

CITY OF MONROVIA LIBRARY BOARD AGENDA REPORT



MEETING DATE: September 26, 2019

DEPARTMENT: Community Services.

Library Division

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder,

Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor

Linda Vera,

Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

On August 6, Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers promoted the Veterans Resource Center at the *Foothill Unity Back to School Event* held at Santa Anita Race Track. They interacted with 50 people interested in the program and helped highlight an important resource for the community.

On August 24 & 25, Veterans Resource Center volunteers promoted the Veterans Resource Center to over 200 attendees at the Concerts in the Park held at Station Square and Library Park.

On August 23, Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers attended the *Grand Opening* and *Ribbon Cutting Ceremony* at the Veterans Affairs clinic at 7 W. Foothill Blvd., Arcadia. The Community Based Outpatient Clinic provides basic clinical services such as physical exams and X-rays, as well as mental health care, telehealth and basic laboratory services.

On August 29, Literacy Center staff visited the Monrovia Adult School to promote *Abriendo Puertas / Opening Door* Family Literacy Program. Staff presented information about the program to over 120 adult education students. Supporting lifelong learning and building richer relationships with the school district are two key goal activities of the library's strategic plan.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

On Saturday, August 12 the library hosted a *Lego Club* program. The Teen Advisory Board provided 7 teen volunteers to assist with the program. A total of 48 participants attended the event, including children between the ages of 2 and 12 with a number of parents and caregivers. Constructing with Legos provides many learning opportunities in alignment with our strategic plan, including creative expression, solving engineering challenges, and learning spatial relationships, as well as engaging in collaborative learning and discovery. Library staff continue to receive very positive responses to the program.

Library Staff partnered with Canyon Park Naturalists at four *Family Campouts* at the Canyon Park Fireman's Flat Picnic Area from July through September. Librarians stopped by to read campfire stories, sing songs, and play games. Traditional childhood camping songs were enjoyed and interactive games added fun for all ages. In support of our strategic plan, this collaboration maintains the library's relationship with other city departments and brings library programs out into the community. There were a total of 220 participants who attended the four campouts.

School started on August 14 and the Library has connected with the caregivers, students, and teachers at Back to School Nights across Monrovia over the past month. Librarians promoted upcoming programming, library services, and encouraged families to sign up for library cards. Questions were answered and outreach schedules were handed out to notify those in attendance when the Monrovia Reads Van will be stopping by each school. Library staff were able to connect with a total of 621 children and their families across the school sites. Staff outreach to the local schools not only supports the library's partnership with the school district, but it also allows expanded access to and promotion of library services, major goal activities of the strategic plan.

On August 16, Teen Advisory Board (TAB) hosted *Friday Night Teen Scene* in Library Park. There were 16 TAB volunteers signed up to help with the program. They served pizza to teens participating in the program. Other volunteers helped oversee activities such as button-making and taught other teens and children paracord weaving for keychains and bracelets. The teens enjoyed the program both as hosts and participants. They enjoyed leading as well as engaging in craft activities. The program gave them an opportunity to give back to the community and helped instill a sense of belonging. Approximately 100 participants in total attended the event. This partnership with Recreation was yet another way the library is strengthening it's partnerships across the community, a key element of the strategic plan.