



Press Release

Dallas Public Library receives First Lady's Family Literacy grant

DALLAS, July 3, 2006 – The Dallas Public Library has received a \$25,000 grant from the First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas. The grant will be used to fund the library's Reading Together Family Literacy project. This project builds on the existing Adult Basic Education program currently in place at the library's North Oak Cliff Branch.

"This generous grant from the First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative will allow us to continue to provide this important program to the Dallas community," said Miriam Rodriguez, project administrator. "Families who participate are now reading more often to their children, and some are now using the library for the very first time."

Building on an existing literacy program with the Mexican Consulate's Adult Basic Education Program, the Dallas Public Library program will add a children's component, creating a true Family Literacy Program. Adult curricula include reading and math and is intended for people with limited reading skills. The program will include four hours of instruction a week, two separately and two with the family reading together.

A program of The Barbara Bush Texas Fund for Family Literacy, The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas awards grants to public and private non-profit organizations that work within the family unit.

"A child who can read is a child who can succeed in school and in life," said Mrs. Laura Bush. "Parents demonstrate by participation and example that reading is a joy and books are treasures. The impact these family programs have cannot be measured simply by the number of participants, but more accurately by the depth of change and lasting impact in communities across Texas," the First Lady said.

For more information about the Dallas Public Library's Reading Together Family Literacy project, contact Multicultural Administrator Sergio Pineda at 214-671-8054.

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