



ATLANTA PUBLIC LIBRARY

126 Carnegie Way, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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REQUESTED ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY CITY DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC AGENCIES

REPORT - PUBLIC LIBRARY

April 1, 1968

I. Present Library Services to Disadvantaged Areas

The library branches or bookmobile is currently serving the following communities within the EOA poverty areas:

<u>Community</u>	<u>Branch Library</u>	<u>Bookmobile Stop</u>
<u>West Central</u>		
Almond and Carey Park		Bowen Homes
Grove Park	Dogwood Branch	
Dixie Hills		Shopping Center
<u>Summec</u>		
Pittsburgh		Humphrey Street
Peoplestown	South Branch	
South Atlanta		Carver Homes
High Pt. and Joyland		Carver Homes High Pt. and Joyland
<u>Northwest-Perry Homes</u>		
Perry Homes		Perry Homes
<u>East Central</u>		
Glen Iris		Capitol Homes
Bass Community	Inman Park	
<u>Edgewood</u>		
Kirkwood	Kirkwood Branch	
<u>Nash-Washington</u>		
	West Hunter Branch is located on edge of area	

II. The Library will continue to act as resource for other agencies in the area, supplying books, films, records, etc., to any agency requesting them.

III. Proposed Program

A. Children's Programs

A workshop in the "art of storytelling" sponsored by the Emory University Division of Librarianship and Atlanta University School of Library Service in cooperation with the Atlanta Public Library, the DeKalb Library System and the Atlanta Children and Youth Services Council is currently in progress.

At the termination of the 8-week course qualified storytellers who, in return for the free training program will volunteer their time to tell stories to children on the bookmobiles, at the branch libraries, in the community school program or EOA Centers. Storytellers will be scheduled as needed with particular emphasis on placement in disadvantaged communities.

The entire program is still dependent on the number of volunteers who will be available at the conclusion of the course in storytelling. Approximately 125 people have registered to date in the 13 locations where the course is presently being conducted.

B. Adult Programs

A bookmobile program labeled "The Indian Giver" will be in operation by this summer to distribute books on a "readum-'n-swapum" basis. The unit will remain in an area from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in order to better serve adult "working people's" needs. During this period a film program will be shown in a nearby neighborhood center. EOA poverty areas already designated for this program are: Mechanicsville, Summerhill, Grant Park and Bedford Place. Two full-time staff members have already been assigned to this program but at least 40 additional hours are needed to effectively expand the program in additional areas.

C. Future Programs

Funds were made available some time ago for a touring theatre or cinemamobile to present films and story hours to children in areas too far from branches or at branches without suitable facilities. Manufacturing of this custom-made vehicle has rendered it impossible to have it in operation before early next year.

Investigations have revealed that a similar vehicle which could be easily adapted for our use is available for purchase at a cost in excess of our present budget. If a larger grant was available to make up the difference between funds allocated and those needed the cinemamobile could be in operation by June to serve a large number of additional communities. Forty (40) additional hours would be needed to effectively operate for the summer.

As an alternative, if an Atlanta Transit Bus and driver were provided to meet this much needed vehicle problem any number of additional programs could be conducted.

D. Inner City Public Library Service

An experiment in using library school students in branch libraries has resulted in a proposal for a long-range program to service the inner city disadvantaged area. Application has been made for funding through Title III, Interlibrary Cooperation of the Library Services and Construction Act.

The branch libraries in disadvantaged areas will remain essentially as study centers at the close of the school day for children who have severe limitations in such facilities at home. Library school students from Atlanta University and Emory University will make it possible to provide additional hours open in branch libraries and study centers in the neighborhoods for this purpose. School libraries in the area will assist personnel from public library to inform students of these centers and provide coordination between school and public library in programs and collections.

E. Deposits of Books

Investigation is underway as to the feasibility of depositing paperback books in Neighborhood Centers, Recreation areas, etc. Space for and circulation of these materials must be planned with the cooperating agencies.

IV. Functions at Main Library

The Main Library will continue to act as an agency through which programs can be planned. Groups may be brought to the library for "Monday Morning Movies," group tours, as well as providing the normal services of supplying films, art prints and reference services to individuals.

Our Children's Department will continue to encourage children to earn a certificate for reading 12 books under our Read-All-Year Program. We will continue also to encourage "Head Start" to bring groups to the Main Library for picture book hour, storytelling, which is now a very popular service. In addition the Vagabond Marionettes will be sent to 5 branch libraries in disadvantaged areas. Our traveling storyteller will also continue rotation of storyhours at Decatur Street, Vine City, Georgia Avenue, Hunt Street and Simpson Street.

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PROPOSED ADDITIONAL BUDGET FOR LIBRARY
SERVICE TO DISADVANTAGED AREAS

1.	Equipment (additional cost for cinemamobile)	\$ 3,000.00
2.	Personnel (additional hours for "The Indian Giver" and cinemamobile - 80 hrs. a week at \$1.50 an hr. for 12 weeks)	1,440.00
3.	Materials (books, films, etc. for deposit in EOA Centers, etc.)	<u>2,000.00</u>
		\$ 6,440.00