

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROJECT APPLICATION

TAPS Number 08A530 08AT40
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Please return to: Florida Department of Education Office of Grants Management Room Turlington Building 325 West Gaines Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 Telephone: (850) Suncom:	A) Program Name: Learning for Life Project	DOE USE ONLY Date Received
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B) Name and Address of Eligible Applicant: Alison Adler, Ed.D., Chief Safety and Learning Environment Department of Safe Schools School District of Palm Beach County 3300 Forest Hill Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406	Project Number (DOE Assigned)
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C) Total Funds Requested: \$ 180,000 <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">DOE USE ONLY</p> Total Approved Project: \$	D) Applicant Contact Information						
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Contact Name: Kim C. Williams </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Mailing Address: Prevention Center 3330 Forest Hill Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> Telephone Number: (561) 494-1540 </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> SunCom Number: n/a </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> Fax Number: (561) 494-1557 </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> E-mail Address: williamsk@palmbeach.k12.fl.us </td> </tr> </table>	Contact Name: Kim C. Williams	Mailing Address: Prevention Center 3330 Forest Hill Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406	Telephone Number: (561) 494-1540	SunCom Number: n/a	Fax Number: (561) 494-1557	E-mail Address: williamsk@palmbeach.k12.fl.us
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CERTIFICATION

I, Arthur C. Johnson, Superintendent, (Please Type Name) do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of general assurances and specific programmatic assurances for this project. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.

Further, I understand that it is the responsibility of the agency head to obtain from its governing body the authorization for the submission of this application.

E) 

 Signature of Agency Head



Learning for Life Grant Application
Palm Beach County School District
School year 2007-2008

1. NEED

- **Provide a list of schools being served**

The Learning for Life (LFL) program will be made available in up to 34 schools - all kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms in up to 30 elementary schools; all sixth through eighth grade classrooms in up to 1 middle school; and all classrooms in up to 3 high schools. The program will serve at least 20,750 students, including special needs students, during the 2007-2008 school-year.

Barton Elem.	B	Hagen Road Elem.	A	P B Gardens HS	B
Belle Glade Elem.	C	Hammock Pointe	A	P B Central HS	B
Belvedere Elem.	A	Heritage Elem.	A	P B Public Elem.	A
Calusa Elem.	A	Jupiter Elem.	A	Royal Palm Beach	A
Coral Sunset Elem.	A	Jupiter HS	B	Rosenwald Elem.	D
Crosspointe Elem.	B	Lake Park Elem.	A	Verde Elem.	A
Cypress Trails Elem.	A	Lincoln Elem.	F	Washington Elem.	C
Forest Hill Elem.	A	New Horizons Elem.	A	Westward Elem.	B
Golden Grove Elem.	A	North Palm Beach	A	Whispering Pines	A
Gove Elem.	A	Northboro Elem.	A	Woodlands Middle	A
Grove Park Elem.	C	Northmore Elem.	A		
H.L. Johnson Elem.	A	Pahokee Elem.	D		

- **Identify and describe the learning needs of the target student population.**

Participating schools reflect the district's diversity:

Geographic: Schools from each of the district's seven regional districts are represented.

Economic: Title I schools serve large populations of low income students as determined by the percentage of students eligible for the free or reduced price meal program. There are six participating C, D, and F Schools; all six of these schools are designated Title I (for economically disadvantaged students). Fourteen of the remaining A and B schools are Title I.

Academic: Under the Florida A+ grading system, listed Palm Beach County schools have been graded: A- 22 schools, B- 6 schools, C- 3 schools, D- 2 schools, and F-1 school.

2. PROJECT DESIGN

- **Identify and list the project objectives, goals, and performance expectations.**
 - Goals (Global Outcomes): Program goals are very broad and realistic.
 - Objectives (Specific Outcomes): For each goal, the applicant must include specific objectives that are measurable, quantitative, and challenging, yet achievable.

- Performance Expectations: For each objective, the applicant must include specific activities that will clearly allow the program to progress towards the stated objective.

