Caring Families
Reading Bears
BACKGROUND

**Challenge?** How to encourage and foster excitement about reading in Avondale?

**Response!** Create opportunities to read throughout the neighborhood by testing activities and events.

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**CFRB Vision, Mission, and Goals**

**Vision**
- Avondale is Building Confident and Lifelong Readers!

**Mission**
- Create a connected community that supports reading and wellness for thriving families

**Goals**
- To increase reading connections between people, places, and resources
- To provide safe spaces for reading opportunities for families in Avondale
- To share resources and activities to improve health and well-being of families
**THEORY**

Well-Being with Community NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT Key Driver Diagram (KDD)

Priority Leader: Carley Riley

Revision Date: 10/17/2019 (v6)

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**Global Aim**

To cultivate the neighborhood context to promote lifelong health, well-being, and equity

**SMART Aim**

To increase the on-track kindergarten readiness assessment language and literacy (KRA-LL) scores for Avondale, East Price Hill, and Lower Price Hill from 49% to 59% by June 30, 2020

**Population**

Children less than 6 years old living in Avondale, East Price Hill, and Lower Price Hill N = 2,406

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**Key Drivers**

- Neighborhoods that value kindergarten readiness for all
- Systems that value equity in kindergarten readiness
- Knowing what behaviors, skills, and resources lead to KRA success
- All children are surrounded by effective daily family and organizational activities that ensure kindergarten ready
- Connections to people & assets that foster kindergarten readiness
- Equal partners that co-design, co-decision making, co-delivery, and co-evaluation
- Efficient and well-organized information system (quantitative and qualitative data)

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**Interventions**

- Maintain an ample supply of culturally relevant books for all reading levels books
- Develop effective relationships among groups that specialize in reading
- Initiate reading training, tactics, and spread methods for Rising Strong (Price Hill) families
- Continue reading-focused community organizing with Caring Families Reading Bears
- Integrate kindergarten readiness activities into The Feast
- Engage in improvement activities with the Avondale Branch to help address neighborhood reading needs
- Build relationships with non-traditional businesses & agencies that could support reading
- Develop relationships with neighborhood non-profits and social services agencies
- Utilize the peer-to-peer strategy (Justice Promoters) to connect with families and children less than 6 years old

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**Legend**

- Potential intervention
- Active intervention
- Adopted/Abandoned intervention

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Revision Date: 10/17/2019 (v6)
LEARNING CYCLES

PDSA Worksheet – Reading on Reading

**Ramp Name**: Reading on Reading  
**Test Name**: Reading on Reading

**Test Start Date**: 9/4/19  
**Test Complete Date**: 9/4/19

**Project SMART Aim**: To increase the on-track kindergarten readiness assessment language and literacy (KRA-LL) scores for Avondale from 49% to 59% by June 30, 2020.

**What is the objective of the test?**
To encourage reading in Avondale and change mindsets toward the importance of reading.

**DO**: Test the changes.  
Was the cycle carried out as planned?  
☑ Yes or ☐ No

- Yes, the cycle was carried out as planned on 9/4/19.

**Record data and observations.**
- Many people participated, some sites ran out of books, diversity is important.

**What did you observe that was not part of the plan?**
Library ran out of books, water was warm. Need stickers/other materials; social media presence could help.

**STUDY:** Did the results match your predictions?  
☑ Yes or ☐ No

- No, the results did not match the predictions.

**Compare the result of your test to your previous performance:**

**What did you learn?**
More books are needed. Readers need to see themselves reflected in stories. It is difficult to find books with black characters. Participants report new attitudes towards reading.

**ACT**: Decide to Adapt, Adopt or Abandon (shade one box).  
☒ Adapt: Improve the change and continue testing the plan. Plan/changes for next test:

☐ Adopt: Select changes to implement on a larger scale and develop an implementation plan and plan for sustainability.

☐ Abandon: Discard this change idea and try a different one.

**Wednesday, September 4th**  
**12:00PM to 4:00PM**  
**Locations Vary**

**Caring Families Reading BEARS and More Presents**
**READING ON READING RD**  
A DAY OF READING ON AVONDALE’S LONGEST STREET!

**Locations include**
The Avondale Library, Hirsch Rec Center, Gabriël’s Place, The Herald Building, The Cincinnati Zoo, The Civic Garden, and many other locations!

**Contact Connie Harris (513) 751-8326 or Jennifer Foster (513) 903-9487**
RESULTS

• Hosted 7 reading stations
• Staffed by 10 parent volunteers
• Collected 178 promise signatures
• Provided 250 book giveaways
MOST PROUD & WHY

Parent Created! Parent Lead!
Local News Station dubbed it “a creative push by parents to get ALL ages to read”

“Great neighborhood turn out!”

“This experience made me think differently about reading!”
GREATEST CHALLENGE

“Books, Books, Books! Culturally Relevant and Responsive”

✓ Diversity of books is so important — Families want to see themselves reflected in the stories they read!

✓ We need to find more books featuring African American characters!

✓ Some sites ran out of books before the event was over — More books, please!