

2009 Targeted Competitive Hard Times Grants

The purpose of this grant cycle is to provide grant funds to help libraries initiate new services, enhance existing services, conduct outreach and partnership efforts, or complete other activities that are identified as important to the library in addressing the needs of people needing access to employment-related information, resources, and services.

Funding for these grants is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Grant: 09-TC-002 **Award:** \$10,808

Organization: Columbia County Rural Library District

Title: Education/Job Information Center

Abstract: The grant will make it possible to expand the library's Education/Job Information Center collection to include topics on education, colleges, employment, careers, job skills, scholarships, grants, and more in various formats.

Grant: 09-TC-003 **Award:** \$29,160

Organization: Everett Public Library

Title: Relief for Everett: Increasing Technology Access and Skills for Today's Job Market

Abstract: Grant funds will be used to: 1) purchase Resume Maker software; and 2), hire qualified sub-contractors to provide on-demand technological assistance in both library branches and provide a curriculum of basic technology courses designed to assist job seekers and career-changers, especially the technologically disadvantaged.

Grant: 09-TC-004 **Award:** \$30,150

Organization: Sno-Isle Libraries

Title: Tools for Tough Times: We Have What You Need

Abstract: A package of resources and services will be provided to help job-seeking patrons through tough economic times, targeting skills building, resume writing, interview practice sessions, and job search strategies.

Grant: 09-TC-005 **Award:** \$47,500

Organization: Port Townsend Public Library

Title: Transition Yourself – Finding Your Work Path in Hard Times

Abstract: This grant will enable the library to serve job seekers through increased collections, trained staff, and a comprehensive program to guide the unemployed in dealing with the social, psychological and financial aspects of job loss and find new employment directions.

Grant: 09-TC-006 **Award:** \$18,400

Organization: Mount Vernon City Library

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

Abstract: The library has always been open to those needing help in recessionary times. Today the story is no different. Mount Vernon has been hit hard in this current recession. The library will be part of the solution by providing information, training and resources people can use to better their lives.

Grant: 09-TC-007 **Award:** \$16,800

Organization: Skagit Valley College Library

Title: Find a Career, Get a Job: Skagit Valley College Career & Employment Resources

Abstract: This project will offer students and community members expanded career information through an online program and new print, media, and electronic materials in the library. These resources are intended to be used by and available through the library, counseling and career services, and college classes.

Grant: 09-TC-008 **Award:** \$9,604

Organization: Eastern Washington University Libraries

Title: LAUNCH (Learning and Using New Career Help)

Abstract: Project LAUNCH is comprised of two activities: 1) development and implementation of an interactive resource guide to provide “one-stop shopping” for career resources to be used by EWU graduating students and alumni; and 2) purchase and implementation of fifteen Web cameras for circulation to students to be used with the Web-based Interviewstream program to improve interview skills.

Grant: 09-TC-009 **Award:** \$21,257

Organization: Timberland Regional Library

Title: Basic Training for Hard Times

Abstract: This project will: 1) improve staff skills so they can lead patrons directly to needed resources and guide them in how to use those resources; 2) spotlight relevant collections by identifying and updating job, education, and business resources; and 3) make tools accessible by training staff on how to teach technology use and how to solve technology bottlenecks.

Grant: 09-TC-010 **Award:** \$35,500

Organization: Tacoma Public Library

Title: Creation of Employment Resource Center at the Tacoma Public Library Main Library

Abstract: The Tacoma Public Library is creating a comprehensive employment resource center with state-of-the-art technology, books, periodicals, databases, and skill-building assistance. It will offer employment search educational opportunities and feature a speaker's series of well-regarded experts in the field of career transition and placement.

Grant: 09-TC-011 **Award:** \$48,420

Organization: Fort Vancouver Regional Library

Title: Get Job Help @ Your Library

Abstract: The grant will provide expert help preparing resumes, cover letters and interviews; classes on job-hunting and how to use library employment resources; and the use of a dedicated computer for job related activities like searching and applying for jobs or filing for unemployment benefits online.

