



SIMPSON
COUNTY
SCHOOLS

Rachel Wright <rachel.wright@simpson.kyschools.us>

United Way of Southern Kentucky 2020 Funding Application

Google Forms <forms-receipts-noreply@google.com>
To: Rachel.wright@simpson.kyschools.us

Sun, Mar 8, 2020 at 7:59 PM

Thanks for filling out United Way of Southern Kentucky 2020 Funding Application

Here's what we got from you:

[Edit response](#)

United Way of Southern Kentucky 2020 Funding Application

Please be sure that you have read and are in agreement/compliance with the Policies and Procedures for Funded Agencies prior to competing this application. A copy of the policies is included in the application section of the United Way of Southern Kentucky (UWSK) website. (www.uwsk.org/what-we-do/partner-funding-process.html)

Each program must have a separate application and each county must have a separate application, even if for the same program. No application will be accepted after the closing date.

Email address *

Rachel.wright@simpson.kyschools.us

Part I: Executive Summary

Program Name *

Little Cats - Jump Start Academy

Organization Name *

Simpson County Schools - Franklin Elementary

Organization Address *

211 S. Main St., Franklin, KY 42134

Organization Phone *

270-586-3241

Executive Director (Name, title, office/cell phone, and email) *

Tim Schlosser, Superintendent, 270-586-8877,
tim.schlosser@simpson.kyschools.us

Grant Preparer contact (Name, title, office/cell phone and email) *

Rachel Wright, Principal, 270-586-3241, rachel.wright@simpson.
kyschools.us

Primary Program Contact (Name, title, office/cell phone and email) *

Rachel Wright, Principal, 270-586-3241, rachel.wright@simpson.
kyschools.us

Please List Your Organizational Status Below (ex. 501 c-3) *

Public School

Please List Your FEIN Below ***Amount being requested in this application: *****Funds requested in this application specifically for this county (choose only one) ***

- ☐ Allen
- ☐ Barren
- ☐ Butler
- ☐ Edmonson
- ☐ Hart
- ☐ Logan
- ☐ Metcalfe
- ☐ Monroe
- ☒ Simpson
- ☐ Warren

Did you attend one of the Application Training Sessions? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

If you are applying for funding for an existing program that is not currently receiving United Way funding, please explain how you will utilize UWSK funding to expand or improve the existing program. Please clarify if this funding request is due to loss of funding vs. replacement of funds. What additional elements would you add to the existing program? How will the additional funds allow you to serve more clients or improve your delivery of services? *

The Little Cats Kindergarten Entry program is an existing program that works to find and educate the under-represented populations as much as possible about Kindergarten Readiness. The LC program is a 3 session informational meetings for families to learn more about their child's upcoming Kindergarten entry. The

program is offered to all incoming Kindergarten students. The LC Jump Start Academy is a short camp in the summer before entering Kindergarten. This camp is offered for students who indicate that they are not ready based on a Kindergarten screening. FES wants to add sessions to provide more opportunities for our growing population to have access to our Little Cats services. FES has increase in enrollment from an average of 215 student to over 250 in the past two years.

In some cases, United Way may not be able to fully fund all proposals. Summarize how your proposal will be affected if United Way can only provide partial funding of the amount that you have requested. Would you be able to implement the proposal by utilizing other funding sources? If you would be required to make adjustments to the proposal, what would it entail? *

FES does not have any other funding source for this program.

Part II: Program Focus Area

Three Key Points: As you begin the application, please make three things clear: 1) how the work targets and serves a disadvantaged population; 2) which Priority Focus Area and Strategy your program addresses within the categories of Education, Income, Health & Safety Net; and 3) how the organization and program demonstrates IMPACT: Innovative, Measured, Partnered/Collaborative, Accountable, Community-centered and Transformative.

All Counties to be served by this program (check all that apply-including the county requesting funds in this application): *

- ☐ Allen
- ☐ Barren
- ☐ Butler
- ☐ Edmonson
- ☐ Hart
- ☐ Logan
- ☐ Metcalfe
- ☐ Monroe
- ☒ Simpson
- ☐ Warren

Please Select ONE Strategy That Your Program Will Deliver

Community Impact Focus Area and Strategy *

- ☒ Kindergarten Readiness
- ☐ College & Career Readiness
- ☐ Workforce Development
- ☐ Access to Affordable Health Care
- ☐ Safe Home & Community
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Access to Basic Needs

EDUCATION

Prepare children, youth & young adults to succeed in school and life

BIG BOLD GOAL: Increase BRADD Area Kindergarten Readiness Scores to 75% by 2020.

