

# Wisconsin 2011 LSTA Grant Abstracts

Abstracts for the LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) projects approved for funding in Wisconsin in 2011 are available below. These abstracts were included as part of the online grant applications submitted by grant applicants in September 2010. The abstracts are arranged in alphabetical order by grant number within the LSTA grant categories.

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## A. Technology

### Statewide Technology

<b>Nicolet Federated Library System</b>	<b>11-110</b>
<b>Statewide Library Access</b>	<b>\$34,500</b>

This project will utilize the existing infrastructure of the New Era program and the associated public library systems and multi-type library organizations within the New Era geographic area to obtain a more robust needs assessment than has been previously carried out, including conducting a random survey of residents, making recommendations about onsite services to be provided, and collecting information about actual onsite services provided. This project will also populate a directory of libraries and associated services, develop a reimbursement fund for lost materials and postage reimbursement, create a website and promotional materials, and carry out and document the results of a demonstration project.

<b>Northern Waters Library Service</b>	<b>11-114</b>
<b>NWLS Delivery Service Project</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>

Goal: To serve NWLS patrons with an efficient and affordable delivery service in 2011.

Objectives:

1. To maintain the delivery service for NWLS libraries at no fewer than the total number of stops offered in 2010.
2. To continue to study and refine the efficiency of routing and sorting techniques.
3. To communicate with other library systems for continued improvements in the service.
4. To work with DLTCL and the State Delivery Service Advisory Committee to plan cost sharing methods in order to ensure universal and equitable delivery among all Wisconsin libraries for the long term.

## Evaluation

NWLS staff and member libraries routinely discuss delivery service problems and issues and work together to find solutions. The goal of these discussions is to provide the most efficient, problem free service possible.

### South Central Library System Delivery Services

11-116  
\$75,000

Objective 1: Use the LSTA funds to pay for the maintenance costs of the fleet of vehicles used for statewide delivery.

Objective 2: Use the LSTA funds to pay for fuel costs.

Objective 3: Use the LSTA funds to sustain the cost-sharing arrangement of the 17 public library systems to ensure it remains affordable for each system.

The project objectives will be evaluated in 3 ways:

- 1: Confirmation that maintenance costs submitted for payment were actually from the vehicles providing the intersystem service as evidenced by maintenance records.
- 2: Confirmation that intersystem delivery service fuel use was from the calendar year of 2011 as evidenced by fleet fuel reports.
- 3: Confirmation of continued participation in the statewide delivery network by all 17 public library systems.

The activity of daily statewide delivery service will continue as long as it is an affordable, cost effective solution for supporting statewide resource sharing. The benefit of this project is, through funding relief from LSTA, that the statewide delivery service remains affordable to all 17 public library systems. Should the Delivery Services category not exist or be reduced in the future, the benefit of cost relief will go away and, though it is the most cost effective option, the statewide delivery service may no longer be affordable for each system.

### South Central Library System E-content Licensing

11-118  
\$100,000

\$100,000 of LSTA funds are being requested to add approximately 8,000 e-books to the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) collection of OverDrive titles.

## Library System Technology

### Arrowhead Library System Arrowhead Libraries Train Staff and Public to Use Computers

11-120  
\$9,600

The Arrowhead Library System provides a computer trainer to teach classes at the seven member libraries in Rock County. The classes included beginning and advanced classes for adults, some are senior citizens or other adults with disabilities, including hearing loss, mobility issues and vision loss. Group and individual classes are offered at the seven libraries in the system. Two libraries have computer labs. All have wireless access and the Arrowhead Library System has a small portable computer lab with 4 laptop computers that work with the wireless networks.

**Eastern Shores Library System** 11-122  
**Wide Area Network Access 2011** \$11,300

Eastern Shores Library System (ESLS) and Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) have been providing wide area network (WAN) access to their member libraries since 1998. Each member library in the two systems has a TEACH circuit into the BadgerNet Converged Network, connecting to networking equipment in the ESLS offices in Sheboygan. The ESLS office connects via TEACH / BCN to WiscNet, the system's network services provider. ESLS has 20MB of transport to WiscNet, and 25MB for WAN traffic. The support for the network services are shared by ESLS and MCLS, 2/3 and 1/3 respectively.

This LSTA grant will provide funding for Eastern Shores Library System's share of the total telecommunications costs from TEACH. The grant will also pay for part of the cost of the system's member libraries' TEACH line to the BadgerNet WAN.

Amount of Federal Funds Requested: \$11,300.00

**Indianhead Federated Library System** 11-124  
**2011 System Technology Projects** \$34,100

The IFLS System Technology Projects funds will be used to purchase a replacement Dell PowerEdge server to ensure the continued operation of member library websites, e-mail and Pharos computer management system, ResearchPro federated search product, Ancestry Library Edition, WPLC membership, and training lab video equipment to stream workshops to our member libraries.

All 53 of our member libraries will benefit from each of these projects.

**Kenosha Public Library** 11-126  
**2011 KCLS Systemwide Resources and Services** \$8,900

The Kenosha Public Library is applying for this 2011 LSTA Library System Technology Project Grant on behalf of the Kenosha County Library System (KCLS). This is a non-competitive grant category and KCLS is eligible to receive \$8,900 in funds. KCLS will purchase services and resources that will be available from all three system websites. These resources are NetLibrary eBooks and OverDrive through the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) and a Syndetics cover art subscription for the joint web catalog.

**Lakeshores Library System** 11-128  
**2011 Lakeshores Library System Technology Projects** \$14,500

Funds from the 2011 LSTA Public Library System Technology Project grant will be used to upgrade LLS WAN server and network hardware in preparation for the Federal Broadband Grant and future WAN service needs. Funds will also be used to purchase a Macintosh for staff use and compatibility testing as well as some smaller projects such as educating our librarians on electronic reading devices and purchasing screen recording software that can be used for training purposes.

**Manitowoc-Calumet Library System** 11-130  
**Public Library System Technology Projects - T1 Lines** \$8,500

This project will help the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (MCLS) and its six member libraries to continue to participate in a high-speed, wide area network that is supported cooperatively by MCLS and the Eastern Shores Library System. In addition, a small portion of the grant will be used to pay for our portion of the cost for the three T1 lines at the central site.

LSTA funds will be used to pay for T1 lines for Manitowoc-Calumet's six member libraries at the TEACH-subsidized annual rate of \$1,200 per library. The grant will also help pay for MCLS's T1 line and a portion of its share of three T1 that serve the network's central site. Under a contract with the Eastern Shores system, MCLS will use local funds to pay for most of the central site costs, administration,

technical support, and a portion of the MCLS share of WiscNet email and Internet service. These costs will absorb the remainder of the \$8,500 that is allocated to MCLS in this noncompetitive grant.

The wide area network supported in part by this grant provides the telecommunications backbone for the shared automation systems in both Manitowoc-Calumet and Eastern Shores. Within MCLS, all six member libraries currently participate in a shared Sirsi Dynix system through the Manitowoc-Calumet Libraries Automated Resource Sharing Consortium (LARS). MCLS and all of its member libraries have web pages, which are hosted on the network's central site server. All of the libraries' OPACS are available over the network, and all six libraries use the network for Internet access. (Even though Internet access is enabled by the wide area network, use of LSTA funds for T1 telecommunications lines as proposed in this project does not require compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act filtering requirements for participating libraries.)

Providing high-speed, reliable telecommunications through the Eastern Shores/MCLS wide area network is one way for MCLS to offer a valuable and much-needed service. MCLS will be able to invest in continuing cooperative collaboration with ESLS in 2011. MCLS member libraries have repeatedly confirmed that they want the System to continue to maintain the network as a system service. By paying for the T1 lines, which represent a substantial portion of network costs, this grant will help assure that Manitowoc-Calumet libraries and their users will continue to have ready and reliable telecommunications to support resource sharing, communications, Internet access, and other activities.

**Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System** 11-132  
**MWFLS Technology Projects, 2011** \$17,500

1. Providing adequate bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN: \$3000 will be used to purchase ITP or WAN bandwidth for the MWFLS WAN. It will not be used to purchase Internet service. In order to insure preparedness for the DOA Fiber Project \$5500 will be budgeted for head-end infrastructure improvements.
2. WPLC Membership: \$9000 will be used for MWFLS's WPLC Membership in order To be able to participate in the WPLC Overdrive subscription.

**Milwaukee County Federated Lib System** 11-134  
**MCFLS System Technology Projects -2011** \$36,500

MCFLS plans to utilize the 2011 Library System Technology Project funds toward the following projects:

1. COBA Patron Address Verification: \$6,500 (\$6000 plus \$500 update)

Coba is a patron address verification service offered by Quipu Group LLC <http://www.quipugroup.com/>. Coba would take a delimited file of patron addresses exported from the CountyCat server and verify them against the USPS database. Coba then corrects these addresses to read for consistency purposes. The addresses are then imported back into the database and any errors on the patron record are corrected.

2. EDIFACT Invoicing: \$14,500

Electronic Invoicing via EDIFACT allows the library to import an electronic invoice file to provide the data equal to a manually keyed invoice. It is used for invoicing of monographic firm and standing orders. Electronic invoices in EDIFACT format are downloaded via FTP or imported from the workstation or local network. This has been successfully tested with numerous vendors including Baker & Taylor, Ingram, Brodart, YBP and BWI.

## 3. Upgrade Network Equipment: \$12,000

Replace MCFLS network Equipment to make the transition to Gigabit Ethernet.

Cisco 2821 Internet Router	\$3000
Cisco Catalyst 2960S LAN Switch	\$5000
Cisco Catalyst 2960G-8TC Perimeter Switch	\$1000
Cisco Catalyst 2960G-8TC Internet Switch	\$1000
Systems Integration	\$2000

## 4. Upgrade Servers: \$18,000 (\$3,500 grant, \$14,500 MCFLS funds)

Replace MCFLS Servers purchased in 2004 (end-of-life/out of warranty)

Active Directory Domain Controller	\$5000
WEB Server	\$5000
External DNS Server	\$5000
Microsoft Licenses	\$3000
(MS Windows 2008 Server, MS Exchange 2010)	

**Nicolet Federated Library System  
Online Database Support**

**11-136  
\$28,600**

NFLS in cooperation with the Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) purchases subscriptions to a variety of databases including the Gale Biography and Literature Resource Centers, Opposing Viewpoints, and the Mango Language learning database among others to supplement the state-supplied BadgerLink databases. This project will provide part of the financial support for the NFLS portion of the database costs. OWLS is the contracting agency, and NFLS provides funding to OWLS for the NFLS portion of all database costs. Access to the databases is available to all users of the OWLSnet Innovative Interfaces integrated library system (InfoSoup.org), as well as to all users of the Brown County Library's Sirsi-Dynix integrated library system. Access to the databases is made available to all the libraries in both systems, as well as to users who log in to either the Brown County Library or OWLSnet websites from home or anywhere, using their library card barcode number.

