

**Illinois State Library**  
**Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) Projects Funded**  
**October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012**

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The federal fiscal year overlaps two State of Illinois fiscal years; therefore, for continuing projects, amounts listed below may reflect two contracts. A total of \$4,251,496, or 73.72%, of the \$5,766,746 Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) 2011 allotment were awarded in support of twenty projects.

**\$1,112,178★**

**Reaching Across Illinois Library System**

**Support Services for Northern and Western Illinois Libraries**

Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) provides support services for more than 1,500 private, public, school, and university library members, representing more than 3,700 library facilities in a 27,000 square mile area in northern and western Illinois. RAILS provides a delivery service to support Illinois' vast interlibrary loan program, technology support for more than 600 libraries' shared online catalogs, and Talking Book Services that serve persons with visual or physical disabilities who cannot read conventional print material. All activities support the infrastructure for statewide library services on behalf of patrons of all ages and abilities.

**\$735,853**

**Reaching Across Illinois Library System**

**Talking Book and Braille Program**

Through the Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center (East Peoria) and the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center (Geneva), the Reaching Across Illinois Library System provided talking book library services for people in Illinois who are unable to read print due to a physical or visual limitation. Talking book services open the world of reading and enrich the quality of life for print challenged individuals.

**\$379,028★**

**Illinois Heartland Library System**

**Support Services for Central and Southern Illinois Libraries**

Illinois Heartland Library System provides services for 585 member libraries in central and southern Illinois with emphasis on support for the sharing of resources through a cooperative network of libraries, the provision of talking book and braille services and collaboration for library services statewide. The Illinois Heartland Library System monitors and coordinates resource sharing activities encouraging member libraries to be active in a shared online catalog, actively participate in interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing, and provide access for non-residents. All activities support the infrastructure for statewide library services on behalf of patrons of all ages and abilities.

**\$340,045**

**Illinois State Library**

**FirstSearch Databases**

In support of statewide needs for access to quality information resources, the Illinois State Library subscribes to FirstSearch, an online service that provides electronic access to a rich collection of reference databases with more than 10 million full-text and full-image articles. Underlying FirstSearch is the WorldCat database. Through WorldCat, with a click of a button, users find relevant records quickly plus the location to request the resources they need whether it is at their local library or at other libraries. The Illinois State Library provides the basic package for database access statewide in support of the information needs of library patrons statewide.

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★The amount of funding was based the service area and number of persons served.

**JESSE WHITE, SECRETARY OF STATE AND STATE LIBRARIAN**

For more information about grants from the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library, contact

1-800-665-5576 or [isl\\_grants@ilsos.net](mailto:isl_grants@ilsos.net)

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/lsta.html>

January 2013

**\$168,698**

**Illinois Heartland Library System**

**WebJunction Illinois**

WebJunction Illinois (WJIL) shares the mission of its parent organization, WebJunction Global, to promote learning for all library staff by providing an open, affordable online learning community. Illinois Heartland Library System coordinates the WJIL project making resources available 24/7 to the Illinois library community. In addition to more than 350 self-paced online courses on topics that include library basics, software, customer service, and intrapersonal skills, registered users have access to webinars on timely topics and to a wealth of resources to provide quality library services. WJIL members have become more knowledgeable by completing self-paced online courses made available through the WebJunction course catalog and have gained insight on timely topics concerning trends and changes impacting library services and patron needs by participating in online webinars.

**\$156,769★**

**Rockford Public Library**

**Reading Popular Literature 2.0**

In support of digital literacy, the Rockford Public Library's project, Reading Popular Literature 2.0, provided popular materials, particularly in digital format, for patrons of all ages. The library greatly expanded its holdings of digital materials to provide the very best offerings possible and a wide variety of choices for those seeking such items. All genres were represented in the e-books purchased including the introduction of a robust, e-book collection of contemporary urban literature. To complement access to e-books, the library also began circulating a variety of e-reading devices and provided training to address the needs of patrons unable to afford the cost of owning an e-reader. Learning how to navigate the internet to download books and how to successfully use an e-reader advanced the digital literacy skills of patrons.