Kindergarten Readiness- Children start school at levels of physical, social-emotional & intellectual development needed for school success.

- ☐ Improve early learning environments and increase access to high quality licensed child care programs for children and families, particularly those of low-income and educational risk.
- ☐ Increase early learning opportunities, including early literacy and language development.
- ☒ Provide resources, education and other needed supports for families and caregivers to bolster their child's age-appropriate development.
- ☐ Collaborate to create and implement a comprehensive high quality approach to school readiness.

Part III: Organizational Information

Organization Overview (please provide a brief overview of the organization's history, programs and activities) *

Our school system consists of Franklin Elementary (Pre-K and K), Simpson Elementary (1-3), Lincoln Elementary (4-5), Franklin Simpson Middle School (6-8) and Franklin Simpson High School (9-12). Because all students attend each school, they encounter several transitions before they even enter high school. We have a total enrollment of 2,887 students. Of that total, Franklin Elementary hosts over 400 students on a daily basis with an average 68% free/reduced lunch students. Simpson County currently provides pre-Kindergarten programing and services through Kids First Daycare that serves 50 children ages two through kindergarten entry. This daycare is housed at Franklin Elementary with three teachers as well as support staff in each classroom. Additionally we house the Community Action program, Simpson County Head Start which serves 33 students. Finally, Franklin Elementary has seven sessions of state funded preschool with an enrollment of 140 students.

Program Description

*Program for which you are requesting funding:

Staff Size (how many are full time/part time/volunteer) *

There are five staff members involved with the planning and preparation of the Little Cats Program at FES.

How much are you requesting and if awarded, how will your agency spend the funds awarded? *

\$7500 total award
\$3000 - Teacher Pay for Daily rate plus fringes (JSA)
\$1750 - Teacher Pay for Community Recruitment Events
\$ 500 - Supplies and Materials (JSA)
\$ 500 - Food for JSA and Little Cats Programs
\$ 250 - Advertising for Little Cats Program
\$1500 - Kindergarten Readiness supplies and materials for the Little Cats Program

How will your program be implemented? *

The Little Cats Kindergarten Entry program is an existing program that was implemented in 2007 and as a school we have decided to grow the program to include a Jump Start Academy to meet the needs of our underrepresented populations as much as possible. The Little Cats Kindergarten Entry program is a 3 session informational meetings for families regarding their child's entry into Kindergarten and readiness skills needed for Kindergarten. The program is open to all incoming Kindergarten students. The Little Cats Jump Start Academy is a short camp in the summer preceding school starting for those incoming Kindergarten students who scored not ready on their Kindergarten Screening. The Little Cats Jump Start Academy is offered to approximately 25 students who are entering Kindergarten in the Fall of that year.

How will the service make meaningful progress toward the Community Impact goals set by United Way? *

Through the Little Cats classes and Jump Start Academy, students will be provided with the opportunity to learn literacy skills, as well as, language development needed to be successful in school. Classes will be provided to orient and teach necessary skills that are needed to be successful in school. Students will be given a screener to determine skills needed to enter Kindergarten successfully. Families will be provided with sticker books, resources and other material to track student progress and level of Kindergarten readiness. Backpacks and school supplies will be provided as needed.

How will your program not only impact the target population, but the community as a whole? *

Research is clear that a stronger start in Kindergarten through quality pre-Kindergarten experiences leads to a stronger finish in all grades. Social skills, early interventions, and language development are critical for the success of students and through the Little Cats program FES provides those experiences for students indiscriminate of their skill level.

IMPACT Criteria

Each application will be evaluated based on how well it demonstrates IMPACT- an acronym capturing six guiding principles: the organization must be: 1) Innovative 2) Measured 3) Partnered/Collaborative 4) Accountable 5) Community-Centered and 6) Transformative

Criteria #1: Innovative & Transformative. Explain how your program is different from other interventions that currently and previously have addressed the Community Impact Priority Focus Area/Strategy that you are addressing. What creative ideas and new methods are you implementing that set your program apart from other applicants? Also explain how your program is transformative. How is this program entrenched in the community? Is the program embraced by community leaders? *

