 2022**

- [Baseline DIBELS data for Behrman Charter](#) received and aggregated by grade level. (Exhibit 1a)¹
- 93 kindergarten students were assessed indicating 40 (43%) students well-below grade level, 7 (8%) students below grade level, 6 (6%) students at grade level, and 40 (43%) above grade level.
- 80 first-grade students were assessed indicating 17 (21%) students well-below grade level, 9 (11%) students below grade level, 12 (15%) students at grade level, and 42 (53%) above grade level.
- 82 second-grade students were assessed indicating 44 (54%) students well-below grade level, 8 (10%) students below grade level, 9 (11%) students at grade level, and 31 (38%) above grade level.

➤ **January 10, 2023**

- [Baseline DIBELS data for Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School](#) received and aggregated by grade level. (Exhibit 1b)²
- Baseline DIBELS data for Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School received and aggregated by percentage of students scoring well-below, below, at, and above level.
- 66 kindergarten students were assessed indicating 60 (91%) students well -below grade level, 1 (2%) students below grade level, 4 (6%) students at grade level, and 1 (2%) above grade level.
- 66 first-grade students were assessed indicating 30 (45%) students well -below grade level, 8 (12%) students below grade level, 15 (23%) students at grade level, and 13 (20%) above grade level.
- 75 second-grade students were assessed indicating 31 (41%) students well-below grade level, 11 (15%) students below grade level, 26 (35%) students at grade level, and 7 (9%) above grade level.

➤ **March 2023**

- [Middle of the Year DIBELS data for Behrman Charter](#) received and aggregated by grade level. (Exhibit 1a)¹
- 93 kindergarten students were assessed indicating 40 (43%) students well-below grade level, 7 (8%) students below grade level, 6 (6%) students at grade level, and 40 (43%) above grade level.
- 80 first-grade students were assessed indicating 17 (21%) students well-below grade level, 9 (11%) students below grade level, 12 (15%) students at grade level, and 42 (53%) above grade level.
- 82 second-grade students were assessed indicating 44 (54%) students well-below grade level, 8 (10%) students below grade level, 9 (11%) students at grade level, and 31 (38%) above grade level

➤ **March, 2023**

- [Middle of the Year DIBELS data for Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School](#) received and aggregated by grade level. (Exhibit 1b)²
- Middle of the Year DIBELS data for Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School received and aggregated by percentage of students scoring well-below, below, at, and above level.
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Relevant Activity (Activities): Family Engagement Events

- Organize family literacy night to build family and school connections and partnerships
- Support families with assisting their kids
- Tool families phonemic awareness strategies and ideas to apply at home
- Engage families in literacy and determine efficacy through surveys

➤ **November 29, 2022**

[Family Literacy Night hosted at Behrman Charter School.](#) New Orleans native, Dr. Maychelle Cooper-Rodney, author of *Dear Black Butterfly: You Are a Queen*, served as guest speaker and presenter. (Photo Gallery, Exhibit 2)

➤ **January 26, 2023**

[Family Literacy and Financial Literacy Night](#) was hosted at Lake Pontchartrain Elementary. (Exhibit 3)

Relevant Activity (Activities): Accelerated Reading (AR) Program

- Support and incentivize reading and top reader status by providing bookmarks, posters, and certificates, as students move upward in level • Allows students to build knowledge through high-quality texts on topics of interest
- Support teachers in monitoring students' reading development, by providing teachers tools needed to quickly ascertain students' independent reading levels, reading age, and comprehension level.
- Provide ongoing professional development to teachers to support implementation.
- Use surveys to measure efficacy from parents' and teachers' perspectives.

Relevant Activity (Activities): Establish Classroom Libraries

- Foster and encourage a love of reading, by making age-appropriate texts readily accessible to students.
- Provide students with immediate access to books and keep reading as a class priority.
- Provided access to reading a variety of texts aimed at increasing students' vocabulary and improving reading comprehension and language arts skills.

➤ **October 12, 2022**

Dear Black Butterfly: You Are a Queen, Dr. Maychelle Cooper-Rodney ordered for classroom libraries—Behrman Charter (received)

➤ **October 18, 2022**

Goodbye Butterflies, Gerzalle Blanks—ordered for classroom libraries—Lake Pontchartrain

➤ **November 11, 2022**

My Roots Are Rich, Nyla Coates—ordered for classroom libraries—Behrman Charter and Lake Pontchartrain

➤ **April 3, 2023**

[Book Distribution Numerous Titles](#)—ordered for classroom libraries—Behrman Charter

Relevant Activity (Activities): Literacy Field Trips

- Foster and encourage a love of reading through connection to real-life activities.
- Provide students with relevant connections to build knowledge and relate classroom context to lived experience.
- Provide families and children opportunities to engage in educational activities outside school, fostering interactive and supportive learning.

