

GATHERING IDEAS FOR FUTURE STATEWIDE PROJECTS

The Library Council of Washington is looking for your help in identifying ideas for the use of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding to meet statewide library needs and opportunities.

Number: 07-GI-14

Idea name: Connecting Learners to Libraries (CLL)

1. Briefly describe your idea for the use of LSTA funding:

- (a) CLL will produce a **notebook** available in print and electronic formats showcasing the 2005 and 2006 mini-grant projects. The notebook will provide:
 - i. brief descriptions and photos from the projects
 - ii. OBE data measuring the projects' accomplishments
 - iii. Contact information for the projects' directors and partners

- (b) CLL will host a one-day **summit** to bring together school and public library staff statewide to discuss common issues, concerns, challenges, projects, success stories, etc. Potentially, this summit could be co-sponsored by WLA, WLMA, and OSPI, and held every two or three years.

2. Briefly describe why funding of this idea is important to the Washington library community:

- (a) **The notebook.** The CLL Project offered two years of mini-grants that will end in August 2007. The value and successful outcomes of these projects can be sustained and replicated by raising awareness of and promoting the grant projects' activities and stories. Many of the grant projects can be sustained or replicated with little or no outside funding. One of CLL's objectives in awarding mini-grants was to offer "seed money" to facilitate the development and implementation of low-cost projects that could be sustained and replicated once the grant funds were no longer available. Communities that have not received CLL grants will be able to learn from the grants showcased in the notebook what can be accomplished with little or no outside funding. Additionally, existing projects will be able to borrow ideas and elements from other projects to fine-tune the continuation of their own projects. By promoting successful projects that require minimal funding, the CLL notebook is a low-cost approach to leveraging the overall value of its grant program — in essence, seeding new projects and continuing existing projects — without the cost of awarding grants.

- (b) **The summit.** Schools and libraries serve a common population: K-12 students. CLL programs and activities are based upon research that has demonstrated that when these two institutions collaborate, student achievement improves. CLL's OBE Retreat in November 2005 demonstrated the need for the sharing of ideas, challenges and solutions between public library and school library staff. Retreat participants were enthusiastic

about the opportunity the retreat provided them to meet with and learn from their counterparts, both in their own community and statewide. Many school and public library staff have little interaction with their counterparts and are unaware of their commonalities and differences, although they serve a common audience and share common goals. We should build on the momentum the November 2006 OBE Retreat began and continue the dialogue.

3. Briefly describe the outcome that is expected should the idea be funded. In other words, how will we know if the project has been successful and has achieved its goals?:

Approached from the vantage point of an OBE-style logic model...

One Outcome and its Indicators of (a) **the notebook** may look like:

Outcome	Indicators
Public Library (PL) and K-12 library staff who review the CLL notebook increase their collaboration skills	1. #/% PL & K-12 staff who can successfully identify at least 3 components common to a successful collaboration 2. #/% PL & K-12 staff who can successfully identify an objective of their collaboration 3. #/% PL & K-12 staff who can successfully identify at least 2 elements from 1 or more sample projects that they would like to replicate 4. #/% PL & K-12 staff who can successfully identify the first 3 steps they will take to begin their collaboration

Two Outcomes and their Indicators of (b) **the summit** may look like:

Outcome	Indicators
Summit participants increase their level of collaboration	1. #/% of PL & K-12 staff who communicate monthly with their counterparts about student issues 2. #/% of schools and public libraries that have electronic links to each other

Outcome	Indicators
Public Library and K-12 library staff demonstrate awareness of education issues that effect student achievement	1. #/% PL & K-12 staff who say they are somewhat or highly aware of the Culminating Project 2. #/% PL & K-12 staff who say they are somewhat or highly aware of the WASL 3. #/% PL & K-12 staff who say they are somewhat or highly aware of EALRs

General Information

Which library types are intended as the primary beneficiaries of this project? (check all that apply)

- Academic (private and public two-year and four-year academic institutions)
 Public (libraries organized under RCW 27.12)
 School (private and public K-12 schools)
 Special (business and industry, law, medical, other government, tribal, other)
If other, specify: _____

The intended beneficiaries of the project? (check the primary beneficiary)

- Library staff
 Library users or potential library users
 A specific group of staff or users, or a potential user group. Name the target beneficiaries(s): K-12 students (e.g., children, adults, disadvantaged, remote access library users, unserved community members, reference staff, IT staff, students)

The activities needed to implement this project are envisioned to include (check all that apply):

- User training
 Staff training
 Grants
 Development of best practices
 Demonstration of emerging technology or practices
 Other, please explain: _____

Considering the outcome desired, how long should the project continue? This proposal is a request to continue funding CLL for FY 2007

(Note that most projects are from one year to four years in length.)