**\$151,193★**

**Joliet Public Library**

**Welcome to the Library**

Through Welcome to the Library, the Joliet Public Library focused efforts in three primary areas on behalf of patrons of all ages: e-books, online information/homework support, and digital media resources. E-books titles suitable for all ages and interests were purchased complemented by training on how to download titles through the library's website. The library expanded online information and homework help for all ages, which are available from home or the library. Resources were added to the library's Digital Media Studio in support of local businesses and patrons efforts to create presentations, write resumes and reports. The library strives to make current and accurate information available in a variety of languages and formats to meet the diverse needs of library users.

**\$148,284★**

**Gail Borden Pubic Library District**

**Expanding Print and Audiovisual Collections**

Investing in educational and entertainment resources for Gail Borden Pubic Library District residents was the hallmark of this Expanding Print and Audiovisual Collections project with a focus on materials that support efforts to keep children reading during the summer months. Reading is fundamental to success, so many materials were purchased to enhance the summer reading program and engage patrons in reading and reading-related activities. This included providing a reorganized and revitalized collection for the library's new Middle School Zone; updating the DVD collection; increasing the e-book collection to help meet demand; and creating a "Pack Your Bag" section devoted to travel vacations, and summer reading. The library successfully connected patrons with materials through programming and partnerships resulting in increased circulation demonstrating that patrons are reading more.

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**\$130,084★**

**Schaumburg Township District Library  
Smart Investing @ Your Library**

Smart Investing @ Your Library allowed the Schaumburg Township District Library to focus on the financial literacy needs of people 25 – 50 years old through programs and resources to educate participants about making good financial choices. The project was threefold. The library purchased resources, developed a train the trainer model to educate social service providers, and offered three public workshops “Getting Through Tough Financial Times,” “Taking Control of Spending,” and “It’s Your Money: Get Smart.” Workshop attendees reported an increased knowledge of financial topics and that they are likely to recommend the library to friends or family as a reliable place for information.

**\$119,214★**

**Lincoln Library, the Public Library of Springfield  
Springfield: A City of Readers**

Lincoln Library, the public library of the City of Springfield, serves people of all ages and educational backgrounds with a strong, well-developed collection of books on all topics and for all ages, as well as a variety of audiovisual and electronic resources. Springfield is a city of readers and grant funds allowed the library to expand the collection of reading materials in a variety of formats: fiction, nonfiction, and reference materials as well as audiovisual materials and improved access to e-books. The library stands firm in its mission to inform, enrich, and empower Springfield citizens through abundant library resources and technologies.

**\$93,096**

**Illinois State Library  
S.U.S.I. - Single Unified Source of Information**

The Illinois State Library is developing an Internet based LSTA grant process known as S.U.S.I. (Single Unified Source of Information) that will ultimately create an interactive and responsive grant management system. A certification module was accomplished to annually confirm the statutory requirements of a library’s eligibility for regional and statewide services, including grants and delivery. Technologies are being used to achieve the goals of an online grant application and reporting process from a single website to enable a “go green” grant application process and use computer logic to prevent many of the computational and other reoccurring errors that routinely occur when using traditional paper applications.

**\$91,349★**

**Waukegan Public Library  
Reading: the Key to Success**

Reading: the Key to Success was a project at the Waukegan Public Library to systematically weed the collection of outdated and underutilized materials, and then to purchase new items that patrons need and want, including materials that support programs at the library. The Library’s circulation is increasing as more relevant materials are made available and important collections (such as new Spanish books) are made more accessible including resources in support of an Early Learning Center and Adult and Family Literacy Center. The Library established programs for the public and other services such and an outreach program for the community and the area schools. The new materials and programs support patrons’ life long learning needs for all reading and interest levels.

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**\$91,252★**

**Palatine Public Library District**

**Digital Resources: Subscription Databases**

Through Digital Resources: Subscription Databases, the Palatine Public Library District provided an eclectic selection of subscription databases with training for patrons to improve access to quality and current information resulting in confident patrons successfully finding the highest quality of aggregated information. The quantity of print materials being digitized has increased along with online availability. Patrons who had previously used print resources attended one-on-one training or library workshops/classes to learn how to successfully use the library's subscription databases to access the information they needed and wanted.

**\$91,169**

**Illinois State Library**

**Resource Sharing**

The Illinois State Library supplements an electronic table of contents service provided to state employees and elected officials through print and electronic journal and newspaper subscriptions that provide up-to-date information in specialized areas to address the unique needs of state agencies. The Illinois State Library serves state government, and this service provides access to quality and timely information on a variety of topics for state agencies. Through this project known as Resource Sharing, government employees, across the state, have increased access to information relevant to their job duties to better serve the citizens in Illinois.

