



Jennifer Larson, Budget Director
City of Dubuque
50 West 13th Street
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4864

November 14, 2015

Re: FY2016 Budget Request- Every Child | Every Promise

Dear Jennifer:

The purpose of this letter is to request funding support for the Every Child|Every Promise grant funding in the City of Dubuque Fiscal Year 2017 budget. Every Child/Every Promise (ECEP) supports making Dubuque a Sustainable City - supporting social cultural vibrancy. ECEP coordinates providers to encourage planned and managed growth, partnering for a better Dubuque, and improved connectivity, all 5 year goals of the City of Dubuque.

With this in mind, the Every Child|Every Promise Board of Directors respectfully requests that the City of Dubuque continues to fund \$25,000 to support a grant process to fund needs in the community identified through our work. This funding will not support ECEP operations, but rather the needs of young people in Dubuque.

Every Child|Every Promise has a network made up of community leaders, direct service providers and business leaders. Though this network of committed partners, ECEP has been able to identify opportunities that support the Dubuque County Youth Master Plan including; the advancement key initiatives in the areas of Grade Level Reading, Out-of-School Time and Data. Our work has been effective in leveraging over \$1,000,000 in funding to support the needs young people in the past 3 years.

Our efforts in the area of Grade Level Reading have been recognized nationally. In July 2012 Dubuque was named an All-America City for the 2nd time based on the Grade Level Reading Plan developed through Every Child/Every Promise and in October 2012 our Grade Level Reading work was recognized by the White House. These efforts are providing expanded resources and opportunities for young people in Dubuque, including-improved attendance programs in our most at risk elementary schools and coordinated summer and out-of-school time programs implemented this past summer. ECEP measures the impact of our community efforts to serve youth through our Youth Indicator Report and is looking ahead toward a community-wide Results Scorecard.

Examples of past projects funded by the grant process are:

1. Summer Academy - (\$25,000) ECEP granted these funds in both FY2014, FY2015, and F2016 to support expanded summer learning opportunities for at-risk K-3rd graders in Dubuque. This has ensured more than 750 students have taken part in high-quality summer learning opportunities and has expanded the capacity of providers in the community so offer high-quality summer learning programs.

2. Child Care Mapping and Information system- (\$10,000) ECEP granted these funds to a collaborative. This collaborative developed and implemented a mapping system to allow for a coordinated approach to increasing access and quality in the Child Care system. This is being developed in partnership with Resources Unite, businesses and child care providers. Supporting this grant funding request met City Council goals for Planned and Managed Growth as well as Partnering for a better Dubuque.

3. Leader in Me- (\$5000) In partnership with the Dubuque Community Schools, Holy Family Schools, the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Covey Institute, ECEP facilitated a grant process to support the implementation of the Leader in Me program into Dubuque elementary schools. This program integrates the "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" into elementary schools teaching life long skills, while reducing behavioral problems and increasing academic performance. This project supports City Council goals for Planned and Managed Growth as well as Partnering for a better Dubuque.

Impact on the community- clients helped past two years/YTD

Every Child|Every Promise does not work directly with clients, but we have had the following direct impacts in the past two years:

- Selected for the *100 Best Communities for Young People* award (2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012) from the America's Promise Alliance (no award given in 2009)
- All America City Award- by facilitating and developing Dubuque's 3rd Grade Reading-Community Solutions Action Plan
- Established and maintain the Youth Indicators Report
- Convened over 70 providers and 100 community leaders to engage in work to meet ECEP and community goals for young people in our community (2009, 2010, 2011)
- LEAP program engaged more than 500 young people in quality afterschool programming
- Grade-Level Reading Campaign provided summer programming for 47 at-risk children
- Partnered to leverage over \$1,000,000 to support identified needs of young people in Dubuque

In 2016, the total dollars amount requested (\$25,000) was leveraged more than 5 times by partners totaling \$125,000. We expect to expand summer learning in FY2017 and this support will be critical.

Through our work with direct service providers, schools and supported by data, ECEP will identify needs and use the grant program funding to identify and fund projects that leverage outcomes for youth and dollars to increase the impact of the City funding on the needs of young people in the community.

Sincerely,



Eric Dregne
Vice President of Programs
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
Executive Director- Every Child/Every Promise
700 Locust Street Suite 195
Dubuque, Iowa 52001
563-588-2700
eric@dbqfoundation.org

ECEP 2015-2018 Strategic Initiatives

Data- Develop improved strategies to collect, share and utilize data regarding young people in our community. Facilitate community engagement around needs identified within the report by convening stakeholder groups as they self identify - e.g. Mentoring

- Develop/improve data systems and website
- Connect community to the indicators on an on-going basis
- Lead community-wide data system effort (2015)

Out of School Time- Facilitate efforts to improve OST opportunities for young people. Identify opportunities to expand collaboration among CBO's to expand access, create awareness, increase quality, and support a coordinated approach towards after school and summer activities.

- Expand, improve LEAP and make it sustainable
- Build coordinated approach for after-school and summer learning (2014)

3rd Grade Reading Initiative- Support efforts to improve education/graduation rate in Dubuque by leading a coordinated approach to improve- school readiness, summer learning, and school attendance.

- Complete GLR Self-Assessment (2015)
- Develop indicators and evaluate the impact of the initiative (2015)
- Expand QRS participation by providers and access to quality Summer Learning

Secondary Priorities

Transportation- (on-going) Continue to represent the voice of young people within the ECIA Transit Action Group. Identify specific transportation needs that relate to our other objectives and work to improve outcomes.

Improve Umbrella Organization Coordination- (2012-15) Identify opportunities to engage partner umbrella organizations. Design specific opportunities for board and staff collaboration discussions with the intent to improve alignment of our efforts. Begin by engaging Early Childhood of Dubuque County.