

Findings from Previous Rounds

Better Beginnings Family Literacy Community Grants Program

The first two rounds of the Better Beginnings Family Literacy Community Grants program funded 30 from 88 applications. Below is feedback from the assessment panel that may be helpful to consider when making an application to Round Three.

Successful applicants showed:

- Clearly how they could address the building of confidence in families and children at in the target age range of 0-5 years.
- An understanding of the needs of the local community by including AEDC data and other relevant statistics to back up claims.
- Innovative programming that built on established literacy programs.
- Confirmed partnerships, and collaboration with community members in program planning or delivery e.g. Aboriginal elders involved in consultation or program delivery.
- Innovative ways to make projects accessible: e.g. e-books, bilingual translations, Zoom links and online inclusion.
- A willingness to share findings and projects with other libraries.
- Clear COVID and other risk management contingencies.

Unsuccessful applicants showed:

- Confusion around the eligibility requirements for funding.
- Little capacity building for staff – the applications which indicated that programs/events could be continued beyond the life of the funding were more widely supported by the panel.
- Limited understanding on how to engage new audiences and not just existing library clientele.
- Lack of innovation.