



Friday, February 25, 2022
Virtual Meeting: 9-10:15 a.m.

Present: Bill Flanagan, Tara Tinder, Mouna Algahaithi, Laura Anastasi, Derrick Carter, Gloria Heiss, Cindy Laube & Cecilia Ramirez, Kayla Oestreich, Drew Pennington, Mary Porter, Aimee Thurner.

1) Welcome and Announcements from Tara Tinder, Executive Director, SCF

Tara mentioned SCF is returning to in-person 2022 events, notably Literacy for Life Awards Luncheon at Beloit Club on Friday May 20th. She is working with the stadium authority and a sign company to work on literacy installations. We celebrate the impact Even Start has had on our Latino community and the decision to keep this invaluable service available for an additional year at its current location. Lastly, thanks to our partners who have reached out to request books. Just a reminder that we serve the Stateline Area only, not the entire Rock County and in order to have books available for everyone, we have a cap at 150 donated books for any single event.

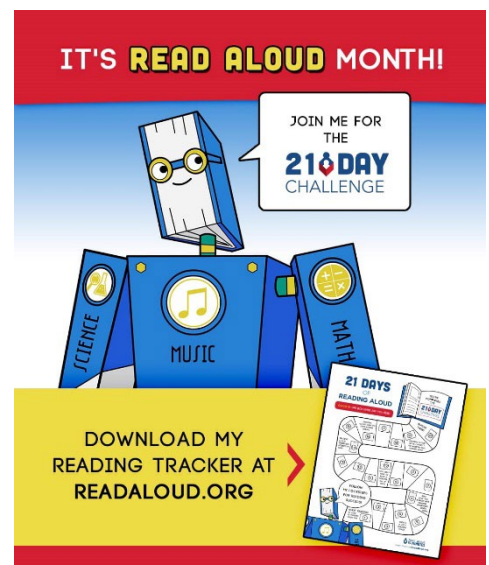
2) Rudder Group Updates: Bill Flanagan, BLFLI Chair

Bill referenced the incredible opportunity to collaborate with Quint Studer, and that our initiative is fortunate benefit from his lead of many well-established early literacy practices in Pensacola. Another source of gratitude and pride is the BLFLI brochure, now available to the public both in English and Spanish, to extend our message to all families.

3) Literacy Materials & Resources:

[PreK pages](#) is a website laden with ideas about how to bring creative, educational play into your child's world every day. It could be garden dramatic play, flower shop, vet clinic, a dinosaur dig, etc.

ReadAloud has updated their links for a [21-day read challenge](#), including different sizes of Read Aloud trackers, bookmarks, documentation sheets, and award certificates. Read Aloud is also posting graphics on their [Facebook](#) page about brain development and appealing memes that NPOs can repost on their own pages. They also have seasonal items like reading aloud with football, winter, spring, and summer themes.



4) Partner Reports:

- **Mouna Algahaithi (PBS Wisconsin)** We continue to promote the [“When I Grow Up” Story Time](#) at the Beloit Public Library. Teacher training continues for a group of educators with The Lincoln Academy and School District of Beloit to integrate media technology into their instruction.
- **Laura Anastasi (RSVP)** Programs of intergenerational foster parents (school volunteers) and Vets helping Vets are ongoing, additional volunteers over age 55 are welcome!
- **Derrick Carter (CareerTek)** There are after school programs Tuesdays through Thursdays for 6th-9th graders focusing on exploration of health care, trades, and technology. These recently expanded to include 9th graders and are seeking to expand programs to include cosmetology other personal/artistic services.
- **Gloria Heiss (UW-WI/Madison Reading Project)** They are seeking to build a stronger connection to outside communities by providing a catalogue of resources and available grants to further extend outreach of smaller nonprofits, including advice on how to establish a permanent, sustainable bookmobile service for their communities.
- **Cindy Laube & Cecilia Ramirez (Even Start)** They are in the process of creating summer school offerings and are excited to share the brochures in Spanish to their families!
- **Kayla Oestreich (Community Action)** They continue to seek creative ways to infuse literacy with their childcare services and look forward to outings with better weather ahead!
- **Drew Pennington (City of Beloit)** He mentioned a state committee on which he serves, providing support to cities listed as childcare deserts by the Wisconsin Department of Children & Families [Parent /Caregiver Equity Advisory Cabinet \(PCEAC\)](#).
- **Mary Porter (Beloit Area Retired Teachers Assoc)** BAREA is finally meeting after a long hiatus and plans to connect with Laura at RSVP for potential future collaboration!
- **Aimee Thurner (City of Beloit)** The Chamber of Commerce has announced their annual dinner for April 26th at the Eclipse Center, with keynote speaker Michelle Snow, retired Hall of Fame basketball player and project manager at Nike.

5) Calendar:

**Meetings are at the Beloit Public Library - Blackhawk Extension Room 111 & via Zoom unless posted otherwise in email announcement.

Month	Date	Time
APRIL	29	9:00 AM
JUNE	17	9:00 AM
AUGUST	26	9:00 AM
OCTOBER	28	9:00 AM
DECEMBER	16	9:00 AM



Proud to support our Even Start Partners!

Fun Fact: 257 Brain Bags have been distributed in our community, yet more are available. Please contact Tara!