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION
Provide mentoring activities to improve student performance through providing teaching and learning opportunities to students	Identify and track classroom time spent teaching character education and career development skills	Deliver 8,000 classroom mentoring hours.
Improve the character of students as mandated by Florida State statute.	Confirm improvement in character knowledge by completing a pre and post test assessment	Show a 4% increase in knowledge of character traits
Increase student performance in the classroom	Increase student performance as described in the Student Performance Form attached below	Obtain the performance results as dictated in the Student Performance Form attached below

- **Describe the mentoring, instructional activities and/or trainings being implemented.**

LFL is an educational program designed to meet the needs of at-risk-youth and schools. LFL helps youth meet the challenge of growing up by teaching character and good decision making skills then linking the learned skills to real world situations.

The goal of the proposed project is to provide the Learning for Life character education and career development program for elementary, middle, special needs, and high school students in participating Palm Beach County Schools. The Learning for Life program aims to positively impact students through strengthening values, character development, and improving behavior. This will help to remove barriers to learning and lead to improved student academic achievement.

Learning for Life's classroom based programs are delivered through an action learning process by assigned guidance counselors or teachers at each school. Guidance counselors/teachers are provided the necessary audio/visual technology to train and educate additional staff and volunteers for on site efficiency; youth protection guidelines are available on-line. They are also provided CD-ROM based "Super Safe" material designed to educate youth on issues such as internet safety and drug awareness. The elementary program features age appropriate and grade specific lesson plans to enhance and support the core curriculum. The LFL representatives coordinate guest speakers to support lesson plan topics upon teacher requests, linking schools with community partnerships. The curriculum for each grade level, kindergarten through fifth grades, consists of 60 lesson plans designed to reinforce social, ethical and academic skills in areas such as critical and creative thinking, ethical decision making, interpersonal relationships, practical living skills, building self worth, writing and other language arts, and participating citizenship. The lesson plans were written by educators for educators. The Middle School program is age and grade specific with 44 lesson plans

designed to reinforce social, academic and career education skills in various areas, such as critical and creative thinking, conflict resolution, decision making, interpersonal relationships, practical life skills, self esteem, writing and language arts, citizenship and personal fitness. Recognition includes the "Builders' Award of Excellence." The High School program is called the Navigators' Program and is designed to extend the learning experiences taught through Learning for Life's Builders Program for seventh and eighth grade students. Just as the word "navigators" implies, the program serves to guide youngsters in making a successful transition from high school into real-world endeavors, including post-secondary education, acquiring a job, being a productive citizen, and establishing and maintaining positive relationships with others. For purposes of this application, the district is proposing to adopt the elementary, middle, high school, and special needs level components.

Learning for Life offers recognition for all students to encourage positive behavior, foster a sense of belonging in the group, and assist in building self worth. The recognition plan for K-5th grade (both standard and special needs) uses an individual student recognition chart. There are 15 brightly colored peel-off stickers that relate to the 60 lesson plan themes in each book. When the class completes a designated set of themes, the teacher places the appropriate sticker on the honor wall chart by the name of each student who participated. Students in the K through 2nd grade are called "Seekers"; 3rd and 4th grades are called "Discoverers"; 5th grade is called "Challengers"; and special needs students are called "Champions." The lesson plans can be integrated with the core curricula or used as stand alone activities according to what the individual school deems necessary. The recommended usage of the program is at least one lesson for 45 minutes to an hour, once a week. The activities may be taught in units. As students complete the units, they receive the appropriate recognition. A family involvement component is part of each lesson plan to extend the lesson into the student's home environment.

The LFL lessons have been correlated with the Sunshine State Standards, Palm Beach County benchmarks, and the FCAT requirements for each grade level for Character Education addressing trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. In addition, the lessons are correlated for each grade level addressing health literacy, responsible health behavior and promotion of healthy living.

Children face many challenges every day as they encounter the complexities of today's society such as drugs, gangs, violence, and dysfunctional family environments. The ability to make good ethical and moral decisions is critical for today's youth. The LFL program is designed to support educators and youth serving organizations in their efforts toward preparing young people to successfully handle these complex issues. LFL also helps youth develop social skills, life skills, assist in character development, self-confidence, self-esteem, motivation, and self worth.

