

CPF APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal

Do not feel constricted by this form. Write as much as you feel you need.....

Kate Pavao

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Name of Parishioner/Proposer

Co-proposer

Title of project - Bookmobile Collaboration

1. How does the proposed project align with and support our parish mission?

Our local kids need more access to books: An overwhelming body of research proves reading is key to better educational and mental health outcomes. But according to Reading is Fundamental, 8 in 10 low-income kids lose reading skills over the summer because they miss out on books and other educational trips, like going to their local library.

That's where the Bookmobile comes in. A Bookmobile increases access to books, to storytellers and makes learning fun. While building a Bookmobile requires a generous donation of time and money, it has the potential to build community among St. John's parishioners, and the greater Santa Cruz community.

Here's how this project first came together: Currently the 400 K-8 students at Watsonville Charter School of the Arts lack a school library. Meanwhile, Aptos-based children's literacy foundation Live Like Coco (which Kate Pavao founded and leads) needs an outreach vehicle to help distribute more than 10,000 children's books to the community each year at places such as the Watsonville Farmer's Market. Earlier this year, the two organizations teamed up, making plans for a mobile library that they could share. During the school year, the Bookmobile will live at the charter school's campus, where students can check out books from the permanent collection, and order books from the school district. On weekends and holidays, foundation volunteers will distribute books for ownership to local kids at community events.

But as plans have begun moving from dream to reality, leaders at both organizations realized there is a need for more support, both to convert a commercial stepvan into an inviting mobile library, and to find volunteers to operate the Bookmobile at the school and in the community.

2. How will the project engage the congregation and the larger community?

The Bookmobile provide so many opportunities for the congregation to share their love and generosity: Not only could the parishioners help fund the project, but volunteers from

the Aptos Youth Community Group are excited to be part of designing and painting the Bookmobile and its surrounding reading garden at the school.

Once the Bookmobile is ready to launch, there will be opportunities for the congregation to volunteer in the vehicle during library time at the school or at outreach events.

Additionally, the vehicle could be available on a regular basis at St. John's. The Bookmobile days at St. John's would offer a nice opportunity to make community connections with our neighbors living around the church as well as families using the park. Church volunteers could offer story hours, ice cream days and other fun events, using the Bookmobile as a way to gather interest and attention. So many members of the congregation have experience in education or in running a local bookstore, that this seems like such a natural fit.

3. Describe the scope and purpose of the project.

The Bookmobile project includes buying a stepvan, converting it to a Bookmobile, designing and painting the surrounding area (including a connected reading garden at the school). Partners would also have to purchase a book collection, connect the mobile library to the Pajaro Valley Unified School District's library system, create calendars and manage a volunteer schedule.

The current plan is for the library to be parked at the school during the school week and be available for outreach on weekends and holidays.

The purpose of the project is to offer more access to books – and storytellers -- to kids in the community by creating a whimsical, eye-catching vehicle. The Bookmobile would be simple for volunteers to operate without lifting hundreds of heavy books and bulky pop-ups.

4. How much time will it take to prepare and initiate the project?

Our goal is to purchase the stepvan by March 2024. Live Like Coco's has already scheduled a book give-away at Watsonville Charter School of the Arts during National Read-a-loud Day that month, during which the foundation will give out a new book to every student. It would be ideal to have the vehicle and printed plans available that day for a planned media outreach.

The vehicle should be ready to use as an outreach vehicle by July 2024, and be ready to operate as a school library by August 2024.

5. What are primary goals of the project and how will they be measurable?

The primary goal would be to create a Bookmobile that works both as a library and as an outreach vehicle, with the project starting next spring and finishing next summer. We would measure our success based on both meeting our timeline and budget projections.

Our secondary goal would be to create on-going opportunities for volunteers to work together to launch the project. Initially, were we able to engage members of the Aptos Youth Community Group in designing and painting the vehicle? Later, we would measure our success rate in staffing the library during school hours and during outreach events. How many parishioners are we engaging each year? Have we been able to add additional outreach events for the church to host?

6. What are the types of costs and expenses that will occur with this project?

Currently we are projecting:

--\$20,000 to purchase the stepvan

Please see American Library Association for cost information:

<https://www.ala.org/ala/olos/outreachresource/FAQbkmbtypes.htm>

--\$40,000 for conversion

We are working with Brent Ruhne from Ruhne Racing Custom Van Solutions on this project.

--\$10,000 for library materials

This includes 2,000 permanent books for the school's collection and scanners to become part of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District's library system.

--\$20,000 for reserve fund

This would be used for gas and on-going maintenance, including any project overages.



Splitting this in equal thirds between Live Like Coco, the school and the church, **we are asking for \$30,000 from the Community Project.**

7. Are there any feasibility, licensing or personnel issues (see guidelines) that may arise with this project. If so, how will they be addressed or resolved?

Because this is a project with many partners, we have created a spreadsheet for expenses, deadlines and questions (such as: If the school decides to no longer to host the library, what happens to the Bookmobile and the book collection?)

These questions will be mediated before the conversion begins, and a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by all three partners: Watsonville Charter School of the Arts, Live Like Coco and St. John's.

All volunteers must be approved by Pajaro Valley Unified School District. This means that

each would have to submit to fingerprinting, a background check and a TB test. If volunteers are driving the vehicle they would need to be properly licensed and insured.

We commit to actively promote and work on the project.

Signed: Kate Pavao

Signed Lisa Freeman

Date completed/amended Sept. 1 2023_