As a program, the Little Cats Kindergarten Entry program is transformative because it has grown and has moved from being a program that only served those who came to three information sessions with little focus on Kindergarten Readiness, to a program that recruits as many incoming Kindergarten students as possible. Another change in the past three years is the Little Cats Kindergarten Readiness Program utilizes a community push to find and involve as many incoming families as possible. With even further efforts, the program is looking for students birth to Kindergarten entry age in order to give families information and access to as many Kindergarten and early childhood resources as possible. FES knows that each year we will average 210 incoming families and have over the years learned that we can rely on finding approximately 130 students through our internal partners (preschool, Kids First Daycare, and Head Start) and approximately 40 students through our external partners. Those students are easy to locate, assess their readiness levels and contact to participate in the entire Little Cats Program. It is the students who do not attend any formal Early Childhood setting that are difficult to find, assess and get to participate in the programming offered to incoming students. It is our relationships with community agencies, use of targeted recruiting and utilizing multiple advertising platforms that help us identify those other students.

The next 2 sections of this application are CRITICAL. Please read carefully. It is very important to be as detailed and specific as possible. You will need to include numerical data for the measured outcomes from the current year (2019-2020) and explain as thoroughly as possible how your agency plans to reach program goals and outcomes for the 2020-2021 funding cycle.

"Measured" will be exhibited by the program being anchored in data and demonstrating outcomes. Think of "Measured" in terms of horizontal (over time) and vertical (across outcome levels). Applications should demonstrate that the program is measured horizontally in that data have informed the entire life cycle/duration of the program (from design, implementation, and administration all the way through to evaluation and continuous improvement); and measured vertically in that data are used to demonstrate that the program is moving the needle across individual, organizational, and community-level outcomes.

Criteria #2: Measured Outcomes From the Current Year (2019-2020)

Quantitative and qualitative data have informed the design, implementation, evaluation and continuous improvement of the program and demonstrates measurable outcomes.

What were your measurable outcomes and how were they measured (qualitative data, quantitative data, etc.? *

1. Brigrance data for student demographic groups as well as individual children. Specific attention will be given to those students who attend the Jump Start Academy and thier beginning of the year and end of the year outcomes. OUTCOME: The FES overall K-Readiness Score was 52.3%. The data indicate of the students who attended Little Cats and participated in Kindergarten Screeners, those students had a readiness level of roughly 60%. The students who did not attend Little Cats had a much lower readiness rate, leading to an overall readiness rate of 52.3% for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. The attendance at each Little Cats session to determine an increase of previous years attendance numbers. OUTCOME: There were 115 students who attended Little Cats in Spring of 2019. The total enrollment in August was 242. The percentage of students who attended Little Cats was 48%.

What client level/community level outcomes did you track? *

NA

Were your goals stated in a numerical fashion so it was easy to determine goal obtainment? If no, why? *

Yes

What were your timeline/benchmarks to achieve your overall goal? *

Ongoing, but tracked on a yearly basis because the population served changes annually.

Criteria #2 continued..Measured Outcomes for the Upcoming Year (2020-2021)

BE SPECIFIC AND USE DETAILED LANGUAGE

What are the measurable outcomes and how will those outcomes be measured? *

1. An increase in the percentage of Little Cats Kindergarten Entry Program participants over the 2019-2020 school year.
2. An increase in the Kindergarten readiness scores of the Little Cats Jump Start Academy Participants from their screener to a post academy assessment.
3. The number of students who attend a Little Cats Kindergarten Entry Program vs. the number of students enrolled on the first day of school. This comparison will provide the percentage of students reached through our programing and provided with Kindergarten Readiness information.

What client/community level outcomes will you track? *

NA

Is your goal stated in a numerical fashion so it is easy to determine goal obtainment? If no, why? *

Yes

What are the timeline/benchmarks to achieve your overall goal? *

Ongoing, but tracked on a yearly basis because the population served changes annually.

How will you be able to measure the program's impact on the community as a whole within the funding period? *

The increase in Brigance scores indicate an increase in the Kindergarten readiness of local students.

Criteria #3: Partnered/Community Centered

Collaboration is a structured, mutually beneficial relationship between two or more organizations that work toward a common goal by sharing resources, responsibility, authority and accountability for achieving results. It is more than agencies cooperating, responding to requests or referring clients. Collaborations demonstrate a shared decision making, communication, planning, monitoring, and evaluating the outcomes and deliverables of the project. Community-centered programs will demonstrate how the input of the local community/and beneficiaries of the program has been included in the design, implementation, administration, evaluation and continuous improvement of the program, and how this community-based input has contributed to better outcomes.