The LFL program is designed to help youth, through character education, to become productive, ethical adults.

- **Describe how the proposed project will address one of the following goals:**
 1. To reduce or prevent the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies

2. To promote the formation and maintenance of two-parent families

Celebrate Character is a supplemental program for families of elementary aged students to work at home on the character traits and life skills found in the Learning for Life program. Schools will be able to link class room experiences to the home and involve the parents in the character development process.

The program will offer a guide to families to discover the components of character. For each of the nine components there are suggestions for:

- family outings
- discussion questions,
- citizenship opportunities
- activities

Learning for Life will provide schools with the "Celebrate Character" brochure to send home with every participating student.

- **Describe the professional development activities that will be provided to program staff.**

In most of our schools we work with the guidance office to administer the program. The guidance counselor helps ensure the LFL program is implemented by trained counselors or teachers at each school site. Ongoing professional development sessions will be conducted with each participating school facilitator and/or staff members during training workshops and on-site visitations by Learning for Life representatives. The Learning for Life representatives will have direct contact with schools twice a month.

3. Project Management

- **Describe how the project will be staffed and who will manage the project.**

The Learning for Life Director for the Gulf Stream Council, Inc. will oversee the implementation of the daily requirements of this program. The Gulf Stream Council, Inc. management team will provide leadership, direction and oversight. Council support staff and a program specialist will assist in the delivery of this grant. The Gulf Stream Council, Inc. will use grant funding for salaries and employee benefits, travel, curriculum and classroom materials, Learning for Life fees, liability insurance, teacher and school awards, computer upgrades, and LFL tracking and evaluation costs. The Palm Beach County School District will serve as the fiscal agent for this \$180,000.00 project, subcontracting with the Gulf Stream Council, Inc. for LFL services. John Hay II, Elementary Guidance Specialist, will serve as the school district liaison. Designees of the participating schools will work with the council to facilitate school-based scheduling and implementation.

Learning for Life executives will attend a two-week national training course upon employment. After successful course completion, each executive is issued Learning for Life executive certification. Annually, the executives attend national Learning for Life courses to review program revisions and additions. In addition Florida LFL executives attend conferences to review specifics particular to their local school districts.

- **Provide a chart of internal partners and their involvement in implementing the project.**

Organization	Internal/External	Involvement
Palm Beach County School District Character Education Committee	Internal	Guidance Counselor/Character Contact monthly meeting. LFL will attend all and present at least twice.
Local Law Enforcement Agencies	Internal and External	Program Delivery of program and mentors
Local Fire & Emergency Services Agencies	Internal and External	Program Delivery of program and mentors
South Florida Water Management District	Internal and External	Provide Delivery of program and mentors
Local civic clubs	External	Provide mentors
Smith Barney	External	Provide mentors and financial support
Bank Atlantic	External	Provide mentors and financial support
Character Council of PBC	External	Provide mentors and assist in community awareness

- **Provide a detailed monthly program timeline that includes services to be delivered, major goals, major activities, training, staff meetings, school meetings, etc.**

August

- ✓ In collaboration with School District, LFL submits grant application to DOE.
- ✓ The School Board of Palm Beach County and Gulf Stream Council, Inc. identify new target schools and classrooms/specialty areas, using district data.

September

- ✓ Submit Grant Application and Partnership Agreement between LFL and the School District to the School Board for approval;
- ✓ Conduct Needs Assessment;
- ✓ Develop program;
- ✓ Order and Distribute materials;
- ✓ Conduct staff and teacher training sessions/workshops at schools selected;
- ✓ Obtain memoranda of understanding from schools;
- ✓ Submit participation roster to school district contact(s).

October – December

- ✓ Conduct Learning for Life program activities;
- ✓ Begin site visits to assist with program implementation, support teachers/mentors;

- ✓ Pre-test students.

