

City of Dallas News Release

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For more information contact:
Miriam Rodriguez- Dallas Public Library
(214) 670-7809

Dallas Public Library receives ICMA Innovation grant;

The award will be used to expand the Every Child Ready to Read @ Dallas program

Dallas, TX – The City of Dallas and the Dallas Public Library have received a \$60,000 grant from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), to expand the Every Child Ready to Read @ Dallas program. The ICMA Public Library Innovation Grants are designed to help local governments develop new and creative ways to strategically use their public libraries to meet community needs.

A total of 515 jurisdictions applied for the grant, and of the nine cities selected, Dallas is the only one that received the grant for an early literacy program.

“We’re very grateful for this grant from ICMA, which will allow us to expand an already successful program” said Director of Libraries Laurie Evans. “Every Child Ready to Read is one of the Mayor’s education initiatives. It’s a program that reaches children before they get to the classroom, so that when they arrive at school they’ll be ready to learn,” she said.

The Dallas Public Library will use the grant to expand the program to the public through birth certificate waiting areas, clinic waiting rooms and schools. A DVD of the parenting program will also be developed for clinic waiting rooms and other areas where groups of parents of young children may congregate.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St., and 26 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many free programs and services available at the Dallas Public Library, visit: www.dallaslibrary.org.

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