

# Texas State Library and Archives Commission

## Texas Reads FY2015

### Organization Information

Type: Tom Green County Library System  
 Legal Entity: Tom Green County  
 Address: 33 W Beaugard Ave  
 City, State Zip: San Angelo, TX 76903-5834  
 Employer Identification Number: 756001184

### Grant Information

Type: Texas Reads  
 Fiscal Year: 2015  
 Application ID: 1643  
 Term: 09-01-2014 to 08-31-2015

## Organization Information

U.S. Congr. Distr No.: 11

State Senate Distr. No.: 28

State House Distr. No.: 72

## Contact Persons

	Name	GMS User Role	E- mail
Director/ Coordinator	Marcy Bosequett	Grantee Official	marcella.bosequett@co.tom- green.tx.us
Contact 1	Sally Meyers	Program Manager	sally.meyers@co.tom- green.tx.us
Contact 2	Wanda Green	Program Manager	wanda.green@co.tom- green.tx.us
Financial Contact	Marcy Bosequett	Grantee Official	marcella.bosequett@co.tom- green.tx.us

## Proposed Funding Sources

a. TSLAC grant: 3000  
 b. Other federal gov't funds: 0  
 c. Other state funds: 0  
 d. Local funds: 1600  
 e. Miscellaneous: 2000  
 TOTAL: 6600

Is the applicant delinquent on any Federal debt? NO

## Signature

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the statements made in this application are true, that the information provided is correct, and that I am authorized to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant organization.

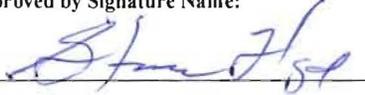
### Application Completed by:

Marcy Bosequett Date: 02-28-14

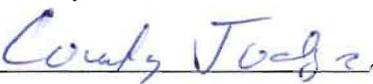
### Application Approved by:

Stephen C. Floyd, County Judge Date: 3-4-14

### Approved by Signature Name:

 Date: 3-4-14

### Approved by Job Title:



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### Narrative

**Project Location:**

- Tom Green County Library System, San Angelo, Texas

**Project Title:**

- Every Hero has a Story: Everyday Heroes in our Lives

**Project Director (Name & Title):**

- Sally Meyers, Children's Librarian

**Has the TSLAC Library Development Consulting Staff reviewed a draft of this application?**

- No

If yes, provide the Consultant's Name:

-

**New program?**

- No

**Program Abstract:**

- TSLAC Texas Reads and Target funds are being sought to bring author, songwriter and entertainer, Stuart Stotts to San Angelo. He has a dynamic new program that incorporates his new book, "We Shall Overcome" about Pete Seeger's song, the struggles that people endure and the heroes found all around us. There is also a companion CD of Mr. Stotts' songs that reinforces the themes and increases enjoyment of the book and related programming ten- fold. We are seeking additional funding from our Friends group so that "We Shall Overcome" and the related CD can be given to area teachers. Students will have read the book before Mr. Stotts arrival.

Themes from the book will be carried over to summer programming at all three locations incorporating further reading, drawing heroes and crafting. Mr. Stotts will also hold a workshop for teachers & future teachers-"Storytelling Enriches our Lives" which will effect our children for years to come.

