



Dyslexia Advocacy Action Group
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Protecting Every Child's Right to Learn How to Read

OUR PROPOSAL

Failure to teach reading to more than half of public school fourth-graders is a systemic crisis that needs to be addressed. Therefore, we are requesting \$4,000,000 over three years to formulate a New York Literacy & Dyslexia Initiative driven by stakeholders, advocates, not-for-profits, and a full scope of literacy experts. The Initiative's focus would be on evidence-based methodologies and strategies to increase literacy performances in underachieving school districts to ensure delivery of evidence-based remediation to students with dyslexia.

THE PROBLEM

The New York State spends nearly four billion per year on problems resulting from poor literacy skills. The Education Department reports that literacy levels are declining, and in 2019 (before COVID), 65% of 4th-grade students were reading at basic or below basic.

The National Assessment of Adult Literacy states that 85% of incarcerated adults have weak reading skills, and half of this population has dyslexia (Moody, 2000).

Furthermore, the National Assessment of Adult Literacy found that 80% of youths brought before courts have weak literacy skills, and three out of four people on welfare have low literacy skills.

GOALS: NEW YORK LITERACY & DYSLEXIA INITIATIVE

- Independent agency focusing on effective literacy methodologies and progress monitoring
- A research & knowledge base
- Literacy curriculum: development of a high literacy attainment model
- Screener pilot study
- Three underachieving school districts will participate in a pilot to demonstrate the effectiveness of early intervention and evidence-based literacy methodologies
- Specialized professional development modules
- Statewide professional learning networks
- Repository of tools and resources

Please contact Helen Roussel for the entire proposal, including itemization, detailed budget, and complete program descriptions.

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