➤ **April 27, 2023**

[Strawberry Patch Literacy Field Trip Photos](#)—Strawberry Patch Literacy Field Trip—Lake Pontchartrain Elementary

Relevant Activity (Activities): Authors Corner

- Foster and encourage a love of reading through connection to real-life activities.
- Introduce early readers to local/Louisiana authors who model careers directly related to reading and writing.
- Support early readers with direct interactive reading.

➤ **December 9, 2022**

[Gerzalle Blanks, author of *Goodbye Butterflies*, presented at Lake Pontchartrain Elementary.](#) Interactive reading and learning activities with assessments completed (See Exhibit 4)

Intervention—Adults

Relevant Activity (Activities): Pre-Screening and Enrollment

- Provide 20 adults pleading to probation for non-violent, non-sex-related offenses in the 40th JDC support in enrolling in and completing literacy instructional courses at River Parish Community College.

- **40th JDC Enrollment by docket number, as of May 5, 2023**
 - 2021-CR-391
 - 2022-CR-155
 - 2022-CR-128 (arrested, April 25, 2023, LSA R.S. 14:69AB(1), LSA R.S. 14:93.2.1, LSA R.S. 14:108; probation hold)
 - 2021-CR-78
 - 2021-CR-360

- **November 21, 2022**
Proof of Compliance Notices Created for Distribution at Pleading. (Exhibit 5) [E-Form](#) | [Physical Form](#)

- **November 30, 2022**
Public Defender Office provided with [screening questionnaires](#); formal assessments commenced with application processing on December 5, 2022. (Exhibit 6)

Relevant Activity (Activities): Direct Instructional Support

- Monitor these 20 adults' progression over a period of eighteen (18) months.
- Match these 20 adults with continuing educational services, as needed, to complete the HiSet within eighteen months (18) of program enrollment.

Relevant Activity (Activities): Life Coaching

- Provide adult participants life coaching and support through monthly meetings, during which a Literacy Clinic coach works with the adult to match him/her to employment, substance abuse, mental health, and other services, as needed.
- Support the participants in establishing benchmarks for completing the HiSet within eighteen (18) months.
- Motivate participants in their progression toward completing the literacy clinic and early satisfaction of probation.

- **December 20, 2022**
Services of [Thoughts Before Actions](#) engaged to support/coach Adult Literacy Clinic client progress
- TBA Progress reports submitted March 2023, February 2023, and January 2023

Prevention-Intervention K-2 and Adults

Relevant Activity (Activities): Advisory Council

- [Formally invite Advisory Council Members to The Literacy Clinic](#)
- Conduct quarterly advisory council meetings to build community connections and partnerships with multiple stakeholders.
- Build public trust and accountability.

- Engage the community in achieving the vision, goal, and objectives of The Literacy Clinic.
- Collect surveys from stakeholders to assess efficacy.
- **August 23, 2022**
[Annual Community Meeting](#) to [Report on Literacy Clinic activity](#), milestones, and future planning ([Stakeholder Survey Results](#))
- **November 28, 2022**
[Advisory Council Meeting](#), St. John the Baptist Parish Library, Garyville Branch
- **March 21, 2023**
[Advisory Council Meeting](#), Virtual, Zoom

Relevant Activity (Activities): Community Awareness Raising

- Normalize the visibility of literacy-related events, activities, and opportunities for local citizens.
 - Social Media Outreach ([Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)-currently curating)
- **September 2022**
 Brochures and posters created for distribution/posting at local libraries, barber shops, and churches. (Exhibit 2)

4. Performance Measure(s) (*Measure the amount of products or services provided or number of customers served. Specific quantifiable measures of progress, results actually achieved, and assess program impact and effectiveness. A Performance Measure must be designated as a percentage, a specific dollar amount or a number.*)

1. Progression of 75% of kindergarten, first, and second-grade children from one proficiency level to the next proficiency level, i.e, well-below, below, at, or above benchmark, using the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessment by evaluating phonemic awareness, phonics, or oral reading fluency.
2. At or above 20 adults receiving ECC (earned compliance credits) toward probation based on forward movement on the literacy spectrum at 6-, 12-, and 18-month benchmarks.
3. At or above 5 adults earning HiSet at the 18-month enrollment benchmark.

¹ Redacted information is available upon request in accordance with FERPA.