

Families Learning and Serving Together through the Library

National Center for Families Learning
San Mateo County Libraries



San Mateo
County
Libraries





The screenshot shows the homepage of the Endless Bookshelf website. At the top left is the logo for Endless Bookshelf, which consists of the text "Endless Bookshelf" next to a stylized icon of an open book. To the right of the logo are navigation links: "LOGIN", "REGISTER", "READING RESOURCES", and "BLOGS". The main content area features a large graphic with the word "love" in lowercase letters. The "l" is green, the "o" is blue, the "v" is a heart shape containing a bookshelf filled with books, and the "e" is red. Below this graphic is the text "Building a" above "love" and "of Reading Together" below it. At the bottom of the page is a circular image of a family (a man, a woman, and two children) reading together. To the right of this image is the heading "Discover the Joys of Reading" and a paragraph of text.

Endless Bookshelf

LOGIN REGISTER READING RESOURCES BLOGS

Building a
love
of Reading Together

Discover the Joys of Reading

The National Center for Families Learning and Unite for Literacy are proud to welcome you to Endless Bookshelf, created to inspire and help families read more together. You'll find resources to improve reading skills and fun tools to keep track of your reading. Sign up for free and start building your Endless Bookshelf today!

NCFL works to eradicate poverty through education solutions for families.



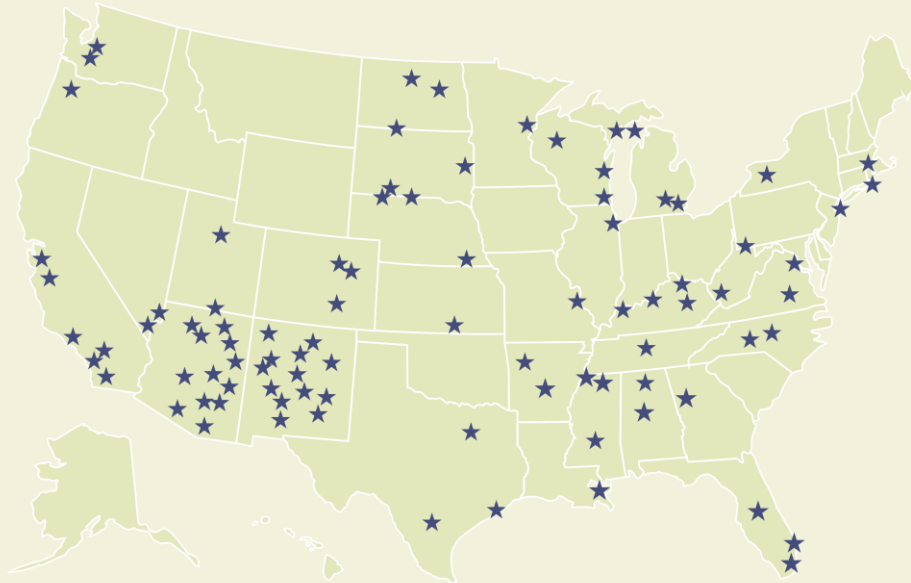
Core Competencies

- Intensive two-generation solutions
- Innovative solutions to community challenges
- PD and learning communities, including digital networks that reach 10 million annually
- Research and tools to assist literacy and learning efforts nationally



NCFL's Footprint

NCFL is leading two-generation models in 103 cities with hundreds of partners.



Theory of Change



What is Service Learning?

Learning through organized service that:

- Meets the needs of a community
- Is coordinated with a school or community group
- Is integrated into and enhances curriculum or educational activities
- Provides structured time for participants to reflect

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- Process for families to learn together as they serve their community
- Effective method for youth and adults to gain college and career readiness skills
- Carefully planned and designed project that spans an adequate period of time for effective execution
- More than a one-time volunteer experience

The Process



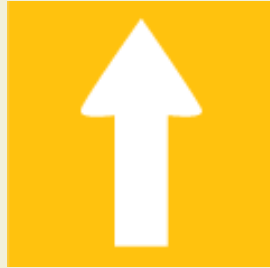


- Involves **all** participants and their ideas
- Could be sparked from different angles
 - a need that is seen in the community (homelessness)
 - a topic that participants find interesting (access to books)
 - a theme that is common among participants (food insecurity)
 - a topic that is current in the learning environment (safety)

Planning and Preparation



- Consider strengths of all participants—even young children
- Consider how to leverage partnerships
- Determine administrative needs, tools, transportation needs
- Determine the learning outcomes



- Not the first step—or necessarily the most important!
- Focus on skills and knowledge being built throughout
- Incorporate reflection while the experience is ongoing



- Should allow different means of reflecting
- Should help all participants to really explore the service-learning experience
 - What did they do?
 - How did they feel before, during, and after?
 - How do their actions connect to them, society, and what they have learned?