Grant: 09-TC-012 **Award:** \$24,800

Organization: Camas Public Library

Title: New Horse Sense for Job Seekers

Abstract: The Camas Public Library will expand its commitment to citizens seeking new employment or careers by adding relevant employment-related materials to its collections, instructional program offerings, and computer infrastructure. The library will place itself firmly in the forefront as the place to go for job resources in the community.

Grant: 09-TC-014 **Award:** \$50,000

Organization: The Seattle Public Library

Title: Workplace 911

Abstract: Workplace 911 at The Seattle Public Library will bring together a series of live and virtual services to address the needs of three groups of Library users: job seekers, workers worried about losing their job, and employers dealing with personnel issues related to the tough economic times.

Grant: 09-TC-015 **Award:** \$50,000

Organization: Whatcom County Library System

Title: Steps on the Path: Connecting Partners, Building Community / Pasos en el camino: Companeros conectados, Construyendo comunidad

Abstract: WCLS is taking a leadership role in working with local agencies to share resources and link staff and expertise for outreach to immigrant and minority populations. The goal is building connections via the library as hub to guide residents on the path to education, employment, and self sufficiency.

Grant: 09-TC-016 **Award:** \$45,440

Organization: Spokane Community College Library

Title: Hard Times Call for Comprehensive Solutions

Abstract: Spokane Community College Library's services will be enhanced to effectively serve the growing number of students and community members seeking job skills and employment information/services. The library will: 1) add key career databases; 2) update and enhance its print and online career and job-seeking resources/materials; 3) offer job-seeking/career success workshops; 4) offer presentations about local job opportunities; 5) expand services in the certification testing/proctoring center; and 6) offer resume-building software in the computer lab and check-out laptops.

Grant: 09-TC-017 **Award:** \$9,848

Organization: Puyallup Public Library

Title: Real Resumes

Abstract: The project will provide classes for job hunters who need assistance creating a resume for an effective job search. The project calls for additional equipment for the computer lab, purchase of flash drives for participants, and use of paid staff and human resources professionals for instruction.

Grant: 09-TC-018 **Award:** \$28,062

Organization: Spokane Public Library

Title: Spokane Library Work Source Connection

Abstract: Spokane Public Library's Downtown Branch will be designated a WorkSource Connection Site by WorkSource Spokane. The Computer Lab will be open 10 hours a week with a WorkSource trained employee available to assist job seekers. Books, videos and software recommended by WorkSource will be purchased for all branches.

Grant: 09-TC-020 **Award:** \$20,000

Organization: City of Liberty Lake, Liberty Lake Municipal Library

Title: Hard Times

Abstract: This project will provide free job hunting information, computer training, and career guidance through a variety of media and internet sources located centrally in a Career Center and in specific programming.

Grant: 09-TC-021 **Award:** \$50,000

Organization: Pierce County Library System

Title: Job Resource Skill Center Project

Abstract: The Job Resource Skill Center project is designed to offer one-stop shopping for Pierce County job seekers and small business entrepreneurs in five key libraries, making available a full range of support services including free resources, personal assistance and the computer access needed to be successful in today's job market.

Grant: 09-TC-022 **Award:** \$50,000

Organization: King County Library System

Title: InfoBiz – Online Small Business Resource Center

Abstract: King County InfoBiz is an online resource center for struggling small business owners and entrepreneurs that will allow users to access streaming how-to videos, tutorials, and podcasts presented by local business experts. The project is a partnership between community agencies providing content; and KCLS providing filming, editing and organization of that content.

Grant: 09-TC-023 **Award:** \$48,160

Organization: Whitman County Library District

Title: Whitman County Library Occupation Resource Connections (WORC)

Abstract: Whitman County Library's Occupation Resource Connections provides a series of collaborative skill building instructional programs, comprehensive career guidance and increased computer access to resources addressing our current employment crisis. Collaborative programs will address computer skill development, interview basics, resume and job application completion and career development. WORC encourages self-empowerment and career objectives.