**1. Needs Assessment (20 points):** Describe why the program is needed in the community.

- Tom Green County, in West Texas has the only public library of appreciable size in all of the thirteen counties that make up the Concho Valley with a combined population of 160,000. TGC Library System is located in San Angelo, a community of nearly 110,000. San Angelo Independent School District has 17 elementary schools, 16 of which are classified as Title I schools where a minimum of 40% of enrolled children are living in poverty and are at risk educationally. The actual percentages are much higher: 12 elementary schools have poverty rates of over 60% or greater; 4 of those are at 86% and up. Overall, the district reports 66% of our elementary students are living in poverty. We have a high teen pregnancy rate. There are currently 66 pregnant students in 7th – 12th grade. Fifty percent of babies are born to single moms. In addition, it is estimated that there are over 3,000 families in San Angelo that have grandparents taking on parental roles because of absent/ incarcerated parents where, in a significant number of these homes, English is not the primary language. Current Tom Green County statistics tell us that our childrens' population is 50% Hispanic; 43% are white, 3% are African American and 3% are "other." (Annie Casey Foundation, 2011). A new disruption to education in our area is the oil boom. So many oil workers have moved into the area over a short time that rents have gone up dramatically causing many families to be pushed out of housing and moving frequently. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that 4 year olds living in poverty are far less likely to be proficient in letter, number and shape recognition than their peers above poverty. Clearly there are many children in our community who are at risk academically. Schools, churches, social service agencies and public libraries have much to do to help children to be successful.

**2. Program Purpose (20 points):** Describe the program goals, audience, intended outcomes, and relationship to the library long- range plan or goals.

- The Tom Green County Library System's mission is to provide the tools and resources that will afford each resident of the County the opportunity to succeed in a quest for knowledge, information, and personal enrichment. In keeping with that mission, TGC Library strives to provide programming and resources that enable every child to be ready to read when they enter school and to be successful throughout their education. The Everyday Heroes program, relying on the book, "We Shall Overcome" is designed to inspire the young readers to see heroes in the book, in their lives and the possibility that they can be heroes too.

Participating schools will receive a CD of Stuart Stott's music that will supplement his book, "We Shall Overcome" about Pete Seeger's song of the same title.

Spring and Summer programing will serve Texas Reads outcomes:

â Participants read more.

â Participants enjoy reading – the use of storytelling and music to enhance books will help the children to associate reading and learning with fun and enjoyable activities

â Participants have more confidence in their reading ability. In addition they have gained appreciation for everyday heroes and the belief that they

themselves have the capacity to be heroes.

☐ Participants report increased participation in children's literacy programs at the library and/ or at the partner agency. There will be sixty summer program times

**3. Program Design (20 points):** Provide a detailed description of the program and its activities. Describe any collaboration planned with other community organizations.

- Having Partnered with the San Angelo Restaurant Association, Table Tents made by our children's department staff be on tables at restaurants throughout San Angelo: "Every Hero Has a Story: Everyday Heroes in our lives! Visit our Library and Check Us OUT!" It will list library locations and encourage them to bring in their dining receipt to receive a free book and flyer on our summer activities. Note that no purchase is necessary; anyone may participate and programs will be promoted in many ways throughout the community.

Our standing program, Stories and Songs brings in from 40 to 80 children a week. Stuart Stotts is a gifted and incredible storyteller and songwriter who involves not only the children, but parents alike with his energy and enthusiasm. Children will be given handmade rhythm instruments to participate in the program and take home to use. Three large downtown churches, First Methodist, First Presbyterian and First Baptist, will be invited for a special session. This will not only provide enjoyment for the children but be a teaching tool to the caretakers in using music in their story times and in storytelling.

"Heroes in our Lives" will have programming at all three TGC Branches. Focus will be on community heroes, heroes in our family, book friends as heroes, and the hero within us. Stephens Central will have 4 per week on a continual basis; Angelo West branch – 1 per week continually; and North Angelo – 1 per week in June and July. In addition, this program will provide six special events for 1st through 5th graders at Stephens Central during June and July. In all, the nine weeks of summer reading "Heroes" program will provide 60 opportunities for children to participate.

In addition, Stephens Central will provide projects at the Childrens Department Desk that will change each week. Visitors will have opportunities to create things that further demonstrate the themes of "Heroes." For example, children will be able to make greeting cards for family members; make bracelets with pony beads for courage, strength, love, faith and friendship; make bookmarks of famous heroes.

