

Cristopher Griffin

INDEPENDENT PROJECT PROPOSAL TO CHARLESTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Project Name: BREAKFAST WITH BABA & GIGI

Breakfast with Baba & Gigi is a proposed plan to organize a monthly gathering which centers on strengthening the relationship between grandparents and their grandchildren. The target population for the Breakfast with Baba & Gigi program will focus primarily on grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. In South Carolina, 134,710 (12.5%) of children under the age of 18 are living in households with grandparents or relatives who aren't their biological parents.

Some of the needs and interest that the program will provide will center around books, activities, and information about more programs in the area that are designed to help grandparents better connect with their grandchildren. The program will also provide free breakfast for the patrons provided by Lizard's Thicket. As stated in the first paragraph, even though the target population is specifically grandparents who are legally raising their grandchildren the program will not be limited to them only. Parents who want to build stronger family connections will also be encouraged to partake with their parents and children to better help understand and remember the unique bond grandparents have with their grandchildren.

Several over libraries make very solid attempts to incorporate programs that center on Grandparents. On the South Carolina State Library's website you'll find a section called Grandfamily resources mapping out how SC libraries are establishing locations in communities where resources for Grandparents raising their grandchildren can be housed. The Breakfast with Baba & Gigi program would work very well as a monthly event in various locations. One programming idea that's effective enough to put into action is to compile a list of books ranging from child to adult that's geared towards grandparents. This list wouldn't consist of the selected books for the initial program, however, but as a springboard and create a domino effect so after the target audience is introduced to the selected books for the program they'll find more options and choices outside of that if they please to do so.

Books and Materials: The selected books along with authors and their target group:

ADULT: Grandparents as Parents, Second Edition: A Survival Guide for Raising a Second Family by Deborah Edler Brown and Sylvie de Toledo

OLDER YOUTH: Love Aubrey by Suzanna LaFleur

MIDDLE YOUTH: A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck

YOUNGER YOUTH: The Grandma/Grandpa Book by Todd Parr

FAMILIES: *How to Babysit a Grandma/Grandpa Book* by Jean Reagan

Additional Materials/Items for Activities:

Sing karaoke and dance: Portable karaoke machine.

Make jewelry: Various beads and string.

BOOK-TO-ACTION PLAN GRANT PROPOSAL FORM

Project Information: The Book To Action (B2A), when it was up and running, provided grants of up to \$2,500 for public libraries in South Carolina to form a book discussion and community service group, centered on a contemporary social or environmental topic which has been explored in a literary work of fiction or non-fiction. The library would conduct group book discussions, then the discussions are translated into action through a community service activity to address a local problem or issue. For this assignment, we will be using the structure of this program to practice. Please read the [Book to Action \(B2A\) Tool Kit](#) for further information and help in crafting your proposal:

Applicant	<i>Cristofher Hanks Griffin</i>
Project Title or Subject Matter	<i>Breakfast with Baba & Gigi</i>
Book Title(s) (and Author(s) Selected for Discussions	1. Grandparents as Parents, Second Edition by Deborah Edler Brown and Sylvie de Toledo 2. Love Aubrey by Suzanna LaFleur 3. A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck 4. The Grandma/Grandpa Book by Todd Parr 5. How To Babysit a Grandma/Grandpa Book by Jean Reagan

1. Describe the local problem or issue related to the selected book topic that could be addressed through this project.

Grandparents raising grandchildren can/may face many challenges that are not easy for them to deal with. These challenges include things such as social isolation, family issues, health concerns, and so many more. This program offers some relief from a few of those stressful concerns they or other family members assisting them might have. The related books offer several outlets to help including helping grandparents become parents once again, learning how to spend more time with younger children that may be in the household, and also several insights into what life was like for their grandparents when they were at the same youthful age.

2. Why did you choose the book mentioned above?

The chosen books I feel best reflect the type of relationships a child has with their grandparent and vice versa. They offer a deeper insight into the special bond grandparents have with their

grandchildren, and in cases where the grandparent is the sole provider/caretaker it gives them more of a chance to better adapt in that role, especially if they've recently gained custody of the children.

3. As part of your book discussion(s), you should consider bringing in a speaker/presenter, scholar, or topic expert. Please name and describe your speaker(s).

The guest speaker I have chosen to bring in is Dr. Dinah Johnson. Dr. Johnson is an accomplished children's author as well as a professor at the University of South Carolina. With her background in children's literature and speaking occasions, she would be a welcomed asset to the event by offering her insight into how (grand) parents can better connect with their grandchildren through the use of books as well as other community based events.

4. Describe one or more civic engagement/community service/volunteer activity that could be implemented to address your community problem.

Health Fair with vendors, there would be a \$25 charge for vendors to set up tables. Books R US Holiday events would also be valuable assets to extended the program for more longevity.

5. Do you have a potential local partner (individual, organization, or agency) to help achieve your objective?

A partnership will be formed with the Richland County Sheriff's Department, City of Columbia Police Department, and several local individually owned McDonald's that could offer breakfast at a very low cost if not free. Each of these places has very deep roots in the community.

6. What other resources (besides the speaker and partner agency) are needed to implement this project? (Examples include library staff, materials, meeting site(s), transportation, etc.)

Library staff, usually the assistant media specialist, and a volunteering teacher or instructional assistant can be recruited to help set up for the event. The meeting site can be set up in the school's multipurpose room. Also, for the parents/grandparents who are without any form of personal transportation, we will provide that with the use of one the district's school buses. Information about designated times of pick up and departure will be included on fliers as well as personal inquiries.

7. How will you promote the project, encourage participation, and enlist volunteers in your discussion/action group? Stronger consideration will be given to libraries that have plans to reach out to other community organizations and people who are not necessarily already patrons.

Fliers, segments on the school's morning news show. Information about the even can also be displayed on the school's website. There's also the usage of automated phone calls, which are

used to reach out to the parents via voice message and text to remind them of upcoming events for the school.

8. What are the anticipated outcome(s) for your project participants? In other words, what benefits will they get out of being a part of this project or what change in skill, knowledge, attitude, or behavior will they manifest?

9. How will your library measure this impact described in question 8?

Select the box next to all that apply.

- ☒ Surveys ☐ Interviews or Focus Group ☐ Participant Observation
- ☐ Other

10. BUDGET

Research and provide an estimate of your costs below, including as much common sense as dollars and cents.

	Budget Line Item	LSTA Funds Requested		
			Dollars Originating from Other Sources	
<i>Supplies & Materials</i>	Materials for the library collection (B2A selected book)	\$60.00 for five books. Prices may vary		
	Office or craft supplies used for project activities	\$150.00 supplies from Hobby Lobby, Walmart, and Joanne's Fabrics	\$150.00 Extra funds (Library Budget)	
<i>Third-Party Services</i>	Speaker/Presenter fee or honorarium	\$1,200.00 for guest speaker to attend.		
	Venue Rental	\$0		
	Printing or promotional costs	\$150.00 For 500 flyers from FedEx	\$150.00 extra	
<i>Travel</i>	Transportation (mileage only, reimbursed at \$0.575/mi)	\$0		
<i>Salaries</i>	Personnel expenses: total hourly wage for current staff to develop and oversee the project	2 person staff \$20/hr for 10 hours of work 5 hrs setting up the day before 5 hrs working the actual event. \$400.00	\$300.00 (Library Budget)	

3PS	Other costs/fees (DESCRIBE :)	\$500.00 Catering for Lizard's Thicket	\$100.00 Portable Karaoke Machine/Arts & Crafts	
	TOTAL	\$2,460.00	\$700.00	