**\$83,122★**

**Champaign Public Library**

**Access to Information**

Through a project known as Access to Information, the Champaign Public Library ensured that patrons of all ages have access to information and educational resources that support their learning. The Champaign Public Library serves a community whose reliance on and use of the collection has placed it among the busiest libraries in the country, with each person checking out an average of 27.89 books and materials per year, almost three times the national average of peer libraries in this demographic. Through a rich collection of quality resources, the library satisfies the needs and demands of the diverse community.

**\$77,258★**

**Plainfield Public Library District**

**Meeting Demand with More Books and Programs**

Meeting Demand with More Books and Programs was a project at the Plainfield Public Library District to provide programming for all ages and to improve the collection of materials in response to the needs of the community. Programming for all ages has been in great demand, particularly among adults seeking employment. In addition to programs, materials were purchased that support people reading and learning at the library. Patrons of all ages were offered expanded services for learning and improved access to a wealth of information and educational resources in a variety of formats.

**\$76,385★**

**Evanston Public Library**

**Encouraging Reading, Enriching Lives**

The Evanston Public Library strives to enrich people's lives through current, well-rounded collections, innovative programming and community outreach. Through a project called Encouraging Reading, Enriching Lives, grant funds were used to improve several under-developed areas of the collection, including, but not limited to: reading materials in print, audio and downloadable format for a growing ethnic population, many with limited English literacy skills, and teens. Community demand for e-books and downloadable resources is high, and an increased circulation shows the library is meeting a community wide need for this popular format.

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**\$69,409★**

**Fountaindale Public Library District  
Expanding Electronic Access**

As more and more content moves to a digital format, Expanding Electronic Access greatly increased the variety and quantity of titles available in electronic format for the community served by the Fountaindale Public Library District. Patrons requests for information in alternative formats were addressed as the library subscribed to an online, digital content provider to provide 24/7 access to downloadable e-books, audio books, and other digital content – all available through the library’s website for browsing, checking out, and downloading. The library meets the expectations of patrons by providing online access and exceeds expectations by helping patrons use their electronic readers to access digital content thus expanding services for learning and access to information in electronic formats for individuals of all ages.

**\$68,719★**

**Indian Trails Public Library District  
Access to Information**

Through a project known as Access to Digital Information, the Indian Trails Library District expanded services for learning for both adults and children by expanding access to information and educational resources in alternative formats. The library increased the number of e-books and digital resource available to patrons. From e-readers to software applications, technology is a part of everyday life and the library provides information in print and digital content, offers a variety of services from computer classes to one-on-one training sessions, and helps patrons navigate and use these virtual technologies.

**\$68,391★**

**Warren-Newport Public Library District  
Collections for All Ages**

The Collections for All Ages project has been crucial in enabling the Warren-Newport Public Library District to offer additional materials in order to better meet the needs of a growing population in the library’s district. Adult, young adult, and children’s fiction and nonfiction, as well as graphic novels and magazines were purchased to provide current and relevant resources. While materials for all ages are important, primary emphasis was on expanding resources for teens to coincide with the introduction of a new teen space in the library. The project resulted in increased access to informational and recreational reading due to the availability of more resources.

**Summary:**

The federal 2011 Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) allotment of \$5,766,746 funded 71 projects. 58 public libraries were awarded grants for 61 projects totaling \$2,777,886 or 48% of the LSTA funds.

- 2 multi-type regional library systems were awarded grants for 4 projects totaling \$2,395,757 or 42% of the LSTA funds.
- 1 academic library was awarded a grant for 1 project totaling \$16,383 or 0.3% of the LSTA funds.
- Thirteen projects (18%) had statewide impact totaling \$2,994,527 or 52% of the LSTA funds.
- Ten projects (14%) involved partnerships, \$2,747,925 or 48% of the LSTA funds
- Awards ranged from \$234 to \$1,112,178.

\$7,061, or 0.12%, was returned to the Institute of Museum and Library Services because subgrantees deobligated LSTA grant funds past the deadline to legally allow the funds to be reobligated in Illinois.

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