

WARM WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY

This unique service project not only provides children with cold weather necessities, it also introduces kids and their families to all that their neighborhood library branch has to offer. This project can be done in partnership with [Operation Warm](#). When partnering with Operation Warm, 150 children receive a coat and up to two new books at each library event.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

This program connects families with their local library and provides libraries with the opportunity to showcase their services and programs. By giving each child a brand new coat when they attend the event, a Warm Welcome to the Library program fulfills an urgent need, while simultaneously encouraging literacy and learning at local libraries.



STEP 1

Find a Library

Before applying for this project, contact your public library to review the program objectives and get its buy-in. Once the Lodge's public library agrees to participate, visit Operation Warm's [Community Partner Registration Page](#) to make an account and review a step-by-step guide for hosting a successful event. Or choose to purchase coats as a Lodge! **Please note:** This program costs approximately \$4,000 to complete with Operation Warm. Consider using other CIP grants in conjunction with the Spotlight Grant to complete this project.



STEP 2

Identify Your Participants

Work with local connections to identify families and invite up to 150 children to attend the event. Examples of organizations to reach out to include the YMCA, Boys & Girls Club and Head Start.



STEP 3

Help Children Get Properly Fitted

Coordinate staff and volunteers to help the event run smoothly. Examples of volunteer duties include helping children get properly fitted for a coat, registering children for library cards, or leading various activity stations. The roles are entirely dependent on the needs of the Lodge and its event.



STEP 4

Make it Your Own

Invite a balloon artist or puppeteer, or create a make-believe dress-up area with a mirror and props. Activities will make your Warm Welcome to the Library event a memorable experience.