**Northern Waters Library Service  
NWLS Technology and Database Project**

**11-138  
\$24,100**

Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) is maintaining a high level of information technology, thanks to the support of this LSTA grant category. Without this support, NWLS would not be able to provide this degree of service to our member libraries. NWLS covers a large and sparsely populated region of Wisconsin, 8,363 square miles (as large as Connecticut, Rhode Island and Delaware combined) with a population of 161,755. 23 of our 28 libraries are located in communities with a population of fewer than 2,000. Along with the large area and low population, the NWLS region is an economically disadvantaged area of the state. Of the 22,378 students in the NWLS area, 10,396 or 54% receive free or reduced lunches. The erate school lunch data show the following discounts: Lac du Flambeau: 90%; Ashland, Bayfield, Webster, Winter: 80%; Drummond, Hayward, Hurley, Phelps, Shell Lake, Spooner, Superior, Washburn: 70%; Maple, Mellen, Boulder Junction, Grantsburg, Northland Pines: 60%

The accompanying social, education and community needs resulting from this level of poverty must be served by agencies such as strong public libraries. These LSTA funds provide much needed support to keep these communities networked to the bigger world of information. The NWLS Technology and Database Project funds will be used to purchase subscriptions to shared online databases chosen by NWLS staff with input from member library staff. This LSTA project will fund:

- (1) Ancestry Library Edition, an extensive library genealogy research tool.
- (2) WorldCat, a worldwide catalog of library collections that includes more than 67 million bibliographic records with items in many different formats.

- (3) Membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC). Membership in WPLC provides access to netLibrary and OverDrive for member libraries and their patrons. netLibrary provides a collection of ebooks, such as reference, nonfiction and fiction books that can be checked out and read on a home computer. OverDrive offers audiobook, video and music titles that can be downloaded directly to a computer, an iPod or MP3 player or burned to a CD.
- (4) Job & Career Accelerator. From Learning Express, library patrons can explore careers, find jobs, and get help with resumes, cover letters, and interviews, plus keep track of job search progress.
- (5) Computer Skills, from the Learning Express Learning Center, offers interactive tutorials to develop and improve computer skills.

Project funds will also be used to purchase:

- (6) Kindles for member libraries. Kindle weighs 8.5 ounces and holds up to 3,500 books and has eight adjustable font sizes, providing the opportunity to make any book large print.
- (7) Enhancements to Merlin, the NWLS shared online catalog.
- (8) Training for NWLS technology staff. The high level of training required by technology staff is expensive and often a distance from the NWLS area.

**Outagamie Waupaca Library System** 11-140  
**Continuing Support for Mango Languages** \$13,800

Since 2000 the Outagamie Waupaca Library System and the Nicolet Federated Library System have provided their member libraries and patrons with access to a variety of electronic resources. With limited system funding it is difficult to provide the database subscriptions that member libraries desire. OWLS regularly evaluates the use of its online subscriptions and makes adjustments to licensing arrangements in order to optimize the benefit that member libraries receive from limited resources.

OWLS proposes to use LSTA funds to assist with paying for electronic resource subscriptions in 2011. Specifically, LSTA funds will be used to continue a subscription to the language learning program, "Mango Languages." It is anticipated that the 2011 subscription will cost approximately \$23,000, and OWLS will use \$13,800 of LSTA funding from the Public Library System Technology Projects category to help pay for the 2011 subscription.

**South Central Library System** 11-142  
**2010 System Technology Projects** \$42,100

The 2011 System Technology Block grant will be used to purchase the following:

\$31,250 will be used to renew and purchase additional licenses for the Sophos Security Software, the package SCLS uses for anti-virus/anti-malware protection.

\$10,850 will be used to purchase Client Access Licenses needed for the migration of SCLS patron and staff workstations to Windows 7 and SCLS servers to Windows Server 2008.

**Southwest Wisconsin Library System  
SWLS Technology Projects 2011**

**11-144  
\$14,100**

The Southwest Wisconsin Library System (SWLS) serves five counties in the southwest corner of Wisconsin. We serve 28 small, rural public libraries.

SWLS will use its 2011 System Technology grant for the following projects:

- Maintain membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium and access to OverDrive
- Continue its subscription to the LearningExpress Library's computer skills module
- Continue its subscription to MangoLanguages
- Continue its subscription to GoToWebinar for online meetings and workshops
- Provide funding to all 28 member libraries to upgrade staff and public access computers from Windows XP to Windows 7

**Waukesha County Federated Library System  
Electronic materials and cameras**

**11-146  
\$17,400**

Usage of the Overdrive collection has been growing every month since it was first offered and a frequent complaint is that there is not enough content available for download. This project will provide additional downloadable content for the audio mp3 format (iPods). It will also provide a Barnes and Noble Nook or Sony ereader for each library to practice downloading content to and to demonstrate to the public how to use. Finally this project will provide a digital camera and Flip video camera for each library to post content to their websites.

**Winding Rivers Library System  
Demonstrating Online Databases II**

**11-148  
\$22,600**

While BadgerLink has done a commendable job of providing subscription data services to all libraries and citizens in Wisconsin, it is not a comprehensive offering. The Demonstrating Online Databases project was designed to: 1) inform library staff and boards of the benefits of subscription database services, 2) instruct staff on how to promote and utilize specified databases, and 3) encourage library boards to begin planning for funding regionally acquired databases to enhance the offerings already available via BadgerLink. For 2011, WRLS will continue this emphasis in Demonstrating Online Databases II.

It has been consistently shown that the majority of the libraries in WRLS become enthusiastic for new technology services once they have the opportunity to utilize and assess them. At the same time, however, a push from the library system is often needed to provide that initial opportunity. While the BadgerLink databases have been available for several years, the libraries in the region have not independently pursued adding databases on the local level. WRLS concluded in 2009 that it is time to introduce the libraries to the value of additional databases. In 2010 WRLS acquired Ancestry.com for all the libraries in the seven county region. We will continue this subscription for 2011. The expectation is that WRLS will maintain this subscription for three to four years, working in the mean time to encourage member libraries to develop budget categories to take over the Ancestry subscription and add other resources that would be useful throughout the region. The intention is that these resources will continue to be acquired on a regional basis, but that local funding will be used to support the endeavor rather than LSTA funds. Over the longer term, then, LSTA funds will be freed up for additional demonstration projects and the available resources for our area will be strengthened in a methodical and manageable way.

**Winnefox Library System** 11-150  
**Winnefox Technology Project** \$19,100

The grant funds will be used to help pay for several features on our WALS automated catalog/circulation system that will benefit our member libraries and their users.

For several years, we have purchased additional content for our OPAC records: Contents notes, reviews, excerpts, and cover art from Syndetic Solutions. The added content for the catalog has been well received by both library staff and patrons and has enhanced the usefulness of the OPAC.

We will continue to maintain a Z39.50 interface to allow other libraries ILL access to our catalog.

**Wisconsin Valley Library Service** 11-152  
**Network Infrastructure Enhancement** \$27,200

The 2011 LSTA Library System Technology Projects noncompetitive grant in the amount of \$27,200 will be used to fund capital costs of the third phase in a 3 year project to increase capacity, use, and cost savings through creating a strong virtualization core at the system level. This virtualization core is being developed to be utilized by the WVLS organization for internal needs as well as offer services to member libraries giving them the opportunity to realize significant cost savings in their Computer and Networking budgets.

## **Digitization - Local Resources**

**Eastern Shores Library System** 11-154  
**ESLS digitization of Ozaukee County historical resources** \$3,800

Eastern Shores libraries and their communities in Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties possess a wealth of historical information and resources, and there is a great deal of community interest in that history. Significant areas of Sheboygan County's history have been digitized thanks to the individual efforts of Mead Public Library in Sheboygan and their previous grant work, but Ozaukee County currently has little or no presence in the UW Digital Collection Center's (UWDCC) Wisconsin Collection or other online resources. Four Eastern Shores Library System libraries are participating in this first-time grant: Frank L. Weyenberg Library of Mequon-Thiensville; Lakeview Community Library, Random Lake; U.S.S. Liberty Memorial Public Library, Grafton; and W.J. Niederkorn Library, Port Washington. The goal is to help digitally preserve and promote the history of Ozaukee County for a fuller and richer online view of the communities in Eastern Shores, as well as to make it more visible and accessible for individuals of all types both in and outside of our communities.

Whether published over 100 years ago or more recently, the selected material is focused on the history of the area, often stems from personal and civic efforts to document and promote local communities, and offers a broad range of topics. Topics include personal reminiscences growing up in Ozaukee County, reflections of local residents who served during wartime, histories of various local communities, and histories of public services and groups in those communities, including fire departments and a woman's club. Some of the titles date as far back as 1835, with a significant amount covering the 19th century through the first half of the 20th century. The digitization of this initial grouping of Ozaukee County related resources would preserve rare material; provide additional access points via 24/7 electronic access; provide a wealth of information to researchers, students, and local history enthusiasts; encourage those individuals to explore the broader wealth of historical information online via links from our libraries to the UWDCC's collections; and encourage interest and pride in our local communities.

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<b>Hedberg Public Library</b>	<b>11-156</b>
<b>Janesville's Past - Part III - Histories</b>	<b>\$2,829</b>

Our Janesville's Past – Part I & Part II digitization projects (LSTA, 2004 & 2007) have improved access to the library's local history collection worldwide. For Part III, we are focusing on written histories of the City and important institutions in the community.