January - April

- ✓ Continue program activities;
- ✓ Conduct on-going training, support and recognition;
- ✓ Provide additional program supplies;
- ✓ Begin Field Days;
- ✓ Continue program evaluations;
- ✓ Complete post-tests;
- ✓ Submit Mid-Accountability Reports to DOE;

May

- ✓ Provide recognition/appreciation for youth and adult participants;
- ✓ Conduct Outdoor Activity;
- ✓ Complete program evaluation;
- ✓ Conduct outcomes surveys and summarize assessment results;
- ✓ Set program agenda for upcoming school year;
- ✓ Recognize principals, lead teachers, top students and Board members at annual luncheon.

June

- ✓ Present "Executive Summary" Report to School Board;
- ✓ Collect attendance and academic data from school principals/designee;
- ✓ Complete summative evaluation reports for DOE/Regional LFL office;
- ✓ Meet with principals regarding future partnerships.

4. Evaluation

- **Describe how the project outcomes will be evaluated qualitatively and quantitatively.**

Students and teachers are involved in the assessment process. Students are given a pre-test / post-test survey. Improvement in student knowledge of character traits will be determined by this survey method. The classroom teachers implementing the program evaluate the classroom as a whole and are surveyed concerning their satisfaction with the Learning for Life program and material. The evaluation plan is designed to address the overall behavioral change in Palm Beach County students subsequent to receiving instruction from the Learning for Life program.

The plan is both formative and summative. It includes a programmatic assessment through the use of a program survey. Participating students will complete pre-and post-tests. Principals will be asked to furnish attendance and academic data for participating students in order to measure attendance and academic improvements. The program must be evaluated, and outcomes assessed, to determine where improvements need to be made, and whether pre-set goals have been achieved. Internal monitoring will be conducted by Gulf Stream Council, Inc., which manages LFL locally.

A program review is conducted at the end of each school year. Classroom pre-test/post-test evaluations and teacher/mentor survey results are compiled and a general report is prepared to identify the successes of the program, and to modify activities as necessary.

- **Provide the baseline data that will be used to measure student performance.**

During the 2006-2007 school year, 31 school sites and 20,713 students were served by the Learning for Life program in Palm Beach County; 168 teachers, aides and other school personnel received Learning for Life training; 18,700 classroom mentoring hours were delivered.

SUPPORT FOR READING/STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES: Describe how the proposed project will incorporate reading initiatives and one or more of the Florida State Board of Education (SBE) strategic imperatives.

Learning for Life supports the Department's reading initiative, "Just Read, Florida!" and *SBE Strategic Imperative 3: Improve Student Rates of Learning/Every student is proficient on grade level in reading, writing, and mathematics.* Learning for Life character education lessons suggest books to read to the students to reinforce character themes. There are also lessons such as "Classic Literature" that are completely literature-based and require the students to read and comprehend age-appropriate books or excerpts and answer questions using critical thinking skills. Learning for Life also includes a Family/Home activity that goes along with each classroom lesson. These activities encourage the parents to work with their children on a supplemental home lesson that includes stories to be read to the students and activities such as word mapping. In this case, the parents or family members become the child's "mentor" not only for reinforcing character, but also reinforcing reading skills. Learning for Life lessons are correlated to Sunshine State Standards with specific emphasis on reading. Learning for Life teaches character while supplementing academic skills, such as reading.

DISSEMINATION AND MARKETING PLAN: Describe methods/strategies you will use to disseminate and market information about the project to appropriate populations.

The Gulf Stream Council, Inc. will disseminate information about the LFL successes through online newsletters and other publications. The LFL Director will inform schools about the LFL program through regular visits and electronic newsletters. Gulf Stream Council, Inc. will utilize the School District infrastructure and create a local Learning for Life Web Site.

REPORTING OUTCOMES: Applicants will be required to submit bi-annual accountability reports to the Department of Education through the online reporting system.

The required accountability reports will be submitted to the Department of Education: The mid-term report will be submitted by January 31, 2008 and the final report will be submitted by July 31, 2008.

The required list of mentored students and mentor contact data will be submitted to the Palm Beach County School District by January 31, 2008 and July 13, 2008.

