



Library People

Friends of
Colorado Libraries

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RURAL LIBRARY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

2011 Project Results

The Rural Library Enrichment Program is designed to help small and rural libraries develop their resources and services. For a number of years, we have helped achieve this goal by making small grants, unrestricted as to use, to selected small libraries. The pilot project, initiated in 2005, awarded \$500 grants to two to five small libraries annually, and the results have been most beneficial to people living in rural areas of Colorado.

Access to the resources of our state's public libraries varies enormously. In Pueblo, a dad and mom can take their children to one of 13 branches open more than 35,000 hours a year and choose from more than a million items. On the other hand, a businessman in Flagler may not be able to visit the library, open only 600 hours a year, to check out one of its 11,000 items.

Library People believes no one should be without quality libraries. Financial resources from alternative sources can help improve the accessibility and quality of the offerings of small and rural libraries, often making a significant impact on the institutions' development and long-term stability. This support essentially becomes the critical element to help the library make a major leap forward.

The Kenneth King Foundation grant of \$1500 in 2010 enabled Library People to support three awards of \$500 to deserving libraries. Additional support was found for two more libraries. Results for the current year are summarized below.

GOAL: To help improve the accessibility and quality of the offerings of small and rural libraries, often making a significant impact on the institutions' development and long-term stability

Small and rural libraries receive financial support to purchase materials or equipment, sponsor programs, or reach out to the community. Selections are made from a pool of libraries suggested by Board and by staff of the Colorado State Library based on these criteria:

1. Low per capita income but some demonstration of support from local government. Our support makes a difference.
2. Demonstration of leadership and commitment to moving libraries forward by participation in the broad library community.
3. Within a certain range of small, local service area population.
4. Meet public library standards:

www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/Standards/FullText/Definition.htm

2011 UNRESTRICTED GRANTS OF \$500

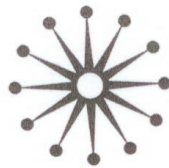
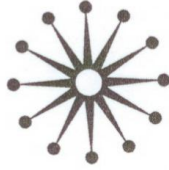
<i>Difference in community?</i>	<i>Unanticipated results?</i>	<i>Partnerships and collaborations</i>	<i>Made a difference in future planning?</i>
<p>La Veta Regional Library District : A Library Journal “Star” library, more than 100% of population is registered for cards (includes users outside district). Grant used to add staff hours to develop technology training for staff and patrons, to use free Internet resources and educate citizens before they buy technological equipment.</p>			
<p>Technology Open Houses held bi-monthly, beginning in July, continuing indefinitely. 25 adults attended TOH to date; Attendance - and interest - is growing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biggest impact has been the eReader education: the Library purchased 5 different eReaders, introduced equipment. Several of those attending purchased an eReader based on their experience. ➤ eReaders kept at the circulation desk. Staff estimate at least 45 people have tried eReaders, at least 19 have purchased eReaders. ➤ We have received many appreciative comments for this effort. 	<p>Became obvious that the Library could not wait until 2012 to offer eBook lending. We have joined the Colorado Digital Consortium and will begin offering Overdrive on Nov 30. The Board of Trustees has decreased several budget lines, notably books and books on CD, in order to provide ongoing funding for eBooks in our 2012 budget.</p>	<p>Summer residents greatly increased circulation, by three-fold. Volunteer base of two very tech-savvy gentlemen are committed to helping us make this concept of technology training continue to grow.</p>	<p>a) The need for eBook lending mentioned in #2 went a long way toward convincing hesitant Library Trustees that the La Veta community is ready and eager for more technology support from its Library.</p> <p>b) The diversity of the experience levels of Tech Open House attendees has made it obvious that a wide digital divide exists in our community. The Library Board is displaying a commitment to addressing this divide.</p>
<p>Red Feather Mountain Library District (Larimer County): Serves many retired folks who live there as well as vacationers from Colorado. Grant used to purchase titles directly requested by patrons in variety of format, otherwise not able to purchase.</p>			
<p>Ad hoc public reaction, as determined from user comments and requests for further items in the series were very favorable. This proved to be a significant public relations bonus, allowed us to work closely with clientele in meeting interests and needs.</p>	<p>People were pleased that 1) we were meeting their requests and 2) providing more, popular materials on the shelf. Rather unexpectedly, people were requesting continued items in series that we as well purchased with regular library funds.</p>	<p>A partnership primarily between our clientele and ourselves - working together to meet user interests and needs in a broader context.</p>	<p>We've redoubled efforts to purchase requested materials that are going to be of interest to a reasonable spectrum of our clientele.</p>
<p>San Miguel #2/Norwood: Local population less than 2000; has teen study hour and story times, open six days a week. Grant used to purchase books and materials for children's and teen area to enable both sections to be revamped and updated.</p>			
<p>Purchased books for Young Adult collection for Summer Reading Program and books to give away at the end of the program (all ages). First Teen Summer program, 30 participants. Children's program (ages 0-12) also increased from 87 participants last year to 103. Directly related to new materials and user-friendliness, allows the</p>	<p>In conjunction with the statistics, circulation of children's materials in June and July increased by 301 checkouts!! 949 in 2011 vs 648 in 2010!! For a library this small, this is remarkable!</p>	<p>The Summer Reading program is a collaborative effort between ourselves, the Prime Time Learning Center, the UnBOCS and the Naturita Community Library.</p>	<p>The increase in attendance and circulation demonstrated that the kids are eager for new materials so more monies should be put into the budget for them!!</p>

