



**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Allison Gray, Library Director

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of California Adult Education Program Grant for an Intergenerational Afterschool Homework Help Tutoring Pilot Program

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Accept a grant from the California Adult Education Program in the amount of \$43,231.20 for an Intergenerational Afterschool Homework Help Tutoring Pilot Program at the Goleta Valley Library in Fiscal Year 2019/20.
- B. Authorize budget adjustments and appropriations for a total of \$43,231.20 to the Library Grant Fund revenue and expenditure accounts

**BACKGROUND:**

Parents have requested that the Goleta Valley Library provide some type of after-school homework help program for many years. The Library has lacked the staff and materials to provide such a program. An hourly Library Technician and an hourly Library Page would be required to coordinate the program. There would also be costs to put volunteer tutors through the criminal background and drug testing process, to provide online access to learning resources and live tutors, and to purchase student tablets or laptops and a printer. Staff applied for a grant for these needs from the Santa Barbara Adult Education Consortium and received approval in November 2018; however, the funds only arrived in July 2019. Only 60% of the requested funds were approved, but staff were able to downsize the program accordingly.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Intergenerational Afterschool Homework Help Tutoring Program will begin with the start of the new school year in early September 2019. The overall goal is to bring older adults and young people together for their mutual benefit in terms of increased school performance, relationship building, self-confidence, and socialization through the building of meaningful relationships. Older adults will use the skills, knowledge, and insight gained over many years, and through diverse experiences, to tutor and mentor students who are experiencing difficulty with their homework in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Local tutors will have access to a database and live support from professional tutors.

Current Library staff will coordinate the program. Volunteer tutors will be trained in the use of the tutoring database, called Brainfuse. Tablets and a printer will be ordered and will become Library assets.

### FISCAL IMPACTS:

The Fiscal Year 2019/20 grant funding of \$43,231.20 will cover a pilot program during the school year. However, if the program is successful, funding may be available to continue to the program into future years.

To track the source and use of library grant funding, staff is requesting that the City Council authorize an increase to the Miscellaneous Library Grants Fund revenue account tbd-4-1700-220 by \$43,231.20 and appropriate a total of \$43,231.20 to various expenditure accounts. The pilot program will be programmed accordingly to those various accounts. The table below outlines the draft pilot program budget:

| <b>Intergenerational Afterschool Homework Help Tutoring Program Budget, FY 19/20</b> |                |                        |                             |
|--|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Fund Type</b>   | <b>Account</b> | <b>FY 19/20 Budget</b> | <b>Description</b>          |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-4-1700-220 | \$43,231.20            | Grant proceeds              |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>  |                | <b>\$43,231.20</b>     |                             |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-002 | \$22,303.01            | Part-time salaries/benefits |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-111 | \$1,319.20             | Toner for printer           |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-117 | \$1,181.00             | Advertising                 |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-203 | \$2,640.00             | Livescans and drug testing  |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-500 | \$10,838.00            | Brainfuse program           |
| Misc. Library Grants   | Tbd-5-1700-707 | \$4,949.99             | Ten tablets and one printer |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>  |                | <b>\$43,231.20</b>     |                             |

### ALTERNATIVES:

If the City Council does not approve the funds from the granting agency, the Goleta Valley Library would not be able to provide the Afterschool Homework Help Program in the coming school year.


**Reviewed By:**

**Legal Review By:**

**Approved By:**

  
Kristine Schmidt  
Deputy City Manager

  
Michael Jenkins  
City Attorney


  
Michelle Greene  
City Manager

### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Grant application (with original funding request, which was funded at 60%)

**Attachment 1**  
Grant application





# ORIGINAL AESB GRANT APPLICATION (HAD TO BE REVISED DOWN TO \$43,231.20)



Allison Gray  
[COMPANY NAME] [Company address]

## Executive Summary:

The Goleta Valley Library services a population of approximately 94,500 people who reside in the City of Goleta and unincorporated neighborhoods in the surrounding area, including Hope Ranch, Isla Vista, all the way to the borders of Buellton and Solvang, an area collectively known as Library Service Zone 4. The Goleta Valley Library is known for its robust provision of service to families, with an emphasis on programming for children. However, the main type of family service not currently provided but most requested is an afterschool homework help/tutoring program.