**** Please attach a Collaborative Agreement (Attachment A) for each of your partnering agencies.**

Summarize how your organization is community-centered and how you're better able to help your target population, and how this will help you meet your United Way goals. *

The FES Little Cats program will be partnering with multiple community agencies, however, none of the partnerships are considered formal but rather a source of information to provide parents and the community with Kindergarten Readiness information and opportunities. An abbreviated list of partners include: 1. Simpson County Preschool, CASOKY Head Start and Kids First who are all housed at FES communicate with families regarding the program sessions, times and dates. 2. FES Kiddie Kats Program is a collaboration of local childcare providers and early educators. Meeting to discuss Kindergarten Readiness those collaborators will communicate with their families about the Little Cats program.

Collaborative Partner #1- role and describe:

Simpson County Preschool -- The preschool has the largest number of incoming Kindergarten students collectively and we are able to easily access the students to give Kindergarten Readiness information.

Collaborative Partner #2- role and describe:

CASOKY - Simpson County Head Start is housed at FES and we are able to collaborate on K-Readiness easily.

Collaborative Partner #3- role and describe:

Kids First Daycare - is housed at FES and we are able to collaborate on K-Readiness easily.

Collaborative Partner #4- role and describe:**Collaborative Partner #5- role and describe:****Criteria #4: Accountable**

Good Governance, including sound financials, strategic leadership, strong management and stable operations, which contribute to high-performing programs and overall accountability. Non-profit organizations are responsible for safeguarding assets and serving charitable interests. High-performing non-profit organizations-characterized by good governance, sound financials, strategic leadership, strong management, and stable operations- have comprehensive infrastructure in-place to ensure accountability. The most comprehensive applicants will demonstrate mature capacity across all aspects.

Please attach the following: 1)Annual Financial Statements (audit, review, or compiled financial statements) IF you have not been a funded agency, or a MEMBER agency of United Way since 2011, OR your current information on file at United Way is no longer accurate, please submit the following: 1. Non-profit status 2. Articles of Incorporation 3. By-laws

Please summarize how your organization is accountable: *

FES is accountable through our Central Office Financial Department. We have annual audits and adhere to the strict financial regulations.

Board of Directors (List: First Name, Last Name, Affiliation, Mailing Address, Board Position, Date Term Expires) *

Simpson County Board of Education: David Webster, Heidi Estes, Nancy Uhls, Jennifer Stone and Tara Heinze. 430 South College Street, Franklin KY 42134

Case History/Closing Statement *

Little Cats Kindergarten Entry program is effective in meeting Education Priority focus area and strategy that we have identified. Getting information and resources to parents in helping parents understand kindergarten readiness, turn this information helps parents understand what it means to be kindergarten ready. Parents are now armed with the information necessary to bring questions and concerns and utilize resources to help their child become ready for kindergarten or make decisions regarding their childcare options. This program is unique because in Simpson County there is only one school that services kindergarten and we have to work hard in order to capture as many students coming to kindergarten as possible prior to their entry in order to give them information and so FES can prepare for our diverse student needs as soon as possible. Without that funding we won't have the ability to meet the needs of those students who we haven't had the opportunity to have in our building as pre-Kindergarten students and not be able to help the community achieve that kindergarten readiness goal that we really want to have for Simpson county.

Case History/Closing Statement

Provide one case history from the previous year that highlights the success of your program. Utilize this space to explain why your organization and program are the most effective in meeting the Priority Focus Area and Strategy that you have identified. Include any additional closing comments on what makes your program unique and why this program should be funded.

I certify I am the duly authorized officer or representative of the requesting organization and to the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this application is accurate. I understand and agree to provide additional documentation in support of the information provided if requested by United Way of Southern Kentucky. The agency Executive Director and Board of Directors have read and are in agreement /compliance with the Policies and Procedures for Funded Agencies document including the Minimum Standards for United Way Funded Agencies. I certify that all United Way funds and donations will be used in compliance with all applicable anti-terrorism financing and asset control laws, statutes, and executive orders. By submitting this form, I confirm my organization's understanding and acceptance of the rules and conditions for this application. The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please type your name in the space below (Executive Director or equivalent) *

Tim Schlosser

Files submitted:

Create your own Google Form