**Applications Are Open**

The Saskatchewan Literacy Network is a provincial non-profit charity dedicated to advancing literacy in our province. We are looking for participants for the 2019 Northern Family Literacy Training Support Program – people who want to enhance their skills and knowledge to support family literacy opportunities in their communities. If you work or volunteer for a community organization, in Saskatchewan’s north, that works with families, please apply. We encourage you to apply in pairs or groups of up to four people from the same northern community (you can work or volunteer at different community organizations).

**We are looking for applicants who**

* enjoy working or volunteering in programs with families and their children;
* have some experience working or volunteering with parents or caregivers in education or community environments;
* are interested in learning new ways to engage families;
* value lifelong learning;
* are able to commit to
	+ attend the full 3 days of training (November 26th, 27th and 28th at Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System (PNLS) Headquarters in Air Ronge, Saskatchewan)
	+ offer and support family literacy programs or events in their community after the training
	+ participate in follow-up conversations with the Saskatchewan Literacy Network (SLN)

Individuals may apply, but we encourage applications from people who plan to work together to offer family literacy programming in their community. There is a maximum of 16 people total at the training.

A committee will review all applications received by the deadline: November 14th, 2019 at 11:59pm. Applicants will be contacted soon after about the status of their application.

**What expenses will be covered for accepted applicants?**

Thanks to our funders, there is no cost to attend:

* All training fees will be covered.
* Lunch is provided at the training each day.
* Training materials and resources will be provided.
* Some support for travel and hotel (based on two or more participants travelling in the same vehicle and two participants sharing a hotel room).
* A complimentary Saskatchewan Literacy Network membership is included (this allows you to apply for the SLN Learning Mini-Grants).
* Ongoing support is available at no cost from the SLN while you plan and run your family literacy program in your community.

**Training descriptions**

There will be a different training topic covered on each of the three training days:

1. The **Introduction to Family Literacy** is a full day workshop for anyone wanting to facilitate, coordinate and/or develop family literacy programs. This workshop examines literacy, family literacy and principles that guide family literacy practice; the relationship between adult learning and family literacy programs; and how families contribute to the language and literacy skills of their children. This workshop provides foundational information used in family literacy programming.
2. **Storysacks Facilitator Training** helps participants answer many questions: What are Storysacks? Why use Storysacks? What goes into Storysacks? How do you create Storysacks? Participants learn the history, the philosophy, and guiding principles that support Storysacks development. Working as a team, participants create one Storysack while exploring the potential and value of using the strengths already present in their community to create these powerful literacy resources.
3. **Supporting Early Literacy in Families** is a hands-on, half-day training for people who work with families (for example: in community centres, friendship centres, or family centres). Participants will add to their understanding of family literacy practices and the outcomes that can impact early literacy development. Participants will leave this training with resources and fresh ideas to encourage inter-generational, family learning in their communities.

**Through this program, participants will**

* Enhance knowledge and skills that will help you develop and deliver effective, strength-based, family literacy workshops in your community.
* Build capacity in your community to provide quality family literacy programs that strengthen relationships within families through shared learning experiences;
* Help provide families with more access to programming that encourages parents and caregivers in their role as their child’s first teacher.

**How to apply**

Please complete the application form (starting on this page) and send it to us by **November 14th, 2019 (by 11:59pm)**. Also include one letter of support (for example from the community organization or local government office where the family literacy program will happen).

**If you have any questions, please contact**

**Marilyn** at 306-651-7288 or family@saskliteracy.ca

or our main office toll-free at 1-888-511-2111 or saskliteracy@saskliteracy.ca

## **Application Form** (all the information after this line is the application form)

**Information about you and where you work or volunteer:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Your first name: | Your last name: |
| Name of the community organization your work or volunteer for: |
| The community organization’s address: |
| Your job or volunteer title at the community organization: |
| Your telephone number: | Your email address: |

Do you have any **dietary or other considerations** you would like us to know about for this program? If so, please tell us here; or put ‘none’ if you have none.

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|  |
| Please give a brief description about the work or volunteering you do with families (or that you do together with the other people applying with you): |
| What family literacy programs or events are you hoping to offer, as a team, after this training? |
| Checklist:[ ]  Completed Application Form[ ]  Letter of Support (for example from a community organization or local government office where the family literacy program will happen).\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Your Signature Date |

**Application Deadline: Thursday, November 14th, 2019 at 11:59 pm**

 Thank you to everyone who applies. Only applications that are fully completed can be considered by the selection committee.

 *Accepted applicants will be notified by Tuesday, November 5th, 2019.*

 Send us your completed application (form and support letter)
by email: saskliteracy@saskliteracy.ca OR by fax: 1-306-651-7287