The Hedberg Public Library will work with the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center to digitize the following local history materials:

1. Century of Stories: A 100 Year Reflection of Janesville and Surrounding Communities (270 pages)
2. City on the Rock River (273 pages)
3. History of Janesville 1835-1935 (chronology, 39 pages)
4. History of Janesville (1969 thesis, 27 pages)
5. History of the Janesville Public Schools 1930-1987 (178 pages)
6. I Remember Janesville (224 pages)
7. Janesville Public Library: A Centennial History 1884-1984 (190 pages)
8. Janesville's Early History (109 pages)
9. Medical History of Janesville 1833-1933 (74 pages)
10. Reflections from a Warming House Window (278 pages)

At present, these items are only available to people who can go to the Hedberg Public Library and use the actual books. (One title is also available at three other county libraries.) Most of the titles are one-of-a-kind typewritten manuscripts. These books will be preserved electronically, saving wear and tear on the paper copies. These books will be available worldwide through the Internet.

Many of the books have been indexed into our Local History Database. People finding information in the database will be able to view the actual book online, instead of requesting photocopies from the library. Patrons will access information more quickly and staff can tend to additional questions.

Often, a question leads to new answers that are then added to the database and our files. The greater access we offer, the more historical materials we receive and compile for our in-house Janesville Room and our library web site. The more we provide, the more we learn.

<b>Indianhead Federated Library System</b>	<b>11-158</b>
<b>West-Central Wisconsin Local History Collections</b>	<b>\$3,950</b>

Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS), on behalf of nine member libraries, is seeking LSTA grant funding to digitize and make freely available online portions of the participating libraries' local history collections. The materials to be digitized in these collections include local history texts, images, and oral histories. Current levels of access to these local materials range from circulating use to no access (in the case of one library's oral histories on audio cassette), but none are currently available to the public online. This project would create, simplify, and enhance access to material that is of value to the owning community, as well as to genealogists, past residents, visitors, and historians.

Materials to be included in this project are in the public domain or used with written permission from the copyright holder. The project administrator at IFLS will facilitate the project by working with UW Digital Collections Center and the following participating libraries: Woodville Community Library, Boyceville Public Library, Menomonie Public Library, Colfax Public Library, Fall Creek Public Library, Somerset Public Library, Baldwin Public Library, Rice Lake Public Library, and Thomas St. Angelo Public Library in Cumberland.

Four of the nine participating libraries are new to digitizing projects, and the remaining five have yet to see the final product of their first LSTA-funded digitizing project currently in progress, but all believe digitizing portions of their local history collections to be beneficial for their local residents and other modern information seekers. This project would provide participating libraries valuable experiences with digitizing and digital libraries. These experiences could be shared with other IFLS-member libraries as they consider future digitizing projects.

**Kenosha Public Library** 11-160  
**Kenosha's Lost Industries: Photographs and Corporate** \$4,106  
**Materials, 1850s-1970s**

The Kenosha Public Library (KPL) is applying for a third LSTA Digitization-Local Resources grant. This grant, "Kenosha's Lost Industries: Photographs and Corporate Materials, 1850s-1970s," will allow for the digitization of additional images and supplemental materials from the Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum (KCHS and Museum) collections and make them widely available on various Web sites and via Internet search engines. Many of the KCHS resources gathered for this proposal are rare or unique. Most of the companies no longer have physical remains due to demolition, fire, and the course of urban development over the decades. Corporate materials for these industries have largely disappeared or are not available to the general public or researchers in libraries, archives, or museums.

This collaborative venture builds on the close relationship which has developed since 2007 with the KCHS and Museum and will offer the public another "window into the past" as well as promote and preserve local historical resources available in one of the city's educational and cultural institutions. The LSTA 2008 and 2009 digitization grants awarded to KPL enabled both organizations to use state of the art technology to create an historical collection which offers unprecedented individual access to special images and texts from the 19th and early 20th centuries. This 2011 proposal involves over 1,700 photographic prints and 35 corporate materials, selected and reviewed by the KHC's Curator of Collections/Archivist. Documentation will highlight the contributions of each company, summarize its importance, and describe the role it played in the economy and life of the area.

Another project between the Library and the Kenosha County Historical Society and Museum will increase awareness of the rich variety of photographs and other resources found within the Kenosha History Center Archives, managed by the KCHS and Museum, and the library system. This project will harness the power of Internet search engines to easily direct local, state, national, and international users to the valuable historical resources contained within these institutions.

The Kenosha Public Library will announce the award of this digitization grant through established media channels. When digitization work is completed, these online photographic collections will be promoted by a news release, fliers, small posters, articles in the "Kenosha News," and newsletters published by the library system, the historical society, and the Kenosha County Genealogy Society. The Western Kenosha County Historical Society, a small organization which works closely with the Community Library, will also be informed of this collection. Access to these digitized collections will be demonstrated by reference staff during interactions with adult and juvenile patrons.

One program featuring a visual presentation of the digitized collections will also be held to introduce these materials to the community-at-large. Ongoing publicity by the Kenosha County Library System will occur through the KPL and Community Library Web sites and wide distribution of a descriptive flier. KPL Children's Services Division staff members communicate with Kenosha Unified School District public schools, private and parochial schools and teachers; they also conduct tours for students. Instructors who work with hundreds of students on local history units each year will be made aware of these digitized resources.

## Resources to Be Digitized:

## Industrial Photographic Print Collection

The approximately 1,700 images primarily depict industrial scenes, plants, building exteriors and interiors, products, corporate owners and boards, company activities and events, workers and their families, in the city and county of Kenosha, from the 1850s into the early 1970s. The following companies and corporations are represented by these prints:

Allen, N.R. Sons' Tannery Co., American Motors Corp., Badger/American Brass Co., Bain Wagon Co., Chicago Brass Co., Dynamic/Eaton Corp., Hall, C.M. Lamp Co., Hannahs Manufacturing Co., Hill Steamboat Co., Jeffery, Thomas B. Co., Kenosha Crib Co., Kenosha Spring Bed Co., Leblanc Corp., Macwhyte Co., Nash Motors Co./Nash Automotive, Pettit, M.H. Malting Co., Pirsch Co., Simmons Co., Vincent-McCall Co., and Windsor Spring Co.

## Corporate Supplemental Materials (35 items)

Allen, N.R. Sons' Tannery Co. "Allen's Sole Strip Book" 11 p.; Auction poster

American Motors Corp. Advertising poster (Concorde automobile)

Badger Brass Manufacturing Co./American Brass Manufacturing Co. "American Brass Company Magazine" 12 p.; "Solar Magazine" 16 p.; "Specialty Brass" (letterhead); Newspaper insert 24 p.

Bain Wagon Co. Wagon images; Auction poster; catalog 64 p.

Dynamic Corporation/Eaton Corporation Employee chart

Jeffery, Thomas B. Co. "Jeffery Motor Cars" poster

Kenosha Crib Co. Spring bed advertising

Leblanc Corp. brochure 4 p.; catalog 32 p.

Macwhyte Co. Macwhyte product advertising; Macomber & Whyte Rope "Life Line" product pamphlet 56 p.

Nash Motors Co. "Nash for 1934" postcard; 20 Years of Nash Progress 6 p.; Nash and LaFayette pamphlet 4 p.; Nash 960 Series promotional advertising; "The Golden Airflyte" book 24 p.; "The Story behind Nash" 4 p.

Pettit, M.H. Malting Co. Interior of malt house (stereopticon card); Pettit malt house (stereopticon card)

Pirsch Co., Inc. "16 Lives Saved" poster; Pirsch Pumping Engines poster; Aerial Ladder Trucks poster

Simmons Co. "Simmons Second Century" book; 64 p.; Photograph: Simmons, Jr. and Sr.; Photograph: Celebrating product

"Kenosha Industrial News," December, 1939 issue 8 p.

New Glarus Public Library

11-166

New Glarus and Green County Local History Collection

\$4,080

New Glarus Public Library, in collaboration with the New Glarus Historical Society and the Swiss United Church of Christ of New Glarus, will work with the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center to digitize textual and photographic materials pertaining to the history of New Glarus and Green County. These include, among other items, texts relating to the founding and early history of New Glarus, family records from the Swiss Church and a history of the church, early tax records from the Town of New Glarus, atlases and plat books of Green County, a 1917 New Glarus High School yearbook, composite photographs of New Glarus High School graduating classes and of confirmation classes of the Swiss Church, and other photographs of New Glarus scenes, events, and people.

Digital versions of these valuable historical materials will be accessible to the public through the websites of the UW Digital Collections Center, Wisconsin Heritage Online, New Glarus Public Library, New Glarus Historical Society, and Swiss United Church of Christ.

This project will preserve fragile materials for the future; will promote increased awareness of the existence of these unique historical and genealogical materials; and will provide the general public with direct, unlimited access to materials that currently have extremely limited access. These materials will complement the New Glarus and Green County historical materials already available in digital form in the UWDC State of Wisconsin collection and through Wisconsin Heritage Online, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the Monroe Public Library.

The three participating organizations will promote the new digital collection through the media, their websites, newsletters, other libraries, genealogical websites, and state and county historical and genealogical societies.

## Enhancing Use of Technology in Libraries

**Brandon Public Library** 11-174  
**The Brandon LAP (Learning Access for the Public) Initiative** \$3,700

The Brandon Public Library is a vital community resource and a hub of activity for the Village of Brandon and the surrounding service area. Its four desktop computers are in constant use, inadequate to meet the current demand, and, in spite of that, an under-used resource for the potential user base in the library's service area. Our proposed LSTA grant project is simple but highly functional: Purchase three laptop computers to provide significant additional user capacity; identify and reach out to new user groups through collaboration with community stakeholder groups to provide promotion, orientation, and training on computer resources and applications; and, provide ongoing information, training, incentives, and opportunities to all library computer users – new and existing – on useful applications of computer technology and resources for educational, career, and entertainment purposes.

**Indianhead Federated Library System** 11-176  
**Providing a Mobile Version of the MORE Online Catalog** \$15,000

A hot topic among the libraries participating in the MORE Consortium's shared ILS has been how to better reach our mobile customers. In the past year, we have seen anecdotally a large rise in the number of customers coming into the library with their smartphones and other connected, mobile devices such as iPod Touches and iPads. We believe that this anecdotal evidence is supported by nationwide statistical trends.

Since we began tracking visits to our consortium's online catalog by mobile devices in April of this year, we have consistently seen that mobile users have a difficult time using our site. Their pages/visit and average time on site are lower and their bounce rate is higher when compared to the site average. We believe that this disparity between the statistics for mobile devices and our site average indicates that mobile users are frustrated by the difficulty in using our current catalog. Oral feedback from library customers supports this.

If we receive funding through this LSTA grant, we will install a mobile version of our online catalog to address the currently unmet needs of our mobile customers.

