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May 2006

The Annie E. Casey Foundation • City of Indianapolis - Bart Peterson, Mayor • United Way of Central Indiana

Welcome Imagination Library parents!

This is the first edition of the Success By 6 E-Newsletter that is being distributed to parents who have registered for Imagination Library. As of the end of May, we've had nearly 10,000 children enroll in the program. Please remember to keep us updated with your current address should you move within Marion County. You can contact us at contact@successby6indy.org



We are also pleased to announce that Hancock and Hendricks County parents can now sign up their children under age 5 for the program. These families can also register on our website at www.SuccessBy6Indy.org or by dialing 2-1-1.

The Success By 6 Born Learning campaign offers some simple steps for helping your child explore language and learning.

- Read together every day.
- Ask questions.
- Use play to introduce language.
- Teach new words.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes.

To read more about how to encourage literacy through play, [click here](#).

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"Books without borders" from your public library

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (IMCPL) has teamed up with Success By 6 to help promote Imagination Library in each of its 22 branches. In an ongoing effort to achieve the same goal --

ensuring that all children are read to regularly -- IMCPL has begun a new exciting program for its patrons. It is called the Bunny Book Bag program.

Bunny Book Bags, which are now available in every branch, are stuffed with 20 pre-selected children's books that any adult can borrow with a special card. Anyone can do it -- childcare providers, parents, teachers, etc.! The best part about Bunny Book Bags is that they are *fine free*. Library staff are calling this program "books without borders" because even parents *outside* the county limits can check out these bags!

Bunny Book Bags will also include an Imagination Library registration brochure, and many of the bags will even feature Imagination Library books! Spread the word about Bunny Book Bags. This is another great program for the young children in our community that is seeking to remove barriers to children entering school ready to succeed!

Visit the local library TODAY to take advantage of this program!
[Click here for branch locations.](#)

Success By 6 at WFYI event

On Saturday, June 24 Success By 6 will be registering families for Imagination Library and distributing Born Learning materials at *WFYI's Let's Meet PBS Kids in the Park*. The popular event, expected to draw 40,000 attendees, will be held in downtown Indianapolis at the American Legion Mall and Veteran's Memorial Plaza. The day begins at 10 a.m. and lasts until 4 p.m. We hope to see you there! For more information, visit the [WFYI website](#).

Success By 6 will be participating in a variety of events this summer, including Indiana Black Expo's "Summer Celebration" and La Plaza's "Fiesta Indianapolis." Stay tuned to learn more about

Thank you, Comcast!

The Comcast Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 grant to Success By 6 for Imagination Library! This grant is in recognition of Comcast's commitment to the communities where its customers and employees live and work.

Since its foundation in 1999, The Comcast Foundation has distributed over \$30 million in support of programs implemented locally in Comcast communities. With Imagination enrollments being much stronger than first projected, grants such as this one are especially crucial.

Success By 6 staff and volunteers encourage more generous individuals and companies to follow Comcast's lead so more kids will have age-appropriate, quality books in their homes. To learn how you can help, visit www.SuccessBy6Indy.org and click on "Get Involved".



these events, and how you can participate. Please give us feedback on how to reach families in your neighborhood with great programs like Imagination Library. Submit suggestions at www.successby6indy.org/contact-us.html.

New at Success By 6: Weems chosen to help lead initiative

Alonzo Weems recently joined the Success By 6 Leadership Council as vice-chair of the volunteer advisory group. Alonzo began his most current role as Director of Workforce Diversity for Eli Lilly and Company on March 1, 2006. Prior to being named to this position, he served Lilly as an attorney for eight (8) years. Before joining Lilly, he worked as an attorney for the National Labor Relations Board.

Alonzo is very dedicated to the mission of Success By 6 and is leading volunteer efforts that are examining Success By 6's role in child care quality improvements. Alonzo and his wife are expecting their first child in October. Welcome Alonzo!

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