



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2018

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**LITERACY ACCESS FUND ANNOUNCES PHASE THREE OF 2018 GRANTS
WITH AWARD TO THE NORWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

CHESTER, PA - Literacy Access Fund, a 501(c)(3), public charity, announces a grant award of \$10,000 to the Norwood Public Library in Norwood, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Literacy Access Fund secures funding from corporate, foundation, and individual partners in order to provide financial support to underfunded public libraries through a competitive granting process. The goal of the organization is to help libraries provide equal access to quality resources for young learners, regardless of economic factors.

This award to the Norwood Public Library was made possible through partnership funding from the 3M Foundation, based in Saint Paul, MN. This award will help fund the acquisition of state-of-the-art technology for young children and implement the **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** program.

Holly Goldsborough, President of the Library's Board of Directors, noted the Board's gratitude to Literacy Access Fund for the award. "Having been in early childhood education for my whole career, I understand how the value and impact that exposure to this technology and early literacy in the library will enable children to become better readers and more likely to succeed in school."

"Combining print and state of the art technology in our programs will increase children's learning over print alone. Children learn better using multi-modal tools that enhance cognitive, language, and literacy skills," according to Eileen Baker, Director of the Library. "Since the Norwood Public Library plays a significant role in the community, we know these new resources will encourage regular library use by families, and, in accordance with our mission, will foster life-long learning."

Deborah B. Sorgi, Ed.D., Chair, Director & President of Literacy Access Fund, shared her thoughts. "Literacy Access Fund is pleased to support the Norwood Public Library's initiatives to introduce children and families to a wide range of activities to promote pre-literacy, maintain programming qualities that are vital to early learning in a library environment, and provide opportunities to develop technology skills in young children." Dr. Sorgi also noted, "We are continuing to identify and support deserving public libraries to help their littlest members read and succeed in school and life."

For more information about Literacy Access Fund, visit <http://www.literacyaccessfund.org/> or call 610-833-6411.

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About the Norwood Public Library

The Norwood Public Library is a member of the Delaware County (PA) Library System. The Library offers a range of classes, programs, and events for children (birth through Grade 5) including a robust summer reading schedule, teens (Grades 6 through 12) including activities and volunteer opportunities, and adult events including author visits, lectures, book groups, Internet instruction, and even Tai Chi and meditation.

About Literacy Access Fund

The mission of Literacy Access Fund is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community. The organization supports the public library as a community learning hub and a vital extension of the classroom and awards grants to underfunded public libraries to increase equal access to early literacy skills for young learners. Literacy Access Fund is headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, with the ability to support public libraries across the United States.

LITERACY ACCESS FUND®



Duke Doblick, CFRE, director of fundraising for Literacy Access Fund, presented a \$10,000 grant award to the Norwood Public Library on December 13. Pictured are Mr. Doblick in the center, flanked by library director Eileen Baker on the left and library board president Holly Goldsborough on the right. Members of the library board also were in attendance.