5th grade program: Fifth graders from Austin Elementary will read and study We Shall Overcome by Mr. Stotts before his visit. Mr. Stotts will discuss Everyday Hero's in our own lives, and how we are heroes in other people's lives. He will speak of struggles within us and use storytelling to relate other people's struggles and how they have been able to overcome them. By using his own stories about meeting songwriter, Pete Seeger and writing the book, Mr. Stotts will encourage attendees to write their own story.

March Around the Courthouse gives children a very visible presence to everyone in the community. "READ TO ME" will be shouted by 1400 students in the middle of downtown San Angelo at 12 noon. Then middle school and high school students read big books to the classes on the courthouse lawn. Angelo State University, Howard College education departments, and all the county schools, SAISD schools, TLC charter school and private schools are invited to attend. Friends of the Library and other volunteers lend support for crowd control and handing out snacks and water. Because of the numbers present, the up-beat atmosphere with drummers drumming the marching beat, and the shouts of the children during the march - creates a hype that is contagious. In fact this is such a large event that it is covered by the news media and the children have the excitement of looking for themselves on television.

Storytelling is a very important factor in the learning environment. Mr. Stotts will lead a storytelling workshop for teachers. He believes that every teacher can tell stories, and that storytelling brings great benefits for students' literacy, relationships, and imagination. (please see [www.stuart.stotts.com](http://www.stuart.stotts.com)) The public will be invited as well as Howard College, Angelo State University, day care workers, teachers and librarians. La Esperanza Clinic's single mother's group will also be invited to attend. Texas 2x2 books and Texas Bluebonnet books will be used to promote reading stories. Participants will also experience the value of singing stories and singing together by using Mr. Stotts' original songs.

**4. Timetable (10 points):** Provide a timetable of program activities.

- Stuart Stott's San Angelo visit will consist of:

April 15 and 16; 10 to 11 A.M. Stories and Songs for Preschoolers

April 15 12:30 to 2 P.M. Program for 5th graders - Stuart Stotts's book We Shall Overcome.

April 16 12:30 to 2 P.M. Program for ninth graders and High school Future Educators.

April 17 12 noon to 1:30 March Around the Courthouse Kinder through 2nd graders are read to by Middle School and High School Students.

April 17 4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Meet with caretakers, ASU Students, Howard College Students, teachers for his workshop, "Storytelling enriches our lives."

The Theme of "Heroes In our Lives" will continue through the summer reading programs that will have 60 sessions over June and July in three locations.

**5. Evaluation (10 points):** Evaluation (10 points): Describe how the anticipated outcomes will be measured. Please note that a draft survey instrument will be provided to all funded applicants.

- 1. Attendance to all events using sign- in sheets

2. Evaluation forms to be filled out by participating Education students from ASU, Howard College and High School future educators as well as the 5th grade students.

3. Follow up with teachers bringing classes to the Read to Me! March: measuring response of the children, book check outs at their campus and general evaluation by the teachers.

4. Follow up with the 5th grade teachers after Stuart Stotts' workshop.

5. Book checkout count following storytimes. Special book displays will encourage greater checkouts and build on Heroes themes.

6. Children will be asked to draw the heroes we have talked about and they will be displayed on our art frames. This will build awareness of our work with the children and allow us to gauge the children's understanding of the concepts presented.

7. Parents will be asked for their written comments on the summer's program and displays. This will help us consider next year's program.

Grant Contact: Erica McCormick

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### Budget

Enter whole numbers only. Amounts should be rounded to the nearest dollar. Do not use dollar signs, cents or commas. For example, enter 1250, not \$1,249.87.

Capitalization Level:  Help \$ 6,600

#### Budget (20 points)

Budget Category	Grant Funds (\$)	Other Funds (\$)	Description	Total Costs (\$)
Personnel 	0	0		0
Fringe Benefits 	0	0		0
Equipment/Property 	0	0		0
Supplies (incl. Library Materials) 	0	1,600		1,600
Contractual Services 	3,000	2,000		5,000
Other 	0	0		0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,600</b>		<b>6,600</b>

**Note:** Amounts should be rounded to the nearest dollar.