

PAMELA MARTIN-DIAZ

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Education and Training

2012 Allen County Public Library

Management for Supervisors

Fort Wayne, IN

2008 Fort Wayne Community Schools

Board Training and Strategic Planning

Fort Wayne, IN

1980-82 Universidad Popular

Conversational Spanish

Chicago, IL

1978-80 Peace Corps

French and cross-cultural studies

Togo, West Africa

1975-77 University of Chicago

M.A. Library Science

Chicago, IL

1970-75 Kenyon College

B.A. English

Gambier, OH

Professional Experience

March 2020- Present Early Childhood Literacy Consultant. Self-Employed

Hold professional development workshops on early literacy based on the research and concepts found in Every Child Ready to Read @ your library®

Ariel Foundation in Partnership with Knox County Head Start

Develop and present storytimes and training for staff to promote interactivity and intentionality in use of books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to increase children's early literacy development.

1996-2020 Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN, Branch Manager, and Early Literacy Coordinator

- Lead a team in an urban library in Fort Wayne's diverse south side community.
- Responsible for day-to-day management of the collection, building and staff including performance reviews, hiring and supporting staff development. Contributed to organizational strategy through participation in management team and operations meetings.
- Developed Allen County Public Library's role as an active leader in early learning through collaboration with agencies, care-providers and others involved in the goal that all children enter school ready to learn. Lead early literacy training with care providers and library staff.
- Created original programs using research-based early learning methodologies. Identified, developed, and submitted grant applications and reports.

2006-2010 Fort Wayne Community Schools Board of Trustees, Fort Wayne, IN, Trustee (elected position)

Key writer of district vision and goals; participated in community-wide effort to pass a building levy;

representative of the Board in school events district-wide; learned tools of governance and gained understanding of various funding sources.

1981-1996 Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL

Children's librarian, family services librarian or branch manager in largely Latino neighborhoods responsible for functioning of the branch; collection development; outreach; grant writing.

Publications and Presentations

Early Literacy Storytimes@your library: Partnering with Caregivers for Success, ALA Editions, Chicago, IL 2006

Storytimes for Everyone! Developing Young Children's Language and Literacy, ALA Editions, 2013.

Co-authored with Saroj Ghoting; developed workshops to library professionals based on books' content.

Indiana Libraries Embrace Early Literacy, Indiana Federation of Libraries, vol. 27, no. 1, 2008.

10 Tips for Adding STEM to Storytime, School Library Journal, May 17, 2014.

Programs held at conferences and online webinars, sponsored by the Public Library Association; American Library Association; Association for Library Services for Children Institute; Indiana Library Federation; Fort Wayne Association for the Education of the Young Child; and child care providers on topics including: incorporating early literacy and STEM into storytimes; serving Spanish-language communities; working with care-providers to help them develop young children's language and literacy; winning support from administrators for early learning; outreach to parents with community partners; impact of nursery rhymes on phonological abilities; the what, how, and why of using picture books in storytime; and the power of block play.

Grant Awards

Proposals created, implemented, and managed

Institute for Museum and Library Services, \$24,000 SPARKS grant to promote adult/child interactions with innovative approaches in neighborhood stores encouraging reading and talking with children through yard signs and bumper stickers and community wide outreach activities.

PNC Bank, \$50,000 to establish early learning environments in three branches.

PNC Bank, \$35,000 to train library and early childhood care-providers in the power of block play to develop and support young children's early literacy and mathematical development.

Lilly Foundation, as part of the countywide CAPE grant to create kits for parents to teach letter awareness, send books home with children in childcare (team of grant writers).

Knight Foundation, \$135,000 to create computer labs to encourage computer literacy among adults from various language groups.

Chicago Community Trust via The Chicago Public Library, **\$90,000** to create a reading garden and family learning center in a branch.

Library Services and Technology Act, in multiple grant cycles via the Illinois State Library

- **\$10,000** to improve library services with innovative programs and services including hiring minority teens to share books and create activities for young children. **\$50,000** for creation of multilingual collections for children and provide storytimes in multiple languages.
- **\$48,750** for development of special collections and informational sessions for families with children with learning disabilities.

Secretary of State, Illinois Family Literacy Grant, \$35,000 to teach Spanish-speaking adults to become literate in Spanish.

Secretary of State, Illinois Family Literacy Grant \$45,000 to hold English-as-a second language classes and to create activities for adults and their children to do together.

Community Service and Professional Affiliations

- Past member of steering committee, Women's Initiative of The United Way of Allen County and chair of the Paths to Quality Grant Award Committee
- Past member, United Way's Early Childhood Allocation Committee
- Former Advisory Board Member, Fort Wayne Community Schools' Family and Community Engagement Center
- Charter Member, Summit City South Rotary
- Mentored a child with Big Brothers, Big Sisters for nine years
- Organizer of 2015 neighborhood home and garden tour
- Member of the American Library Association; Public Library Association; Association of Library Services to Children; REFORMA: The Association to Promote Library Services to the Spanish-speaking; National Association for the Education of Young Children and its local affiliate chapter
- Established criteria and evaluated grants for REFORMA's Raul and Estela Mora Award (1999-2000)

Awards

- **Literacy Star Award** for promoting literacy in Allen County, presented by Star Bank
- **Kathy Osterman Award Finalist** for superior public service, presented by the City of Chicago
- **Outstanding Public Service Award**, presented by The Friends of the Chicago Public Library

Skills and Abilities

- Fluent in oral Spanish
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Understanding of grant-making process from the grantor and grantee perspectives