A) LEARNING FOR LIFE
 Name of Eligible Recipient: _____
 B) _____
 Project Number: (DOE USE ONLY)

TAPS Number 08A530 08AT40
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BUDGET NARRATIVE FORM

(1) FUNCTION	(2) OBJECT	(3) ACCOUNT TITLE AND NARRATIVE	(4) FTE POSITION	(5) AMOUNT
9110	310	Contractual Services	n/a	\$180,000
		Sub-grantee (Gulf Stream Council) will implement and oversee the Learning for Life Character Education program in selected schools. The Council will: Train mentors, presenters, and instructors; Provide curriculum materials and on-going orientations and training for school personnel; Provide teacher, student, and principal recognition; maintain records; and complete program assessment and evaluation. Services will be performed 07/01/07 – 06/30/08.		
C) TOTAL				\$180,000

PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT: LFL DETAILED BUDGET NARRATIVE (2007-2008)

<u>Expense category</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Appropriation 98 Funds</u>	<u>LFL In-Kind</u>	<u>LFL Cash</u>
Support Services				
LFL Director	\$30,000	\$24,742		\$ 5,258
Program Specialists	30,000	22,000		8,000
Management Staff @ 10%	15,000	3,000		12,000
Clerical Staff @ 10%	15,000			15,000
Total direct services salaries \$60,000)				
Employment benefits PBC @ 16%	12,480			12,480
Learning for Life materials	20,000	4,000	10,000	6,000
Telephone	500		500	
Postage/shipping	720		720	
Group liability insurance 34 school sites @ \$20	680	680		
Individual accident and sickness insurance	11,828	11,828		
Field staff transportation	4,500		4,500	



<u>Expense category</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Appropriation 98 Funds</u>	<u>LFL In-Kind</u>	<u>LFL Cash</u>
Learning for Life fees/Curriculum Develop. (20,750 youth @ \$5.00)	103,750	103,750		
Youth & teacher individual supplies	5,000		3,000	2,000
LFL conferences/seminar training	2,500	1,000		1,500
Office supplies	24,000	4,000	15,000	5,000
Lap-Top Computer purchase/use/printer/ink	2,000	500	1,000	500
Training material/A/V	1,595	1,000		595
Outcome Evaluation/Surveys	6,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Office space	5,300		5,300	
LFL Field Days: 1,000 youth @ \$20 per participant	<u>20,000</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>
TOTAL LFL EXPENDITURES	\$310,853	180,000	53,020	77,833

*LFL Director Salary is also included in the St. Lucie grant, total of both grant proposals is \$46,500 -

"Support Services" includes orientation and implementation of new programs, on-going training, newsletter, coordination of Field Days, and other professional staff assistance as needed. Copies from lesson plans, standard school/art supplies, and transportation to and from Field Days are the responsibility of the participating schools.



Student Performance: Any measure that is specific to student performance; e.g., test scores, attendance, behavior, award of diplomas, certificates, etc. Students may include pre-k, K-12, and adult learners

(1) Name of Performance and Brief Description	(2) Method of Evaluating Performance	(3) Method of DOE Verification	(4) Timelines for Data Collection
8% of the mentored students improving their letter grades .	Students' letter grades will be monitored through the 9-week report cards.	Report Cards	Quarterly Collection
10% of the mentored students improving their school behavior .	School behavior will be monitored through the number of school disciplinary referrals, suspensions, and expulsions.	Disciplinary Referrals or Observation	Quarterly Collection
8% of the mentored students improving their school preparedness (homework).	School Preparedness will be monitored through teacher feedback on students turning in homework and being prepared for class.	Evaluation Summaries	Yearly Collection (4th Quarter)
5% of the mentored students improving their school attendance .	School attendance will be monitored through school and district attendance reports.	School Attendance Records	Quarterly Collection
8% of the mentored students improving their general attitude .	General attitude will be monitored through teacher feedback surveys and student pre and post test data.	Evaluation Summaries/ Participant Competency Evaluations	Yearly Collection (4 th Quarter)