

Congregation Beth Am offers challenge grant for Costaño literacy Project

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Donors from Congregation Beth Am of Los Altos have pledged a \$20,000 Leadership Challenge Grant to support the Costaño School Literacy Project. The grant will match donations received through Sept. 1. The public elementary school in East Palo Alto serves an ethnically diverse community of low-income, bilingual families.

Co-sponsored by Congregation Beth Am, the East Palo Alto Kids Foundation (EPAK) and the Jewish Coalition for Literacy (JCL), the project will fund a multifaceted initiative to strengthen literacy and reading skills at the school.

“This high-impact project, which was launched in the spring of this year, has accomplished many of its early-phase goals through the hard work of many volunteers, but we still need to raise approximately \$50,000 to bring the library up to adequate standards,” said Mark A. Goldsmith, M.D., Ph.D., chairman and CEO of Cogentus Pharmaceuticals Inc. and a significant supporter of the project.

David and Jane Moss, spearheading the project’s reading encouragement program, are seeking adult volunteers who they will train to read one-on-one, one to two hours per week with the same student throughout the year. Other volunteers are needed to sort and catalogue donated books. This work will continue through the summer, under the direction of experienced library professionals. To volunteer, call Diane Otterby at 323-0884 or e-mail ottersall@aol.com.

For more information, to volunteer or to donate, visit www.costanoschool.com.