



## EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS/ LOS LIBROS (CHILDREN'S DAY/BOOK DAY)

### GRANT REPORT

This project focused on Latino families in Colorado and the libraries that wish to reach out to those families. It used El día de los niños/los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), a national celebration on April 30, to encourage families to read and enjoy related activities as a way to enhance literacy.

In 2011, emphasis was placed on developing collaborations with several organizations to increase Library People's visibility in the library community. We also gave five grants to small/rural libraries, in keeping with our mission. Because we were unsure how experienced those libraries were in planning events, we also provided mentors to monitor and assist.



#### **PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:**

- Library People—Friends of Colorado Libraries
- REFORMA Colorado
- Metropolitan State College of Denver Department of Chicano/a Studies Journey Through Our Heritage
- Colorado Library Consortium
- Denver Foundation Inclusiveness Project

#### **ACHIEVED:**

- Recruited representatives and contacts from partner organizations. This included mentors and technical assistance from Colorado REFORMA (a library group focused on services to Latinos), a student from Metro in the Chicano/a Studies Department, support from Colorado Library Consortium and Denver Foundation Inclusiveness Project.
- Researched and developed resources that might be used for program development, utilizing a combination of websites, solicitations, and others, and utilizing the technical assistance and background from Colorado REFORMA, the American Library Association, the State Library of Texas, and others. These are kept online at <http://www.reformacolorado.org/eldia.html>
- Recruited five local libraries to select and implement the program of their choice. They received a small stipend of \$250 for Latino-oriented library materials and program development.
- Developed five mentors (three from REFORMA, two from Library People) to provide technical assistance to Library People and to selected local libraries to develop their programs.
- Distributed packet of information to libraries throughout the state to encourage widespread sponsorship of literacy-based programs for Latino families. These went to about 275 public library locations and also were promoted via e-lists.

In addition, the project:

- Promoted and modeled program concepts to enable libraries to reach out to Latinos.
- Encouraged connections with local Hispanic organizations for sustainability;
- Set the stage for similar activities annually.
- Reached an estimated 800 individuals who attended and participated in the events.

**PHOTOS FROM LAFAYETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S EVENT**