Demonstration of Results and Celebration



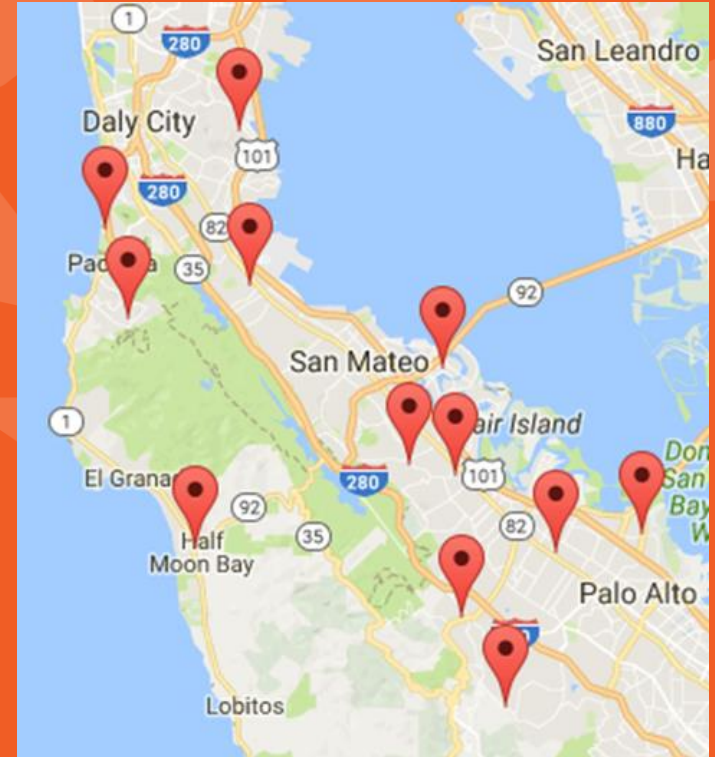
- Participants share what they have done with the larger community
 - What they have learned
 - Results of the project
 - Next steps
 - Connection to the community
- Can be formal or informal
- Should involve all participants



- Build strong, enduring partnerships
- Generate and leverage resources
- Identify and secure funding sources for the future
- Institutionalize service learning as an integral part of your program

About San Mateo County Libraries (SMCL)

- 12 Libraries and a Bookmobile
- SMCL Mission: *Strengthen our community by creating an inclusive sense of place and environment for learning*
- Located between San Francisco and Santa Clara counties, and a part of the Silicon Valley.
- Over 30% of the population is foreign born.
- Highest cost of living in the U.S.



Family Service Learning at SMCL



Cleaning East Palo Alto



Steps for Success at East Palo Alto Library

- Investigation
- Planning
- Preparation



- Action:
Clean Up Day

- Reflection
- Demonstration of Results
/ Celebration



Steps for Success at East Palo Alto Library

- Sustainability:
 - Families continued cleaning efforts
 - Third FSL Project: Earth Day walk & tree planting



SMCL Program Recommendations

- One investigation as base for 3 FSL projects
- Connected FSL Projects
- FSL Projects connected to personal goals
- Partner with organizations in the community
- Document Steps: Who, What, When, Why, What, How, & Take Pictures
- Concentrate on process and family involvement, practice at library events
- Have a calendar with dates, times, and deadlines



Implementation within the Library

- Program messaging for staff buy-in
- Branch / space challenges
- Staffing / childcare
- Scheduling a year-round program
- Addressing community concerns
- Combining program goals and participants of this program and other library programs already in place



Family Service Learning Outcomes

- Expanded voice, social capital, and networks
- Expanded self-efficacy and self-confidence
- Increased content knowledge
- Increased use of technology skills
- Increased opportunities to develop work-based skills

*Learn more in NCFL's Family Service Learning brief.

- *Perdimos la verguenza de pedir cosas en la comunidad, para beneficios de otros. [We stopped being embarrassed to ask for things out in the community so that we could benefit others.]*
- *Talking to community members, confidence, organization, asking for more help.*
- *We laughed because some of us never learned to use a scissor and cut the papers funny.*

Leadership & Community Engagement

Leadership & Community Engagement		
<i>Initial Interview: In the last 6 months have you...</i> <i>Final Interview: Since enrolling in the Toyota Family Learning, have you...</i>	2016-2017	
	Initial Interview	Final Interview
	(n=666)	(n=455)
Volunteered for local group	31%	61%
Attended local community event	49%	81%
Helped to organize a project in your community	38%	75%
Led a local community, school, or any other event	19%	51%
Participated in a community service project	34%	85%

Goal Attainment

		Ranked "important" or "very important" by:	Achieved by:
To earn more money	n	604	240
	%	91%	53%
To upgrade my skills to keep current job	n	453	239
	%	68%	53%
To get a better job	n	568	224
	%	86%	49%
To earn a GED certificate/high school diploma	n	464	153
	%	70%	34%
To improve my English language skills	n	538	338
	%	81%	74%
To obtain the knowledge necessary to pass the U.S. citizenship test	n	421	162
	%	63%	36%
To become a better teacher of my child	n	646	436
	%	97%	96%

Camp Wonderopolis® Grants

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4086473/2018-Camp-Wonderopolis-Opportunity-for-Libraries>



Let's Learn Together - OUTSIDE -

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4112467/Let-s-Learn-Together-Outside-in-Kentucky>

Annual Conference

ncflcTM National Center for Families Learning CONFERENCE 2018

SEPT. 24-26  FT. LAUDERDALE, FL

SAVE \$100: Early Bird
Registration through July 1!

conference.familieslearning.org





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