**Manitowoc-Calumet Library System** 11-178  
**Enhancing Use of Technology** \$9,703

The Manitowoc-Calumet Library System is seeking funds to support a system-wide effort to customize the OPAC in order to make it more user-friendly for library patrons. First and foremost, the font needs to be increased and stabilized to accommodate patrons that may be visually impaired. Once visibility is no longer an issue, the goal is to improve the search functionality and overall appeal and ease of use of the OPAC. The public catalog, as part of the ILS system that is shared among the member libraries of MCLS, is a critical point of contact with our patrons.

Furthermore, MCLS is locked into a contract with our ILS provider through the year 2017. While there are wonderful products offered to enhance the OPAC for us, the cost is too prohibitive in the long term view. The high ticket price of these software solutions cannot be sustained over the course of the next seven years. As a result, MCLS is looking to utilize and empower our own human resources in order to do the most good for the patrons of the member libraries of the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System. We are confident that with the financial assistance provided by this grant opportunity, our endeavor will be successful in 2011, as well as in years to come.

**Nicolet Federated Library System** 11-180  
**Text Messaging Service for NFLS and OWLS Member Libraries** \$14,250

NFLS will be applying for a grant to provide text messaging service for all libraries in the OWLSnet consortium and the Brown County Library. The service will allow the libraries to send text messages to library users for the following functions:

- **Renewal:** this notice is a reminder that items are due in the next few days. Patrons can request a list of items due for renewal. Patrons have the ability to renew items they selected.
- **Courtesy:** this notice is a reminder that library items are due in the next few days. Patrons can request a list of items due. Patrons do not have the ability to renew items.
- **Overdue:** this notice is a reminder that library items are overdue. Patrons can request a list of items due. Patrons have the ability to renew items they selected.
- **Fees:** this notice is a reminder that fees are due for payment.
- **Hold:** this notice is a reminder that items placed on hold are now available for pickup.

**Northern Waters Library Service** 11-182  
**Mobile Merlin** \$13,500

Mobile ownership is a major trend in America. A growing number of people rely on portable devices, such as mobile phones, to access critical data from anywhere. Web-based services are rapidly being adopted on “smart” mobile phones with PC functions, such as Blackberry, iPhone, and Droid.

Libraries can take advantage of the mainstreaming of mobile devices and applications by making key web services accessible from portable devices. Patrons can search the catalog, place holds, check library hours, access library email notices, and contact the library using their own mobile application while they are running errands, in a classroom, at the mall, in the library stacks, or when library computers are unavailable. While Merlin, the Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) shared ILS, is popular and heavily used, the current catalog is not optimized for the mobile web.

The Mobile Merlin project will address three areas of need for residents of the eight counties served by NWLS. First, reach a section of the population already experienced with the mobile web. Second, allow our libraries to be contenders in a mobile library market. Third, provide alternative access to the shared public library catalog at a time when dedicated library OPAC stations are limited. Installing AirPAC, an OPAC designed for alternative or wireless devices will address these needs. AirPAC allows library patrons to search the library catalog from personal handheld devices such as Internet enabled mobile phones and PDAs.

NWLS staff will purchase, install, and promote Mobile Merlin on the Merlin homepage and on library websites. A tutorial and instructions for how to use the new service will be included, as well as promotional materials for libraries.

NWLS staff will survey patrons twice in the year for feedback on the mobile catalog’s usefulness and easy to use.

**Outagamie Waupaca Library System** 11-184  
**Online Patron Registration in InfoSoup** \$15,000

OWLS will purchase the Online Patron Registration and Digital Signature modules from Innovative Interfaces, and configure and install the new products. Signature capture devices will be purchased by the member libraries. OWLS and NFLS will promote Online Patron Registration using the InfoSoup homepage, posters in member libraries and member library communities and links from member library web pages. We will examine new patron registrations six months after the implementation period, with the expectation that one quarter of the new patron registrations will have originated online in that period of time.

The activities of this project will continue to benefit patrons of OWLSnet member libraries well into the future. While there are small ongoing costs associated with this project, OWLSnet is committed to covering these costs and continuing to provide online patron registration. Internet usage is predicted to rise, and our users will continue to benefit from an easy way to sign up for an OWLSnet library card and place holds on OWLSnet materials, wherever and whenever they wish, without having to stand in line at the circulation desk, or sign a paper registration form.

**South Central Library System** 11-186  
**Enhancing access to digital collections** \$9,500

Currently, SCLS public and multi-type libraries host digitized content in a variety of places, making it difficult for patrons and library staff to find and use all of the content available to them. This project would create a repository for digitized materials and a means of searching this content through LINKcat, the catalog for 41 SCLS libraries. Patrons would then have one place to search for both physical and digitized material.

The requested \$9500 will be used to contract with PTFS for a two-year license for ArchivalWare (their repository product), an add-on to integrate ArchivalWare and the Koha catalog that runs LINKcat, and appropriate training for library and SCLS staff.

**Waukesha County Federated Library System** 11-188  
**Mobile Interface for Library Catalogs** \$2,600

This project will provide a mobile interface for the library catalogs of Waukesha County using a product from LibraryThing, called Library Anywhere. This product will provide a mobile web interface as well as native apps for phones, such as an iPhone or Android. Users will be able to search, place holds and renew items from their mobile phones. Libraries will also be able to post their hours and events in a mobile friendly environment.

**Winding Rivers Library System** 11-190  
**Improving the Users' Search Experience** \$15,000

Library users are screaming, telling us they need and want a more user-friendly interface to the WRLSWEB consortium catalog. WRLS and its members understood that improvements were needed in the WRLSWEB platform, and consequently began investigation into acquiring a new ILS in 2008. Unfortunately a stand-out ILS has not emerged, yet the users are still insisting we make changes. The decision, then, is that we must move forward to enhance the user interface to the consortium catalog.

The Improving the Users' Search Experience project is designed to achieve this demanded enhancement, by assisting WRLS to implement an improved search module that will provide library users with a Web-like experience that will serve both experienced and novice users more effectively and pleasantly. During the later months of 2010 and the early months of 2011, final efforts to establish a vendor relationship and acquire and install an enhanced capability will be completed, assuring that by the middle of 2011, hundreds of thousands of library users in the seven county region will find it more exciting, pleasant, and fruitful to visit the automated network for resources and information. LSTA support will allow WRLS to

satisfy this need in a more timely manner during a time of constrained budgets. Local funds have been assigned to cover all expenses not covered by the grant award, and the nature and structure of the consortium assure that the benefits from the project will continue into the future.

**Winnefox Library System** 11-192  
**New Catalog Interface** \$15,000

The proposed project is the replacement of the current interface for the Winnefox Library System online catalog. The catalog is used by all 30 of the Winnefox member library communities.

- Winnefox libraries need a catalog that better meets user needs and expectations. This includes simple screen displays and the ability to sort and categorize results.
- Winnefox libraries need a catalog that provides features not possible or needing enhancement in the current catalog. This includes improved accessibility from mobile devices, access to local digital content such as photographs, and social networking options such user reviews and tags. The software for the catalog is no longer being developed by the integrated library system (ILS) vendor, SirsiDynix, so new features are not be possible with the current software interface.

A volunteer committee will be used to look at the software interfaces that work with the Symphony software. The committee members will be from the Winnefox member libraries and Winnefox staff. There will be an evaluation process that includes looking at other library catalogs, online surveys of current catalog users, and an analysis of current catalog searches. Regular reports will be made back to the member libraries not directly participating in the process.

The committee will also be prioritizing possible new features in the catalog. It is not expected that a product exists that will do everything that is wanted, so the committee will discuss the options.

The new catalog must be affordable. This includes the initial or start-up costs, and the ongoing costs, including staff needed for support. Costs for the new interface will be evaluated separately from the functionality.

The SirsiDynix new discovery layer, Enterprise, is one of the products that will be evaluated. Open WorldCat, Encore, (No Suggestions), and VuFind are among the other products that are known to work with Symphony. The committee will survey the field as widely as practical in evaluating the options.

## Joining Shared Automated Systems

**Indianhead Federated Library System** 11-196  
**Increasing Membership in the MORE Consortium** \$40,500

In 2001, the IFLS Board of Trustees adopted the goal that the system will provide leadership in identifying new technologies and implementing them in a way that all member libraries benefit. Shared automated information systems are one step on the path to achieving this goal. The Board's further goal is to have all IFLS member libraries participate in a shared system.

Currently, seven public libraries representing 6.9% of the IFLS total service population are not members of the MORE Consortium's shared automation system. If we receive the funding from this grant, four public libraries representing only 2.7% of the IFLS total service population will not be served by a shared system.

Earlier this year, we contacted all of our member libraries that are not yet in MORE to discuss joining. Cost has historically been and continues to be the major barrier to participation. We are requesting LSTA funding for three additional libraries to join the MORE Consortium. These funds will cover the up-front membership fees. The fees are determined by a formula, which is detailed in an appendix to the consortium's formal participation agreement.

The Amery Public Library's current total service population is 11,693. The cost for this library to join MORE is \$36,000

The G.E. Bleskacek Family Memorial Public Library's (Bloomer) current total service population is 6,515. The cost for this library to join MORE is \$27,000.

The Ogema Public Library's current total service population is 1,137. The cost for this library to join MORE is \$13,500.

**South Central Library System** 11-198  
**Fitchburg and Rio Public Libraries join LINKcat** \$35,000

Two libraries, the Fitchburg Public Library and the Rio Community Library, are planning to join the SCLS integrated library system (ILS), also known as LINKcat. As a result of this project the libraries will have fully automated circulation processes, a public catalog shared with 41 other SCLS libraries, cataloging and authority control, and telemessaging services. It will provide "self-service" to the public for such functions as placing holds on materials in other libraries. In addition, the libraries will be provided with "cradle-to-grave" PC support, network support, and reliable and secure high-speed internet access through the SCLS network.

**Waukesha County Federated Library System** 11-200  
**Shared automation for New Berlin and Menomonee Falls** \$40,000

This project will enable the New Berlin Public Library and the Menomonee Falls Public Library to join in the shared automation system called Café. Upon completion of this project all 16 WCFLS member libraries will be in a single shared system and all county residents will be able to access resources between all libraries without staff intervention.

**Wisconsin Valley Library Service** 11-202  
**Joining to Share Resources** \$30,000

The Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS) proposes to add two member public libraries to its shared library automation system - V-Cat. The Neillsville Public Library and the Wabeno Public Library have decided that with the help of this grant, they will be able to join V-Cat and sustain continued membership. The help that this grant will provide by covering most of the initial costs is significant. These libraries are also interested in getting the Teach T1 lines in place and becoming connected to the WVLS network.

