

# Examples of Projects Funded by The LIFE Foundation

## Summer Books to Prevent Summer Slide

The LIFE Foundation awarded a grant to Sacha Moustakas at Washington School in Berkeley. Sacha gave students books for the summer to help reduce the slide that is so often seen at the end of summer. She applied for the LIFE Grant before the pandemic hit so some of her plans changed a little. The books were distributed and shared with her students via zoom. This zoom picture shows the students enjoying the fun stories.



## Delta Xi Book Project

This past December 2021, the Delta Xi Book Project gave away over 1750 books to both the Vacaville Christmas Wish program and 14 new teachers at Hemlock and Anna Kyle Elementary Schools. About 200 books came from book donations by Delta Xi members and approximately 1600 books were purchased with LIFE grant funds and monetary donations from Delta Xi members and community donations.



## **Lobby Literature Grant Award**

With this grant, Gamma Chi, Area XVI, purchased new and gently used books for the young children of single parents who are enrolled in Extended Opportunity Programs & Services at Cuyamaca Community College. These children's books were to have been made freely available in the E.O.P.S. Office where the parents go for support and assistance. When Covid restrictions made this impossible, our books were placed in "Welcome Back" backpacks for the single parents to pick up at the beginning of the fall semester. Over 45 children benefited from the 140 books we delivered at that time.

With the remaining funds, Gamma Chi members were able to purchase another 150 children's books, both new and gently used, to give as gifts during the holiday season. We were particularly pleased to include a variety of well-known children's books written in Arabic, a commonly spoken language among many of the E.O.P.S. families. These books, along with member donated gift cards for essential services, helped these single parents and their children experience a happier holiday season.



## **Literacy Through Books**

This grant was awarded to Suzanne Fraser from Gamma Zeta, Area XII in 2020 to help with an annual project to help needy families in and around the Huntington Beach area. The books were given to individual children in the program in addition to being placed in their shared libraries.



## Keep Books

A grant project for 2019, Keep Books, provided reading level books for kindergarten, first and second grade students from low income families who might otherwise not have access to them in their homes. This helps the students practice their beginning reading and literacy skills at home. After ordering and receiving the books, the Gamma Iota members pack books into labeled bags and bundle them for schools. Several members take the book bags to their Title I schools and make class presentations. They have received hundreds of thank you letters from the kids and some are shown here.



## Parents as Literacy Partners

Nancy Rogers-Zegarra and Carla Peterson of Eta Upsilon in Area 1 received a LIFE Grant for their project at four Title 1 schools in Sonoma County. Parents participated in Family Literacy Nights given by Eta Upsilon Chapter, Gateway Reading Council and Parents as Literacy Partners. Each family received a copy of a book in English or Spanish to take home as well as handouts to keep at home. About 160 parents and students participated.



## **A Literacy Walk through American History**

Jennifer Ward, a first grade teacher at Neutra Elementary School, received a grant to stock her library with nonfiction titles about American Symbols. These students then participated in a literacy walk through American history. They dressed in Americana attire as they reported on American symbols they learned about.



Non-members may apply for and receive LIFE Grants!