**SIGNATURE PROGRAM PROPOSAL**

**For Kiwanis Club of Nashville**

To help raise the Tennessee State Government achieve its goal of raising the 3rd grade literacy rate from 36% to 75% by 2025, by adopting, maintaining, and continually improving the READ TO BE READY summer camps within club’s geographical footprint, with both service and fundraising focus.

LITERACY FACTS: (source TN department of education)

* 2 out of 3 Nashville third graders are not reading on grade level.
* State objective raise literacy from 36% to 75% by 2025
* If TN reaches 75% we’ll be the only state in the country with that level.
* 1 out of 6 will drop out of high school
* 50% of annual income compared to grade level readers.
* Higher rate of arrest and incarceration.

This program is currently administered by the TN Department of Education who used a seed money grant from Dollar General to start the camps. TN Department of Human Services has funded these camps through 2019. Our club has the opportunity to adopt this exciting grass root program in stages based on our abilities over the next two years. Ultimately we can fully own this program or a portion thereof (Kamp Kiwanis?).

PROGRAM FACTS: related to Davidson, Sumner, Wilson, Cheatham, and Williamson Counties (our club footprint).

* 23 out of 31 grant applications were funded by the State for 2018.
  + The 26 camps will serve 820 children in 2018.
  + Children participants are economically disadvantaged and at the lowest literacy level in first to third grade.
* The camp is four weeks during June and state requirements for funding are:
  + At least 20 hours of literacy work each week.
  + 1 teacher to 5 student ratio
  + At least 4 days a week
  + Community involvement
* The current funding by the State Gov. is $1,200 per child.
  + 67% - teacher salary & benefits
  + 21% - Supplies and Field trips
  + 7% - student transportation
  + 3% - staff development (mandatory training)
  + 2% - snacks
* 2018 funding is approximately $984,000 in grants issued by the State of TN.
  + $42,782 per camp average.

This program provides our club with:

* Tangible – Ownership of a signature project will help us with engaging and attracting members.
* Measurable – program results have been measured and measurements are in place.
* Staged Adoption - We have until 2020 for our club to fully adopt the program.
* Scalable - implementation from one camp to national leadership across Kiwanis US.
* Focused Service and fundraising – aligning our current program and partners as possible toward this goal, without dropping any of what we now do.
* Community leadership – The hub to bring together organization

RISKS

* Should no state funding be allocated to continue the schools 2020 we would face 100% financing or downsizing the program.

SERVICE

* This program offers our current and future club members the ability to serve in four tiers to more fully utilize the amazing talent of our club members based on their time, interest, and ability they can volunteer for:
  + Front line service – Non-skilled service for short windows of time such as volunteer as a guest reader, field trip organizer/chaperone, lunch relief for the teacher, etc. Non-skilled service for short windows of time.
  + Behind the scenes service - trained and skilled service behind the scenes for periods of time during the year for grant application review and approval; distribute, collect, and report on program measurements, Create / realign / expand club fundraising efforts.
  + Leadership service – professional level service bringing member skills to contribute to the short term and long term evolution of the program, building and leading strategic partnerships with other organizations such as ASCAP, BMI, SESAC, SONY, CURB, TRACTOR SUPPLY, DOLLAR GENERAL, ROTARY etc. to contribute in raising the big bucks.
  + Fundraiser service – create, run, and grow, a fundraising event(s) directly supporting the literacy effort such as the Kiwanis Run for Reading 5K race etc.

It is not…

* Day-to-day operations of the camps, this is done by the teachers.
  + Each camp has a local teacher as a program director who compiles the curriculum and as part of their community involvement organize volunteers to assist.