There are nine elementary schools in the Goleta Union School District with a total of 3,571 students. This does not include those students at schools in Zone 4 that are situated outside of the Goleta School District. Approximately 40% of the students in the GUSD receive free and reduced-price lunch. 30% are English as a Second Language speakers.

According to the U.S. Census, nearly 16% of the population in Santa Barbara County is over the age of 65. In the City of Goleta, it is closer to 27%. Approximately 30% of the U.S. population is age 50+. Many of those in the Goleta Valley Library Service Area Zone 4 are retired professionals from UCSB and area schools. Use of the Goleta Valley Library by the senior population is extremely robust. However, it is clear that a segment of this population faces barriers in terms of opportunities for socialization, self-confidence, productive use of time, and use of skills built up over a lifetime of experience.

Intergenerational programming offers a number of benefits to both age groups. It offers a space in which differences in life experience and cultural background are not barriers but bonuses. It recognizes the benefits of sharing expertise gained through life experience and the influence this may have on youth experiencing troubling behaviors or sub-par school performance. It allows for interactive instruction with youth helping older people with technology. Intergenerational programming allows not just for the passing of knowledge but sharing of the values of each group. It promotes empathy on the part of the children and a positive view toward the aging process. It allows young people to have the chance to see adults in a different setting from the classroom or home, giving them positive role models. The overall goal is to bring older adults and young people together for their mutual benefit in terms of increased school performance, relationship building, self-confidence, and socialization through the building of meaningful relationships.

Homework centers around the United States have proven that the pairing of older adults and elementary-aged students in a one-to-one tutoring situation is extremely beneficial to both parties. According to the Center for Social Development, Experience Corps volunteers in this type of program reported that 100% believed that they helped the children they worked with and almost 99% felt that teachers agreed that the tutors had made a definite impact. Overwhelmingly, the volunteers felt that their time was used more productively, experienced increased feelings of self-worth, and increased their circle of friends. 67% of the students saw increased abilities in reading and other subjects.

The San Diego Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program saw a 91% improvement in academic performance of those students who worked with a volunteer. 96% of students showed improvement in self-esteem, 62% increased school attendance, and 87% increased their participation in class. The tutors

in this program served as friend, role model, and mentor to these students and experienced similar benefits as the Experience Corps group.

Through the Goleta Valley Library Intergenerational Tutoring (GVLIT) Homework Help program, we expect to bring mature volunteers and children together to help increase reading, writing, communication, and other skills. The tutors will serve as teachers, friends, and role models, building confidence and success. All training, computers, books, teaching materials, and homework materials will be provided by the Library. Older adults will use the skills, knowledge, and insight gained over many years, and through diverse experiences, to tutor and mentor students who are experiencing difficulty with their homework in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Measurable Goals:

1. Partner with Goleta Valley Library Service District Zone 4 schools to ensure that K-5 students, families, and teachers are aware of the Goleta Valley Library Intergenerational Tutoring program.
2. Create marketing materials for use in a robust public relations marketing campaign that will contain a social media element.
3. Visit area schools so that information about the GVLIT Homework Help program is disseminated to teachers and parents.
4. Partner with the Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens to market the program to their service agencies and clients in an effort to find appropriate volunteer tutors.
5. Partner with AARP California and their Retired Teachers Association section to market the program, the need for senior mentors and the benefits to participants.
6. Partner with the University of California, Santa Barbara to solicit volunteer tutors.
7. Partner with the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library to provide ongoing donations of homework center materials such as lined paper, pencils, computer paper, calculators, etc.
8. Contract with Brainfuse to provide live, online tutoring in all subjects for Goleta Valley Library cardholders, to assist tutors.
9. Contract with Mango Languages to provide online tutoring in language studies and bilingual help.
10. Develop work plan for and hire bilingual Project Coordinator (a Library Technician) at 10 hours per week to be physically present at GVLIT Homework Help program, recruit, train, schedule, and support tutors.
11. Hire a 6-hour a week Aide (Library Technician) to be at the GVLIT Homework Help program in support of Coordinator.
12. Create an intake Assessment questionnaire for parents and children for the purpose of measuring school performance. Create an outcome questionnaire.
13. Twice weekly tutoring sessions providing culturally sensitive instruction will commence in February 2019.
14. Collect data on number & frequency of tutors who participate.
15. Collect data on number & frequency of students who use services.
15. Use of Brainfuse will be at least 30 sessions weekly by January 2020.

