Washington State Library
Library Development Program

Services to Libraries 2011

October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only agency in Washington that is specifically designated by law to assist libraries and to ensure that residents of the entire state have access to library and information services. State Library staff members work in partnership with statewide advisory committees to plan and implement programs, and to provide training, grants, and consulting services aimed at the development, improvement, and enhancement of all public and non-profit libraries in the state.

8th Congressional District: Direct Services to Local Libraries

Libraries in this district have received $57,147 as a result of Washington State Library services and programs during the past year:

The Washington State Library Awarded Grants to Individual Libraries or Library Systems ($8,699)

Continuing Education Grants ($2,699)

Continuing Education grants allow library staff to obtain training so that they can more effectively serve library customers and the people of the state.

- Auburn School District
- City University of Seattle
- Pierce County Library System

eBook Reader Pilot Project ($3,000)

The eBook Reader Pilot Project assists libraries to develop "best practices" in eBook lending.

- Bellevue College
- Renton School District

Supporting Student Success Grants ($3,000)

Supporting Student Success grants support collaborative partnerships between the State's public libraries and school libraries. These grants are designed to improve students' information and research skills. They focus on the students' ability to effectively complete Social Studies Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) requirements.

- Bethel School District

Washington Rural Heritage Grants and Technical Assistance

Washington Rural Heritage grants and technical assistance help small and rural public libraries create online digital collections documenting their community's history. Participating libraries develop long-term sustainable digitization programs through ongoing training and support from the State Library. Collaborative partnerships with neighboring cultural institutions are encouraged.

- Enumclaw Public Library

The Washington State Library Subsidized Local Libraries (matched by the local library) ($48,448)

Ask-WA ($13,930)

This program is a statewide virtual reference cooperative that provides online reference services to library patrons through chat, email, and instant messaging (IM) technologies. This statewide network is tied in to a global network through QuestionPoint, providing access to 24/7 online reference services for every participating library. Subsidies cover the cost of providing this service.

- Bellevue College
- Green River Community College
- King County Library System
- Renton Technical College

Downloadable Audiobooks ($4,794)

Library users throughout Washington State can download audiobooks through their participating local library. The Washington State Library portal includes helpful resources and documentation, promotional materials for libraries, and more.

- Enumclaw Public Library
- King County Library System

Statewide Database Licensing (SDL) ($29,724)

This program provides the ProQuest and eLibrary online database collections to public and nonprofit K–12 school, public, academic, and special libraries in Washington. Through SDL and their local library, Washington residents have online access to the information contained in more than 3,300 full-text journals and to other sources, including CultureGrams, seven Washington and five national newspapers.

- Bellevue College
- City University of Seattle
- Enumclaw Public Library
- Green River Community College
- King County Library System
- Overlake Hospital Medical Center
- Renton Technical College

Nonprofit schools also received subsidies through the Washington State Library

The Washington State Library Provided Training to Local Library Staff

One hundred forty-six (146) individuals received training on subjects including: serving diverse populations and underserved customers; database searching; computer and network maintenance; as well as technology and virtual reference services. Training was delivered in-person and online.

Library systems may span more than one congressional district. The amount listed reflects the total benefit received by the library system regardless of congressional district.

Return on Investment in the Washington State Library in 2011

- For every $1.00 of Washington State Library funding required for Maintenance of Effort, Washington State receives approximately $1.81 of federal LSTA funding in return. In 2011, the Washington State Library received $3,351,575 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to invest in Washington libraries of all types.
- The Washington State Library is partnering with the Northwest Open Access Network (NoaNet), Washington's leading nonprofit broadband provider, in two successful US Department of Commerce Broadband grants. As a result, $138,800,000 has been awarded to NoaNet to enhance broadband capabilities in many parts of the State. Up to 101 library buildings will receive enhanced broadband to serve their communities as part of this partnership.
- The Washington State Library has been awarded $1,500,000 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to use toward public library match requirements in the Department of Commerce Broadband grants.
- The Washington State Library has been awarded $284,000 for the National Digital Newspaper Project from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This project will digitize 100,000 pages of microfilmed Washington newspapers from 1836 to 1922 and make them available online to the residents of Washington.

Recognition and Honors for Washington State Library Programs

- Laura Sherbo, Manager of Branch Library Services, has been awarded the Leadership and Professional Achievement Award, an award given by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), a division of the American Library Association. "Laura Sherbo has dedicated her professional career to ensuring that inmates of correctional centers and patients at two state hospitals receive the highest quality library services," said ASCLA President Norma Blake. "Because of her inspirational leadership, libraries flourish in Washington's major prisons."
- Washington Rural Heritage (WRH) was featured in the Seattle Times in late 2011 and mentioned in ALA Direct, the e-newsletter of the American Library Association. WRH collections highlight historic materials documenting the early culture, industry, and community life of Washington State. Small public libraries and their community partners, more than 60 cultural institutions in all, select, digitize, and contribute the materials for this project, which is coordinated and supported by the Washington State Library.

Selected 2011 Statewide Projects, Programs, and Services

- To benefit Washington State citizens, Washington State Library staff:
  - Have established a working relationship with the Washington State Department of Early Learning (DEL) headed by Dr. Bette Hyde. The State Librarian and state library youth services staff members met in March with Dr. Hyde to discuss how libraries fit into the Department's early learning work and the national Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge grant that was recently awarded to DEL.
  - Serve the needs of traditionally unserved individuals:
    - The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL) provides statewide library services to those who are sight-impaired or who have difficulty using print materials. Patrons of WTBBL range from two years old (assisted by their parents) to 106. In fact, 61 of WTBBL's patrons are 100 years old or older.
    - Washington State Library branches provide service to individuals in state correctional and mental health facilities. Services include activities such as developing and maintaining collections, answering reference questions, developing readers' advisory guides, providing programming such as book discussions, conducting training in the use of libraries and library resources, and support for institution programs with emphasis on recovery and re-entry.
  - Have completed the Washington State LSTA Five-Year Evaluation Report. The LSTA Five-Year Evaluation is an independent evaluation of the activities supported with federal LSTA funding. As stated in the report's executive summary, "The WSL's most significant strength is their ability to convene and promote collaboration between and among libraries of all types in the state." LSTA funding is critical to the work and success of the Washington State Library.

8th Congressional District:

Libraries in this district include school libraries and:

- Bellevue College
- City University of Seattle
- Enumclaw Public Library
- Green River Community College
- King County Library System
- Overlake Hospital Medical Center
- Pierce County Library System
- Renton Technical College

WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY

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