By joining V-Cat, these libraries will have access to over 1,174,092 holdings attached to over 300,000 bibliographic records in a total of 24 member libraries. Individually, Neillsville owns about 31,814 titles and Wabeno owns about 9,835 titles according to 2009 annual reports. The patrons of Neillsville and Wabeno will also be able to place requests on the V-Cat holdings without staff intervention and receive the materials within 2 to 3 days via the WVLS courier.

Staff at these libraries will be relieved of such mundane tasks as cataloging, follow-up overdues, counting circulation statistics, etc. thus enabling them to focus more attention on the needs of their patrons. V-Cat is also available on the web so their patrons will be able to search the database from home, school, office, etc. and will be able to place holds on materials from a remote location as long as they have a valid borrower's card.

Neillsville and Wabeno will be able to provide access to the catalog for patrons with disabilities. They each provide a public workstation that can be used by patrons with disabilities, including access to those in wheelchairs. This workstation has a large monitor, an input device that is an alternative to a mouse, a long keyboard cord, and screen reading software with headphones. This equipment was provided by an earlier WVLS LSTA grant effort.

As soon as the grant is approved, the V-Cat staff will work with these libraries to add their collections to the V-Cat database. Neillsville is already participating in the ongoing record loads to WISCAT, so this

integration process should go quickly. Wabeno staff will work with WVLS staff to catalog their collection and add it to V-Cat. As the two libraries get ready to go live on V-Cat, WVLS staff will go to Neillsville and Wabeno to train library staff on all aspects of V-Cat. The libraries will also designate a staff person as a representative to the V-Cat Council.

## B. Special Needs

### Accessibility - Public Library Systems

**Dane County Library Service** 11-204  
**Adaptive Thematic Outreach Kits** \$19,413

This grant will address the needs of those who reside in assisted living, nursing homes or attend programming at Senior Citizen Centers in Dane County. This project will be collaboration with the Southern Wisconsin Activity Professionals Association, Dane County Area Senior Centers and Dane County Library Service.

Dane County Library Service currently serves 10418 people at 58 nursing and assisted living facilities and 10 Senior Centers in Dane County. This Special Needs population is challenging to reach, as the majority of patrons are frail elderly who do not leave their respective facilities and must be served via direct outreach. Dane County Library Service currently serves this population through rotating outreach collections of large print, audio books and programming materials. One of the biggest challenges in serving this Special Needs population is the fact that many of the residents have multiple disabilities. This means that the materials provided for this group of Special Needs patrons must be tailored for many differing abilities.

This grant seeks to engage Special Needs patrons who are residents in nursing and assisted living facilities, as well as those attending programming at local Senior Citizen Centers through the use of a rotating collection of Adaptive Thematic Kits. Kits currently circulated by Dane County Library Service lack newly developed adaptive equipment which would reach out to a larger population of Special Needs patrons. Newly developed equipment, such as Wii adaptive controllers and Ipads will allow more residents to participate in programming activities. Kit materials will further be supported by the purchase of thematically relevant large print and audio books. Activity Directors will be actively involved in the kit development by providing theme and material suggestions.

This grant will allow Dane County Library Service to better serve Special Needs adults who reside in nursing and assisted living facilities, by providing carefully created programming and support materials to enrich leisure and educational needs.

**Indianhead Federated Library System** 11-206  
**Large Screen Monitors for Low Vision Users** \$2,700

According to a survey by Lighthouse International, 17% of people ages 45 and older self-report some vision impairment, even with correction. LCD large monitors are one of the first adaptations many experts recommend to help people with low vision access technology. When text is magnified, the larger screen size will display much more information than a standard monitor, and the display on an LCD monitor is free of the flickering that can cause eye strain.

Librarians in the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) have indicated a strong preference for adaptive technology that is very simple to use and has universal appeal, finding that staff, and more importantly, the public, is more likely to find it usable and helpful. Fifteen IFLS libraries will receive 20-inch LCD monitors as part of this grant. Libraries include: Cadott, Chetek, Clear Lake, Colfax, Cornell, Durand, Fall Creek, Glenwood City, Hammond, Park Falls, Pepin, Rice Lake, Somerset, Stanley, Woodville.

Library staff will learn about other adaptations and information to better serve people with low vision through webinars. IFLS Library Development and Youth Services Coordinator (LDYSC) will compile a list of archived or upcoming webinars from sources outside the system (other systems, WebJunction, and adaptive technology centers), and will also present a webinar for all participating libraries to share an overview of information.

In addition, IFLS will create large-print flyers about using the magnification capabilities built in to every Windows computer. Libraries will hand out the flyers to people using the large screen monitors, or at their own discretion.

The project will be evaluated by surveying users of the large monitors (with a large-print survey) and by surveying library staff at the middle and end of the grant year.

**Lakeshores Library System** **11-208**  
**Improving Accessibility in Lakeshores Library System** **\$8,985**

“Improving Accessibility in Lakeshores Library System” will provide each of the member libraries with ZoomText Magnifier/Reader software. This will meet the local needs of our patrons who have visual impairments by making computers more accessible to these individuals. ZoomText will allow patrons to see and hear all of their computer activity via screen magnification and text-to-speech applications.

In addition, this project includes funding for an automatic door opener to be installed at the Matheson Memorial Library in Elkhorn. This will allow all patrons easier access to the entrance of the building.

The project includes the following activities:

- Purchasing ZoomText Magnifier/Reader software for all 15 of the member Lakeshores Library System libraries,
- Providing financial assistance to Matheson Memorial Library to retrofit an automatic door opener,
- Providing training in accessibility issues and use of ZoomText to library staff and trustees,
- Collaborating with agencies at system and local level to encourage use of the ZoomText software and foster further collaborative efforts,
- And publicize these accessibility enhancements via the local media and collaborative agencies.

**Northern Waters Library Service** **11-210**  
**Accessibility in NWLS Library for Patrons with Low Vision** **\$8,430**

The purpose of this grant category is to promote and demonstrate the role public libraries play in meeting the informational needs of people with disabilities. Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS) intends to use project funds to provide member libraries with the opportunity to improve service to patrons with low vision by purchasing twenty-eight 19-inch monitors for our member libraries (one for each library). NWLS will set up the monitors at the libraries and assist member libraries with in-house marketing for adaptive technologies and services they have available to their patrons with disabilities. A workshop on disability awareness, technology, and accessibility, focusing on low vision will also be an integral part of this LSTA project.

Low vision affects one in twenty Americans of all ages and is a common problem for the elderly. Statistics also show that the population in general is aging. The Health and Human Services Administration on Aging reports that in 1990, 16.8% of the population was over 60. In 2010 18.4% are over 60. These statistics are even more striking in the NWLS area where the median age is 42, while the median age for the rest of the state is 36.

On June 22, 2010 NWLS held a Go-To-Meeting to discuss this grant category with the library directors. Librarian's experiences confirmed the census findings, that the most common disability they encountered was low vision, particularly in the elderly. According to IBM Researcher, Vicki L. Hanson, "Vision impairments provide the most common source of difficulty for seniors using the web... There are a variety of non-specialized hardware solutions that can be used. Large computer monitors ... can help overcome vision problems." Large monitors offer crisper, sharper visuals, so eye fatigue is reduced. From: [www.disabilityresource.uic.edu/viewer.asp?tab=2&label=Computer%20Accessibility](http://www.disabilityresource.uic.edu/viewer.asp?tab=2&label=Computer%20Accessibility).

An integral part of this project is a workshop presented by North Country Independent Living on the topics of disability awareness, technology, and accessibility, focusing on low vision. Nearly 60 million Americans, one in five, live with some sort a disability ... and this number is rising. This means that public librarians, staff and volunteers will need to feel comfortable with communicating and assisting library patrons with disabilities. When librarians understand good practice and ways to remove barriers for disabled patrons, access to library services is increased to those individuals.

This project addresses Adults with Special Needs, A Resource and Planning Guide for Wisconsin's Public Libraries Strategy #2: Train Staff, by offering a workshop on the use of adaptive equipment, Strategy #3: Diversify Collection and Services (ensure that member libraries are knowledgeable about adaptive technology and systems facilitate purchasing materials and equipment for their member libraries) and Strategy #6: Market Services and Materials – market public library services, collections and programs to adults with special needs.

This project also addresses NWLS 2010 Plan of Service, Services to Users with Special Needs which states: (1) Apply for system wide LSTA grants to serve special needs patrons. (2) Assist member libraries in developing special needs projects to serve their own communities

**Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS)  
Retrofit Electronic Door Openers**

**11-212  
\$12,500**

The Outagamie Waupaca Library System (OWLS) is seeking LSTA funding to improve accessibility at 5 of our member libraries' locations, by retrofitting entrance doors with electronic door openers. The participating libraries are Black Creek Village Library, Kimberly-Little Chute Public Library (2 locations), Marion Public Library, and Weyauwega Public Library. Installing electronic door openers will ensure that public library collections, services, and buildings are fully accessible and inviting to patrons with special needs and their families and advocates. This will particularly improve service for the 5.6% of Wisconsin residents ages 5 and up who experience ambulatory difficulty. Once the electronic door openers are installed, OWLS and the participating libraries will make community members with special needs and their families and advocates aware of the improved accessibility through press releases to local media and targeted marketing to local agencies that work with relevant special needs populations.

**Portage County Public Library  
Induction Loop Installation System Project, Pinery Room, PCPL**

**11-214  
\$6,500**

The overall purpose of this project is to install an induction loop system into our largest meeting room, the Pinery, so that the entire audience attending the hundreds of meetings and programs may fully participate in those events, regardless of hearing disability. The Pinery Room gets significant use throughout the year and data show that a substantial segment of the population has a hearing disability. Thus, installation of a loop system would benefit our entire population for years to come.

Arrow Audio of Kimberly, WI has determined that such a system can be installed; they would be contracted to conduct the installation. Carpet removal and reinstallation would be an integral part of the project. Mid Wisconsin Flooring of Stevens Point, WI would complete this part of the project.

The induction loop system installation would make it easier for hearing impaired people to attend events and make better use of the resources of Portage County Public Library.