## Outcomes:

1. 75% of tutors will relate positive benefits gained from participation in the GVLIT Homework Help program.
2. 75% of tutors will state that their feelings of self-worth have increased due to participation in the program.
3. 75% of parents will report positive feelings about the library as a resource to help support their children and their homework on a survey done 6 months after their child begins being tutored.
4. 50% of parents will report their children spend more time doing homework 6 months after their child begins being tutored.
5. 50% of participating students will report they feel better about school as a result of attending GVLIT Homework Help after 6 months.
6. 75% of participating students will see the library as a supportive place for doing homework assignments.
7. 60% of participating students will see academic improvement reflected in their reading grades at end of first 12 months.
8. 60% of participating students will see academic improvement reflected in their writing grades at end of first 12 months.
9. 60% of participating students will see academic improvement reflected in their math grades at end of first 12 months.
10. 60% of participating students will feel that they have achieved a meaningful relationship with their tutor.

## 2. Integration

The GVLIT Homework Help program is designed to assist mature adults in helping elementary-school aged children to succeed in school. Its secondary component is to provide opportunities for adults to see multiple benefits for themselves in areas of socialization, self-worth, use of acquired experience and knowledge. It is possible that the tutors will evolve to become paid tutors to other students due to the experience they gain through working with the GVLIT Homework Help program. Some tutors may decide to attend classes at the Community College to foster knowledge in particular subject areas as a result of their work on this grant. As for the students, there is certainly no question that children who succeed in school succeed in the work force. We hope to be able to pair ESL adults with ESL children. It is our goal that by consistently pairing the same tutor with the same child, relationships will grow and benefit both parties in a myriad of ways. The program taps the tremendous potential of committed volunteers who have the time, patience, and life experience to make a profound difference in the lives of children. Intergenerational Tutoring takes advantage of the special relationships that develop across generations to reap benefits for both children and adults.



### 3. Justification

Statistics for the City of Goleta and the County of Santa Barbara consistently show that about 10% of the population has less than a high school diploma; however, the number among Latinos goes up to 30%. In Santa Barbara County, 12% of the population lives in poverty. Indicators for school success show that family support is a key factor in students' achievement. Many of the students in the Zone 4 service area do not have family able to help support them with their homework needs. Parents in the service area need a resource to help their children with homework.

While there are many services available for older members of the Goleta/Santa Barbara population, finding a sense of purpose, belonging, and family can still be a challenge. Loneliness and isolation lead to depression, decreased health, higher healthcare cost to the community, and the very real cost of losing the life experience gained by older citizens. Volunteer opportunities for retired teaching professionals that use their strengths can be hard to come by.

The GVLIT Homework Help program will affect positive change for each population. The program means that the Library does not have to split its efforts into serving two different populations; it can co-mingle efforts to benefit both age groups in a positive way. Tutors will be acknowledged through special notices in the Library Newsletter and on various Library social media outlets, will be invited to special Volunteer Appreciation Events, receive Library mugs, and other incentives.

### 4. Outreach and Marketing:

Outreach and marketing will be conducted on a number of fronts.

1. The Library will work with our education partner agencies (the elementary schools in Library Service District Zone 4).
2. The Library will work with community partners for soliciting tutors (primarily Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens, AARP California and their Retired Teachers Association section, Maravilla, Volunteer Match, the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library, but also UCSB).
3. Library staff will create materials both for attracting tutors and for publicizing the tutoring program. Visits will be made to schools, PTAs, senior living centers, and other venues.
4. There will be a strong social media component which will include the local online newspaper websites, City of Goleta website, and the Library's website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter sites.
5. The Library website will feature a GVLIT Homework Help section. There is already a large, curated collection of subject-specific sites as well as a free, albeit limited, homework-help site called Khan Academy.
6. Public service announcements on City TV and radio.
7. Announcements through church and other places of worship.

