



2009 Renew Washington Grants

Final Narrative Report Cover Sheet

Date September 30, 2010 Contract # G-4293 Grant # _____

Library Mount Vernon City Library

Title of Grant The Library—the Heart of the Community in Hard Times and All Times

Amount Awarded \$18,400

Grant Period

Start Date November 3, 2009 Through September 30, 2010

Reporting Period

Start Date November 3, 2009 Through September 20, 2010

Submitted by Brian M. Soneda

Signatures Certifying the Final Report

We certify that all of the information contain herein is correct to the best of our knowledge. We certify that 11 of 11 objectives of this grant have been achieved. We certify this report includes an analysis of each objective of this grant and an evaluation of the impact this grant has made on our services. We certify ~~\$18,357.32~~ \$18,400 has been claimed and ~~\$42,680~~ 0 of the amount originally awarded was not used and the reasons are explained in this report.

Signatory _____ Date _____

Fiscal Agent _____ Date _____

Signatory: Defined as the person who would sign the grant contract and whose signature will be a representation that the legal entity submitting this report has authority to enter into the grant contract; and that the signatory has the authority to sign the grant contract on behalf off the legal entity.

Fiscal Agent: Defined as an individual authorized by the Grantee's governing body to obligate it to the financial liabilities and accountable to the Grantees governing body for the integrity of the official accounting system and the financial statements that the system provides.

Submit this form and the Final Narrative Report to:

Anne Yarbrough
Grants Program
Washington State Library
Post Office Box 42460
Olympia, WA 98504-2460

In addition, email electronic copy to:

anne.yarbrough@sos.wa.gov

Final Narrative Report

1. Do you feel this grant has helped you provide better service to your customers?

x	Strongly agree
	Agree
	Neutral
	Disagree
	Strongly disagree

Please explain: We had a very strong series of public programs and we added a significant number of items to both our book and audiovisual collections; all programs and collection adds strengthened our offerings in Renew WA areas and we have had good positive feedback from the public who have noticed and appreciated the additions. Actually, if there was a category above “strongly agree” called “lights out good stuff” I would have chosen that one.

2. Summarize the project, the situation it was intended to address, and the objectives of the project. When I wrote in the grant application “Project Title and short abstract” section that “Mount Vernon has been hit hard in this current recession” and that “the library will be part of the solution...” I had no idea that the crushing effect of the recession would STILL be an everyday reality in Mount Vernon well into 2010 and beyond, so our efforts at being part of the solution, mainly by providing programs and collection additions that helped the public cope with unemployment, job retraining, living on a restricted budget, etc. were very relevant and I hope, truly part of the path to the solution (because obviously we haven’t gotten there yet, here or elsewhere). Two observations—first, that while objectives were substantively met, the original timeline was too ambitious and meeting of objectives sometimes lagged by several months from the original timeline; and second, that the final apportioning of expenses between lines varied somewhat from the original apportioning, a variance that I kept WSL grant staff appraised of in broad terms.
3. Summarize the results of the project, including activities accomplished, and any problems or unexpected outcomes encountered. We did the following:
- Contacted media and partners in the community about upcoming programs—some success.
 - Ordered, received, processed and put into the collection a wide range of print and non-print materials on resume-writing, job search strategies, frugal/sustainable living skills, and other “recession response” type materials—great success.

- Purchased and made available WinWay resume-writing software on our library computers—used but perhaps not as much as we had hoped.
 - Designed, had printed, and distributed informational bookmarks (including program information on the first five Public Programs) and fliers—wide distribution and we think a positive impact on program attendance.
 - Presented the aforementioned Public Programs to good response and, presented three additional Public Programs that evolved later in the project’s life—great success.
4. Quantify, where possible, the results of the project, including how many people have directly used the new services and resources provided by the project. It would be hard to quantify usage of the print and non-print collection additions, as they were physically tagged as Renew Washington materials (“book plates”) but not given any separate code or status in our collection statistics. We can quantify attendance at our public presentations all at the library with one exception, as noted below:

February 17, 2010

Grow Your Own Groceries, Willi Galloway, 32

February 24, 2010 (at Skagit Valley College, our grant project partner)

Effective Resume Writing – Getting Past the Gatekeepers, Brian Hanchett & Jim Jolly, 14

March 3, 2010

Business Planning for Your New Business, Traci Stark, 7

March 10, 2010

Family Budgeting in Tough Economic Times, Pam Whalley, 10

March 17, 2010

Effective Resume Writing – Getting Past the Gatekeepers, Brian Hanchett & Jim Jolly, 23.

May 17, 2010

Backyard Chickens, Laura McCrae, 32

May 24, 2010

Leveraging Social Networking in Your Job Search, Darlene Mindrum, 8

June 22, 2010

Community Gardens: Growing Vegetables & Building Communities, Jon Gerondale and Gil Gilmore, 12.

Total attendance: 138

5. Did the project meet its stated objectives? Yes. Compare the project objectives to actual accomplishments.

- Creation of lists of available and current materials on resume-writing, job searching skills and frugal/sustainable living—accomplished early on, and added to as new titles came to our attention through professional journal reviews and other sources.
- Identifying sources and pricing information for WinWay Software and for flash drives—accomplished early on.
- Locating/getting commitments for programs from “Public Education” providers; setting up tentative schedule of public programs—accomplished by early January for first set of five public programs, with two additional programs set up shortly after the end of the first programs were presented.
- Contact media and partners in the community about upcoming project—contacted print and radio outlets and had some success; some examples attached.
- Scheduling staff for additional hours (part-timers) or allocating hours (for full-timers) in support of the grant project—we did use part-timers both in direct Renew Washington project support as well as to free up desk time of full-time staff for Renew Washington duty, though we did not use as many hours of staff time as originally expected.
- Place orders for materials on job search and frugal/sustainable living—one of the two great successes of the grant project, with some excellent materials added to the collection; see attached list.
- Place orders for WinWay software/licenses and for flash drives—ordered and installed early in 2010 on multiple public access computers.
- Finalize Public Education program schedule and write contracts with providers, arrange travel for providers—accomplished and as noted above, done in two stages for two sets of programs, first of five and a second set of three programs.
- Prepare bookmark with project information and list of programs and immediately begin to distribute—contracted with local printer to print staff designed bookmarks which were a major publicity item for the first five public programs. (Bookmark was designed and printed before second set of three programs was conceived.)
- Public Education programs presented—accomplished, see list of programs presented and attendance above in section #4.
- Project monitoring and data gathering; report writing for WSL—accomplished in part in the first three quarterly narrative reports and concluded here in this final report.