**Winding Rivers Library System  
Access Through Hearing Loops and Doors**

**11-216  
\$18,450**

According to the National Center for Health Statistics 36 million (17%) Americans have some degree of hearing loss, making it a public health issue third in line after heart disease and arthritis. In Wisconsin over 500,000 persons are hard of hearing. As people grow older, the percentage of those in each age category with hearing loss increases; 30 percent of adults 65-74 years old have a hearing impairment.

This year, WRLS plans to assist our libraries to better serve persons with hearing loss. We will help all our libraries improve their services by providing a training session about the issues surrounding hearing loss. Several grant partner libraries will receive assistance in adapting library spaces to improve the hearing environment for persons with hearing loss through the installation of a small-area hearing loop system at their circulation or reference desks, or the acquisition of a microphone sound system for use in programs.

This project will benefit people of many age groups. According to a recent story in the LA Times (8/18/2010), the proportion of teens in the in the US with slight hearing loss has increased 30% in the last 15 years, and the number with mild or worse hearing loss has increased 77%.

Three libraries will also address physical access within their libraries by retrofitting their entrance doors with automatic opening and closing hardware. In addition to the door retrofit project, one will add two ADA-compliant computer workstations and one will add a wheelchair-accessible library reading table.

**Wisconsin Valley Library Service  
Accessibility in WVLS Public Libraries**

**11-218  
\$16,130**

“Accessibility in WVLS Public Libraries” will enable Wisconsin Valley Library Service to enhance building and equipment accessibility for people of all ages with disabilities at 13 public library locations in north central Wisconsin.

The planning process for this project utilized the results from an accessibility survey of member public libraries, demographic information, the recommendation of the multitype WVLS Library Advisory Committee, and discussions with area library staff to include the following activities:

- 1) Retrofitting an existing door at a public entrance with an electronic opener at three locations (Edgar, Rothschild, and Stratford).
- 2) Purchasing and installing an adjustable height, push-button controlled, computer table to accommodate library users in wheelchairs at ten libraries (Greenwood, Laona, Loyal, Medford, Minocqua, MCPL-Wausau, Neillsville, Three Lakes, Thorp, and Tomahawk).
- 3) Purchasing and installing ADA compliant signage for the E.U. Demmer Library (Three Lakes).
- 4) Collaborating with Midstate Independent Living Consultants to provide a training workshop at the “Choices for Independent Living” Model Accessible Home & Offices on the North central Technical College campus in Wausau. Through example, education, and demonstration, this facility and its staff promote the philosophy that physical limitations of varying degrees need not be an insurmountable disability. Workshop attendees will also be updated on changes at the WI Talking Book and Braille Library.
- 5) Publicizing library accessibility through cooperation with local agencies such as the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Midstate Independent Living Consultants, United Cerebral Palsy, and area DVR offices, as well as local media outlets.

Implementation of these grant activities will help to make it easier for north central Wisconsin library patrons with special needs to enjoy and use the resources of their local public libraries, and to be welcomed in a responsive, sensitive, and appropriate manner by a staff well-trained in ability awareness.

## Literacy

### Caestecker (Green Lake) Public Library A new jail, a new start

11-220  
\$7,685

Funds will address the literacy needs of those incarcerated in the Green Lake County Correctional Facility and will complement the strength-based work being done through their "Close to Home" effort that seeks to ensure that inmates have the support and skills they need to be successful upon release. Objectives of the grant are: 1. To encourage personal reading among incarcerated individuals by providing the new Green Lake County Correctional Facility with a collection of high interest/low vocabulary books and other materials; 2. To increase jail and partner staff knowledge of strength-based models congruent with techniques they are learning during training by Vera Institute of Justice staff, 3. To increase inmates work readiness skills through purchase of career planning and decision making materials, and 4. Green Lake County librarians will attend a "Close to Home" project overview and training session. Survey results will indicate an increase in understanding of the project and reentry planning. A minimum of two partnership ideas will be generated that fit the Vera Institute of Justice model.

Fulfilling these objectives will provide inmates at the Green Lake County Correctional Facility a wide array of literacy materials and educational support, will assist staff to better understand and carry out their mission of preparing inmates for release. It will further bring key community partners together, uniting efforts to provide needed literacy services. Partners involved in the effort will include Library staff, Green Lake County staff, Moraine Park Technical College staff, and Vera Institute of Justice staff. Resources of this grant will assist them to provide academic, vocational, drug & alcohol, self-help, and health education. Research documents that a commitment to literacy has a very successful impact on lives. Studies have consistently shown that the risk of recidivism diminishes incrementally with the amount of education that inmates receive while incarcerated. This is a new jail, a new start.

### E.D. Locke Public Library AWE Bilingual Early Literacy Station (ELS)

11-222  
\$2,820

14% of the Village of McFarland's population is comprised of children under 10, with significant numbers being educationally or economically disadvantaged. Our library is heavily used by families with young children, and increasingly by Spanish-speaking families. The addition of an AWE Bilingual Early Literacy Station to our library would provide young families and children with an exciting new resource for learning necessary literacy skills, as well as increase outreach to the diverse members of our community.

The proposed ELS offers many outstanding features, including child-friendly hardware and software, coverage of seven types of basic literacy concepts in English and Spanish, and thorough vetting of software by experts. It will stimulate interest in family reading and learning for those who use it, via simple, appealing and informative computer programs. Experience with computer-based literacy interactions on this level will give users in our community a head start in their lifelong learning journeys. The AWE website claims 7,311 stations currently in use, with 36.6 million hours of learning logged so far, and it would be great if our community could partake in this experience.

A number of activities will be planned throughout the year to celebrate and promote this exciting new resource, including demonstrations, a naming contest and a bilingual story time. It will be well-publicized to many different groups. Careful evaluation of use and satisfaction will be carried out on a timely basis.

The size of our community is small and our library budget modest, but we try to offer as many services as we conceivably can to our library users. The public library is one of very few cultural resources in our community. A large part of our library's focus is on providing doors to learning for young children. The ELS would go a long way toward fulfilling that role, as well as encouraging new people to use the library and introducing more young families to the other resources we provide.

Thank you for considering our application.

**Hedberg Public Library** 11-224  
**Early Literacy Achievement: A Community-Based Partnership** \$15,780

“Early Literacy Achievement: A Community-Based Partnership” is designed to enhance and increase the early literacy skills of children from infancy through preschool. This goal will be achieved by providing librarians and teachers with the necessary tools to employ literacy development strategies in story- and circle times. In addition, librarians and teachers, the early literacy leaders in their communities, will be trained to teach others these strategies and to promote the urgency of early literacy skill-building to parents, the first and most important teachers of their children.

Studies “underscore the importance of developing a comprehensive understanding of early literacy and the ways in which parent and family programs support young children’s literacy development.” (Dail and Payne: Recasting the Role of Family Involvement in Early Literacy Development: A Response to the NELP Report ©2010 AERA <http://er.aera.net>) These findings attest to the need for parents to understand the critical role they play in helping their children achieve the skills necessary for school readiness. In communities such as ours, where poverty rates are climbing and increased numbers of children are from families where English is not the first language, engaging parents in literacy-building activities is of paramount importance.

The partners in this project come from many places in the community: public and school libraries, literacy centers, early childhood classrooms, preschools, and four-year-old kindergarten programs. For years, these agencies have worked together to promote early learning opportunities for the children and families they serve.

This project seeks to formalize these partnerships and take them to a new level. The project will include opportunities for learning, outreach, and evaluation by:

- Providing expert training to incorporate research-based early literacy development strategies into library storytimes and preschool circle times.
- Teaching public library staff how to create successful outreach programs for parents in previously underserved groups (teen parents and others who do not commonly use public library services).
- Making Hedberg Public Library collections more accessible to children and families in preschool settings through a resource-sharing pilot project with area Head Start and preschool centers.
- Offering early literacy kits for circulation throughout the Arrowhead Library System. These kits will allow librarians, preschool teachers, and early childhood care givers access to story- and circle time books and activities designed to maximize early literacy skill-building strategies in their programs.
- Creating an evidence-based evaluation instrument for use in public libraries to determine the effectiveness of using early literacy skill-building techniques in their storytimes.

The project partners believe that these objectives will enable us to gain the knowledge necessary to help our communities grow by facilitating a higher level of school readiness among our children. Hedberg Public Library, as the resource library for the Arrowhead Library System, is pleased to organize and lead this project which embodies our mission of maximizing access to information and materials and creating partnerships throughout the community.

**Kenosha Public Library** 11-226  
**Importance of Sensory Input in the Development of Emergent Literacy** \$10,800

Literacy in the broadest sense involves bringing meaning and experiences to stories, getting meaning from words or symbols, and using spoken or written words. Literacy begins to develop at birth and how this process evolves takes time and varies in individual children. Children who are blind or have vision impairments need modified learning experiences, as soon as they are identified, to achieve literacy for themselves.

Through this “Importance of Sensory Input in the Development of Emergent Literacy” grant the Kenosha Public Library will address the need for parents/caregivers to learn the importance of sensory input in the development of a child’s literacy skills and to provide opportunities for hands on sensory learning.

Tactile learning plays a critical role in preparing for literacy and learning to read Braille. Library staff will work with the staff at Kenosha’s “Birth to 3” Early Intervention Program and Kenosha Unified School District to identify and offer a workshop for parents/caregivers who have children with vision issues. During the workshop parents/caregivers will learn how to create a positive literacy environment at home, learn about the tools that are available to create opportunities for meaningful personal experiences, and make items to take home including a tactile book.

Library staff will teach the educational assistants and teen parents at Reuther High School the importance of infant massage and touch in the development of literacy for even the youngest learners as most infants with vision problems are not identified at birth. This workshop will take a proactive step by including children who may develop vision problems.

Library staff will participate in a training workshop to learn about the issues faced by children with low vision/no vision. Spanish language translators will be available as necessary for all of the scheduled workshops.

The Ready to Read Centers, early learning environments that provide stations for children to learn early literacy skills, at KPL’s Southwest and Northside libraries will be expanded to include a variety of activities and manipulative items parents can use with their children in developing their sensory skills.

Developmentally appropriate manipulative and sensory items, audio format items, and Braille and tactile books, will be purchased to be used to enhance early literacy skills for young children and continuing literacy skills for Braille readers among the target population. The book and audio portion of the collection will be available for sighted children, since most of the Braille and tactile books will also have written text on the pages. The audio format items will be purchased as book kits to supply a written word to go along with the spoken word. Material lists will be compiled and distributed highlighting the titles purchased.