new materials to be displayed .			
Swink School-Public: A Library Journal “Star” library, very needy, ranks high in circulation and visits per capita and computer use. Grant used to add to play-away and interactive books for children, heretofore an impossibility.			
Gave young people access to new titles and books on CDs andMP3 players, increased audio circ by about 25%.	ESL kids and families have enjoyed using book with audio; helps them learn English.	This is a joint school-public library	Will be budgeting more for audio books in future.
Wellington Public Library(N Ft Collins): Facing Front Range growth, director is reaching out to the community. Grant used to reach out to large number of licensed child care providers and parents who choose to homeschool their children, especially for preschool and kindergarten and enhance our collection for these parents and child care providers, purchase high demand materials that support early literacy and focus on early language, concepts, and cognitive and pre-reading skills.			
An increase in use of concept books. Grant books were a great addition. Many parents are choosing to work with their pre-school children at home instead of putting them into pre-school and these books are a way to supplement their materials.	Many positive comments from parents on the collection.	NA	Have re-cataloged many easy non-fiction books previously included in picture books. Now have a shelf devoted to these easy non-fiction concept books. Since they have been so popular we will continue to purchase concept books and will need plan for future shelving growth in this area.

Wellington Library



Title page of 52 page Photobook for the 2011 Summer Reading Program



Norwood Summer Reading Program

Presented by the Norwood Public Library, the Uncompahgne BOCS, Prime Time Learning Center, Just for Kids Foundation, the Friends of the Library, The Library People, ACE of Norwood, Virginia Kyle and many individuals and businesses in the community.

The Norwood Public Library

Would like to thank the following people and organizations for supporting our Summer Reading Program:

Just for Kids Foundation • the Library People • the Friends of the Library
• Virginia Kyle • Uncompahgre BOCs • Uncompahgre Medical Center
Clark's Market • Naturita Community Library • ACE of Norwood
Happy Belly Deli • Prime Time Learning Center
Melissa Currie • Karin Freudenberg • Ignacio Rossel • Barbara Youngblood

The program was a HUGE success but we couldn't have done it without you!!

The Norwood Public Library would also like to thank the Friends of the Library for their continued support of the library and library programs. This year they have:

- Brought in storyteller, Indiana Bones
- Paid for the painting of the walls behind the circulation desk and the back wall
- Paid for the purchase and installation of new cabinets for the circulation area
- Put on a stellar Library Luncheon and Fashion Show
- Hosted the annual Book Sale
- And approved a few changes still in the works

Come by the Library to see what a difference these changes have made!



Oct 26, 2011 edition of the Norwood Post.

1/2 page color ad.