## 5. Alignment:

The Goleta Valley Library Intergenerational Tutoring Program is directly designed in order to take advantage of the wealth of local knowledge acquired by older citizens and use it to support elementary school-aged children's success. There has long been a need for homework help at the Goleta Valley Library, as expressed by parents in the Library's service district. In tandem, there are many seniors who express the desire to volunteer in some way that involves working with children, filling a need in them for nurturing today's youth and passing on to them their expertise. The GVLIT Homework Help program will not only allow for a collaborative and coordinated approach toward filling students' needs, it will allow for one-to-one partnering of students and older adults, causing relationships to grow and filling emotional needs on both sides. Partnership with a number of local organizations will allow for a coordinated approach to training. Provision of live, online tutoring will aid the actual tutors should they encounter math problems they cannot help the student with at the actual homework session; they can use the laptop or tablet to access a live, online tutor to gain assistance. In addition, access to a language-learning database will help with any language barriers. These outlets will serve to foster computer literacy for both student and tutor.

The Brainfuse online tutorial product actually aligns with a number of AEBG goals and objectives. In addition to the live tutorial aspect in which this grant is most interested, there are a number of features that will be of interest to other AEBG programs: GED help, US Citizenship attainment support, a Resume Writing Lab, Microsoft Office Help, Academic Tutoring for Adults, and a Writing Lab to which anyone can send any form of writing for critique and correction. Mango would also aid English as a Second Language & Citizenship. (It may also interest AEBG that the Goleta Valley Library will this year have free access to a site that helps immigrants attain citizenship thanks to another grant we just received.)

During the afterschool tutoring sessions, library volunteer tutors will carry special stamps with them. Every child will be given a bookmark. Each time a child is helped, the bookmark will be stamped. When he/she receives at least two stamps, the child will receive a certificate for a free children's book of his or her choice, autographed by the tutor. In this way, the Library will be able to support at-home literacy as well as English as a Second Language for those families. It will create home libraries for families who may not necessarily already have them. The books will be provided by the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library.

Funding for the first 18 months of the program will allow us to establish the infrastructure that will create the relationships for finding appropriate volunteers, develop training materials, create a robust public relations campaign targeting both older citizens and young students, develop intake and evaluation tools, and provide tutoring sessions over one and one-half school years.

2000

10-hour per week Library Technician Project Coordinator: \$19,407  
6-hour per week Library Page: \$4,531

3000

\$0

4000

Facebook Boosts \$500  
Brainfuse: \$13,857  
Mango: \$8,205  
LiveScans for 15 volunteers: \$855 (any additional volunteers' LiveScans will be paid for by the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library)

5000:

\$0

6000:

6 tablets: \$2,600  
6 laptops: \$9,390  
Software: \$2,640  
1 printer: \$ 600  
1 projector: \$841.20

Total budget \$72,052

Total number of children students served:  
3,300

Do you currently receive other NON-AEBG funding:

Stationery supplies (writing implements, paper of various kinds, math supplies, office supplies, hand sanitizers, tissues) will be supplied by the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library. We estimate a cost of approximately \$1,000 during the grant project.

The Friends will also supply the free children's book given to every child who is tutored twice; they receive a free book autographed by their senior tutor. They will continue to receive a free book for every two tutoring sessions for the duration of the grant period. The estimated cost for this would be approximately \$2,000.

The Library will purchase a MiFi WiFi device so that the tablets and laptops can access the homework databases and reference websites quickly. The cost will be \$225.

The Library will absorb the cost of any color printing the students need to do for homework purposes. The total cost will be approximately \$1,500.

### Sustainability Plan:

The Director would ask the Friends to fundraise for the cost of Brainfuse. The Director will try to get the City to fund a position to be in charge of the volunteers. Once all of the training, intake, data collection, and evaluation materials are developed, they will be available in perpetuity. The Library would always have space available to continue the Homework Center. The Friends would in all likelihood be willing to continue to provide stationery supplies as well as gift books for the children.