The project administrator and library staff will market and promote the workshops to agencies in the community. Library staff will also promote the collections of books, audio format materials, and manipulative items which will circulate from our system libraries and encourage parents and caregivers to visit their local library, acquire library cards and check out these materials.

Kenosha Public Library staff along with staff members of Birth to 3, and the Kenosha Unified School District will achieve the objectives of this project by educating teen moms and parents/caregivers on the importance of sensory development for children with visual challenges to achieve early literacy through hands-on literacy based workshops and by introducing them to the Ready to Read Centers at the public library.

Lakeview Community Library  
Opening Doors for English Language Learners

11-228  
\$11,072

Here are the facts....

“Approximately 8% or 7,000 Sheboygan County adults function at the lowest level of adult literacy and lack basic prose literacy skills...” (Natl. Center of Education Statistics, 2009).

663 Sheboygan County elementary students, grades K-3, are of limited English proficiency’ (Wisconsin DPI Online, 3/08)..... Research has repeatedly shown that parents whose English skills improve are more involved in their children’s schooling, and children whose parents are involved in the classroom have higher academic achievement than children whose parents are not involved. By helping ELL parents improve their English language skills; this project will benefit not only their parents economically and socially, but also benefit their school-age children.

The Literacy Council Project of The Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County reports ‘that there is an average of an 8.9 month waiting list for ELL tutors in the Random Lake area compared to 2.6 month waiting list countywide’ (8/10).

This grant “Opening Doors for English Language Learners” will literally ‘open the doors’ for our ELL residents. The Lakeview Community Library (LCL) has been participating in ‘think tank sessions’ with eight county and local organizations since spring of 2010. The group put forward the following points that would help put ELL adults on the path to improved English language proficiency:

- To eliminate the transportation barrier to ELL services by offering local learning opportunities.
- Recruit and train additional tutors to reduce the wait list to be matched with an ELL tutors.
- Offer Conversation Clubs to provide ELL services to students on the wait list.
- Use the LCL’s Spanish/English component of the Mango Languages on-line database in an hour long session in a five-week workshop setting using the laptop portable lab. Students will be encouraged to use the laptops in-house at the library for self-paced individual instruction.
- Providing Bilingual StoryTimes at the library for ELL adults and their children which would serve as a recreational outlet as well as provide increased opportunities to meet others in the community while they improve their skills and confidence.
- Purchase bilingual books, periodicals, and ELL DVDs that could be checked out from the library to be used at home.

The project would also include the use of a Bilingual Outreach Specialist whose duties would include contacting perspective students, help train volunteers to facilitate the Conversation Clubs and Bilingual StoryTimes, and produce bilingual handouts and brochures. Our leading candidate has extensive experience working within the Hispanic community building their trust. This person’s enthusiasm and desire to help will make this project a success.

The LCL will partner with the Literacy Council Project of the Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County, Lakeshore Technical College (LTC), UW-Extension Sheboygan County (UWEX), Our Lady of the Lakes (OLL), St. John’s U.C.C. and Partners for Community Development/Hispanic Information Center. “Opening Doors for English Language Learners” will give ELL adults in our community the tools to become active and integral community members.

**Marinette County Library System** 11-230  
**Purchasing Laptops for the Marinette Jail to Utilize OWLSnet** \$5,205  
**Databases**

Over the past four years, the Marinette County Jail has made significant strides in the way of inmate education and literacy, with their dynamic staff and passion to make a difference. It is my goal to partner with the jail, purchasing laptops and corresponding materials and supplies to train the inmates and jail staff on the library databases, and then allow them to independently access these databases from within the walls of the jail. Whether this be the LearnATest database for resume building, GED testing, or basic skills, the Tumble books database for beginning readers, or eBooks for access to expensive paper materials the jail can't normally afford, we can give access to so much information for just the price of a computer. This is the perfect time for the library to get the information we have to one of the most information poor subsets of our community--the jail inmates. I'm confident that this grant will go a long way towards decreasing recidivism, while increasing literacy and the relationship the library has with its patrons. We need to actively get the library to those who need it the most, which often times are those who do not come into the library at all. I think we can break the cycle of crime by actively stepping up and doing everything we can to give these inmates the resources they need when they come out of incarceration. It is my belief that this can only help on their way to becoming productive citizens that the community can be proud of.

**Northern Waters Library Service  
Serving Seniors with Low Vision****11-232  
\$10,661**

The purpose of this grant category is to promote and demonstrate the role of public libraries in improving literacy for people having difficulty using libraries because of their educational, cultural or socioeconomic background. This project will take down a barrier to library service for senior citizens with vision or hearing loss through improved computer literacy, by:

- 1) Providing basic computer skills training sessions to older adults;
- 2) Marketing the classes to older adults; and
- 3) Printing and distributing course materials in large print.

The libraries that have signed the “Intent to Participate” are:

1. Boulder Junction Public Library
2. Forest Lodge Library, Cable
3. Grantsburg Public Library
4. Sherman and Ruth Weiss Community Library, Hayward
5. Hurley Public Library
6. Olson Memorial Library, Eagle River
7. Evelyn Goldberg Briggs Memorial Library, Iron River
8. Land O Lakes Public Library
9. Legion Memorial Library, Mellen
10. Mercer Public Library
11. Superior Public Library
12. Burnett Community Library, Webster
13. Winter Public Library
14. Winchester Public Library

Libraries will partner with the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) and the Nicolet Technical College (NTC), depending upon district and provide course content and instructors. Librarians will market the classes and services to area senior centers, residences for the elderly and in the library.

The number of people over the age of 65 is growing faster than at any other time in history with the help of the Baby Boom generation. It is projected that the population of people 65 or older will expand to 40 million in 2010 and reach 55 million by 2020 – a 36% increase in that decade alone (Administration on Aging). An important aspect of senior citizens learning to use technology is the sense of independence it fosters. Among seniors, written communication may be an important way to reach out to family and friends who are far away, reducing their feelings of loneliness. Also, the ability to prepare and maintain written personal records (i.e. finances) may be a crucial aspect of actual or perceived independence. Conversely, impaired writing may lead to a sense of dependency and decreased self-worth. It is important for us to remember that most seniors grew up in a time when technology meant a wall telephone, a TV set with three channels, and a radio. Today they’re in the midst of a monumental transition. While some senior citizens are handling the rapid rise of the Internet age well — emailing, posting family photos on Facebook, paying bills online — for many it has prompted sheer terror. People have always faced changes as they age — cable TV, voice mail, call waiting — but no generation has been thrown so much change, so fast, as today’s seniors. Those who’ve adjusted feel confident. Those who’ve resisted feel vulnerable, oblivious to how critical the computer will be to help them stay in touch with friends, order food, or buy prescription drugs as they become more housebound. ( From [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/04/06/for\\_elderly\\_the\\_wired\\_world\\_hold\\_s\\_terror\\_\\_or\\_delight/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/04/06/for_elderly_the_wired_world_hold_s_terror__or_delight/))

**Polk County Library Federation**  
**Books between Bars**

**11-234**  
**\$23,000**

The small rural county of Polk County sits nestled by trees, rivers, streams and farms. The Polk County Jail houses over 100 inmates per month, many of whom lack reading and life skills to once they have completed their prison time and often return to jail.

The purpose of this program is to:

- encourage reading by participating in book discussions
- encourage reading by expanding leisure reading to new topics of interest
- encourage literacy testing to improve reading skills
- encourage education taking part in tutoring options to obtain a GED

Libraries are a vital core of our small communities in the northern part of the state. To someone in jail, it becomes a lifeline to the outside world, and if this project can help just one or two persons change their life, it has been worth it. The cost of this project if totally funded is what it costs to house one inmate in the Polk County Jail for just one year, \$23,000.

“ I and the 26 other inmates who are signing this letter want to say they appreciate the service of the Polk County Library Federation. If we would not have books to read their probably would be increased violence and fighting and other non-productive uses of our free time. I personally have never read as many books before in my life. The books I have read have helped me understand why I am here and to try and turn my life around. I feel this library should be held in high regards, and is very worthy of the tax dollars...”

XYZ, Polk County Inmate

## **JOBS - Search, Train, Support**

**Arrowhead Library System**  
**Arrowhead Library Systems Connect with Job Seekers**

**11-240**  
**\$19,900**

The Arrowhead Library System will assist job seekers by providing computer classes related to job searching, resume writing, on-line applications, and basic and advanced computer skills. Arrowhead will provide a Spanish-speaking computer trainer for a portion of the classes offered. Collaborating with the Janesville-based literacy tutoring program, The Literacy Connection, Arrowhead will assist in developing a math-literacy program for unemployed workers who lack skills to complete math tests needed for employment. Continuing education programs for the literacy tutors and library staff will provide information and develop skills for tutors and library staff. The library staff will improve their ability to assist The Literacy Connection tutors and other customers in finding materials and resources available at the libraries.

**Elisha D. Smith Public Library**  
**Menasha Job Lab**

**11-242**  
**\$6,000**

As with the vast majority of other public libraries across Wisconsin and the United States, the Elisha D. Smith Public Library in Menasha has seen an unprecedented rise in the number of patrons seeking assistance with their job searching and improving their skills. Library staff has worked diligently to meet the needs of these patrons. Staff regularly assist job seekers using the public computers, strive to keep the collection up to date with relevant material, and offer computer instruction. We are requesting LSTA funding LSTA to purchase a laptop computer lab that will allow us to build on the success of these computer classes. This lab will give us the necessary flexibility to expand these classes to meet the needs of our community. Library staff will work with two local partners on this project: the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Community Learning Center of the Menasha

Joint School District (CLC). DWD staff will offer workshops on job searching strategies and the CLC will serve as a conduit that will help us reach out to some of the neediest families in the community.

**Indianhead Federated Library System  
Technology Tutors for Job Seekers**

**11-244  
\$13,655**

National reports indicate that many job-seekers need help learning basic computer skills. Job Center staff, librarians, and literacy providers corroborate this is a need in the Indianhead Federated Library System (IFLS) 10-county area. All provide assistance daily to people who need to apply for a job or access e-government, but don't have any experience navigating the Internet or even using a mouse or keyboard.

To help address this need, the Indianhead Federated Library System has developed a 3-prong approach:

1. Help 25 libraries recruit and train volunteers (and/or staff) to teach basic computer skills through classes and open labs. Classes will use a curriculum developed during the 2009 LSTA grant year and will have access to mobile computer labs housed in 4 locations around the system (purchased through a different grant), as well as notebook computer labs, which can be sent through the courier.
2. Compile online and print regional directories of classes and open labs available for people learning basic computer skills. These will be used by Job Centers, libraries and literacy providers, and the online version will be updated every 6 months.
3. Create print versions of step-by-step instructions for basic computer tasks to help people remember the skills they have just learned.

To do this, IFLS will collaborate with a variety of agencies. First, 23 libraries located throughout the IFLS region will recruit volunteers or staff to provide the classes and labs. IFLS will contract with Chippewa Valley Technical College to teach train-the-trainers classes. The Northern Waters Literacy Council (Polk County) and the Crossroads Literacy Program (Ladysmith) both plan to send tutors to these training sessions. IFLS and the libraries will work with Job Centers and literacy programs to publicize classes and labs, and IFLS will work with multiple agencies in the region to compile information about instructional offerings. In addition, Job Centers, literacy programs, and all IFLS libraries will receive copies of the step-by-step instructions for basic computer tasks, and IFLS will make electronic versions of the instructions available to libraries throughout Wisconsin and beyond.

Through this project, IFLS hopes to cement relationships with other providers and provide a sustainable, useful program to help bridge the digital divide.

**Lakeshores Library System  
Assistance for Job Seekers in Lakeshores Library System**

**11-246  
\$17,960**

Figures released by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce in late August show that the city of Racine, the largest city in the Lakeshores Library System service area, ranked second in the state for unemployment at 14.5 %, behind Beloit's 15.0% for the month of July 2010. According to unemployment for the County of Racine during July 2010 was 9.6% and 8% for Walworth County during that same time. Lakeshores Library System proposes to assist those seeking employment by providing two mobile computer labs, materials and jobs skills training.

We will be working closely with the Racine County Workforce Development Office and the Walworth County Job Center to provide training for library staff and volunteers to effectively work with job seekers on resume writing, job searching, and other topics. The Volunteer Connection office in Elkhorn will collaborate with libraries to provide trained volunteers to staff the mobile labs in instances where libraries are unable to provide staff time for the labs. Lakeshores Library System member libraries will provide space and wireless access to the mobile computer labs according to an established schedule. Job seekers will be able to use their local library to conduct job searches, take aptitude tests, complete applications, and other online activities without the usual time restrictions imposed on libraries' computer time.

The mobile labs will each include six laptops downloaded with Microsoft Office, WinWay Resume software, and CIPA-compliant filtering software. Besides the laptops, the mobile labs will include a wireless printer and projector for training purposes. Availability of the mobile labs will be heavily publicized in the local media in both counties throughout the length of the project.

Other activities will include a continuing education workshop for Lakeshores member library staff and trustees on providing assistance to job seekers, and creating a link on the Lakeshores webpage to assist job seekers and trainers.

**Madison Public Library  
Finding Jobs and Creating Careers, Year Two**

**11-248  
\$10,372**

In 2010, Madison Public Library received funds from an LSTA Jobs grant in order to conduct a series of drop-in job training sessions and a series of larger workshops on job-seeking topics such as networking, perfecting a resume, developing and highlighting “soft” career skills (teamwork, networking, etc.), and computer training in Spanish related to job-seeking skills.

The persons who have attended our job and computer assistance sessions in 2010 have appreciated the service, have sometimes come back to let us know that they received a job they applied for, wrote a resume for, or searched for at the library. Our 2010 LSTA Jobs grant evaluative paperwork has not started yet so we only have the information we know about initial customers’ perceptions of the service, not long-term impact.

To date, sessions have been popular and exit survey data shows that we were able to reach our target audience of low-income, unemployed persons in our community and that over 90% of participants found the sessions useful.

For 2011, we are seeking LSTA funds to continue the service at our libraries and at partner agency locations. One-on-one assistance would be held at the South Madison Branch or Urban League of Greater Madison, Meadowood Neighborhood Center, Central Library (and an alternate location when we are closed for remodeling), Joining Forces for Families in Allied Drive area, and rotating sessions at two or three of our east-side branch libraries - including Pinney, Lakeview, and Hawthorne branches – or nearby partner organizations.

One of the benefits we have received from the 2010 LSTA grant is an increased communication and sharing with other agencies serving unemployed and underemployed individuals. This has helped us better understand our demographic in some areas, as well as help us find ways to better reach out to and serve individuals who aren’t currently using libraries.

Our 2011 project would include 364 total hours of drop-in job and job-related computer skills sessions at five to seven locations (\$8372) and 5 workshops on job seeking skills and computer training skills related to job seeking (\$1000). Additional LSTA funds would be used for increasing library materials related to job skills and career exploration in English and Spanish at all libraries with or near job assistance sites (\$1000).

We will partner with the Dane County Job Service, Meadowood Community Center, UW-Madison's The Writing Center, Urban League of Greater Madison, Joining Forces for Families, the Madison Community Foundation, and other neighborhood organizations.

The library will provide a project manager and a full-time VISTA associate who will oversee the program; hire, train and monitor volunteers; and collect survey data.

This grant will supplement a two-year project at Madison Public Library with an AmeriCorps VISTA member who is focusing on building a network of like-minded agencies to share all job assistance, job placement and computer training opportunities among government agencies, area non-profits, public libraries and the general public. Additional support comes from a grant from the Madison Community Foundation.

**Manitowoc-Calumet Library System** 11-250  
**JOBS - Searching, Training & Support** \$5,000

Manitowoc and Calumet Counties are still suffering from high unemployment rates and a workforce that while skilled in industrial trades or agriculture, are new to information technology. In order to champion this displaced workforce, Manitowoc-Calumet Library System is proposing to build off of the Work Skills Training Program that was implemented in 2010 with LSTA JOBS grant funds. To this end, the grant money will not only continue the promotion of Learning Express, but also highlight the invaluable resources offered through the additional Job & Career Accelerator and Computer Skills modules.

In 2010, MCLS carried out a Work Skills Training Program. This program focused on providing training for patrons in three areas, 1) computer skills and resume building, 2) online job searching, and 3) Learning Express resources. This year's grant will encompass all three of these components by supporting the renewal of the subscriptions to the Job & Career Accelerator and the Computer Skills add-ons. The Learning Express database, used in conjunction with these two additional modules, covers all aspects that were taught in the workshops offered by MCLS member libraries during the prior year.

Furthermore, to the achieve the goals originally set for the Work Skills Training Program and carried on into 2011 through database support, MCLS will aggressively promote the resources available through the Learning Express database. Promotion will be done locally, systemwide in cooperation with the already-established partnerships with Fox Valley Technical College in Calumet County and Lakeshore CAP in Manitowoc County.

**New Berlin Public Library** 11-252  
**New Berlin Public Library Career Resource Center** \$4,700

The mission of the New Berlin Public Library is to promote the development of independent, self-confident, and literate citizens through the provision of open access to cultural, intellectual, and informational resources. Our Board of Trustees and staff envision a future in which the Library's collection, programs, and leadership ensure that those individuals needing assistance and information are able to find them with ease. Unemployment is a personal issue that affects many individuals in our community. Reaching out to unemployed individuals by providing resources and assistance is a responsibility we take seriously. The development of the New Berlin Career Resource Center will allow us to provide one-on-one instruction with individuals, provide workshops and tutorials, provide targeted book talks, workshops and collection development and forge personalized relationships between participants and local businesses. The award of LSTA grant funds to the NBPL will help us achieve our vision for the Career Resource Center.

**Northern Waters Library Service** 11-254  
**Publicizing JOBS resources at libraries** \$7,954

With unemployment rates at some of the highest levels in 20 years according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data and the economy in the midst of what some call "The Great Recession," libraries are making it a priority to help job seekers find work.

In 2009 and 2010 Northern Waters Library Service initiated projects with its 28 member libraries and Workforce Development Area 7 to add resources to help job seekers. Job center staff has begun scheduling regular visits to libraries to help job seekers in recognition of the fact that transportation is a barrier to use of the centers due to the distance between them.

Library directors and Workforce Development Area 7 staff both believe that there are plenty of new materials, but these are underused. Of the 50 items purchased with the 2010 grant, just six have circulated. Further, job center staff reports an average of just one visitor per two hour session at a public library.

The purpose of this project is to publicize the resources available to job seekers at public libraries by:

- Developing pages on library websites targeted to job seekers
- Creating brochures publicizing library resources for job seekers and distributing them widely
- Advertising in the want ads to encourage job seekers to visit the library for assistance in their searches
- Placing posters throughout the community to publicize the schedule of the outreach visits by job center staff to libraries

**Osceola Public Library** 11-256  
**Mobile Job Training Compute Lab** \$10,410

This project would allow the Osceola Public Library to offer computer classes, resume building and workforce readiness skills in almost any environment using portable technology. The need for this programming has been heightened by Polaris Industries' decision to close its manufacturing facility in Osceola, eliminating over 560 jobs from our community. It is our hope that this program will help displaced workers develop the skills necessary to be a part of the 21st century workforce in addition to determine their interest going forward into new careers.

## C. Library Improvement

### Multi-Type Collaboration

**South Central Library System** 11-260  
**Sharing Digital Resources** \$4,000

The second SCLS Multi-type Summit: Sharing Digital Resources will build on the networks and partnerships created during the 2010 Multi-type Collaboration Summit. Additionally, the 2011 Summit will serve as a planning session for this digital repository project and an opportunity for libraries of all types to learn about digitization and digital collections.

By focusing on digital resources in 2011, this project would tie into the proposed SCLS Enhanced Use of Technology LSTA grant project to create a repository of digital resources. Multi-type library participation in this digital repository will bring their unique and valuable digital collections to a wider audience.

The requested \$4000 will be used to contract with PTFS to upgrade the ArchivalWare license (their repository product) to allow for more content to be added to the collection and partially fund the 2011 Multi-type Summit: Sharing Digital Resources.

**Nicolet Federated Library System** 11-262  
**Newil Region School and Public Library Summit** \$2,250

NFLS will work with NEWIL to develop a one day summit for school and public librarians in the NEWIL service area to have a speaker/facilitator work with the group to share information on what is new and available for students, teachers, and the public at both school and public libraries. The summit will provide an opportunity for participants to network, as well as define ways for school and public librarians to collaborate within the NEWIL area. The summit will also provide a much-needed continuing education opportunity for school librarians.