

Federal Support to Idaho Libraries FY09

Annual Report, Summer 2010

FY09 Initiatives

- LSTA grant projects
- Read to Me annual meeting
- USDA Rural Development grants/loans
- Statewide networking
- E-rate funding
- BTOP proposal potential
- Shaping 21st Century Learners
- School Library Impact Study
- TBS moves to federal funds
- 25 years of Let's Talk About It

LSTA Funding

Statewide Projects & Grants	
FY06	1,215,563
FY07	1,225,260
FY08	1,180,138
FY09	1,344,613
FY10	1,369,784
Total	\$7,485,822

State Funding

The General Fund Numbers	
FY09 Appropriation	\$4,269,300
FY09 Adjusted Appropriation	\$3,960,400
FY10 Appropriation	\$3,426,000
FY10 Holdback	(\$ 291,700)
FY10 Adjusted Appropriation	\$3,134,300
FY11 Appropriation	\$2,796,400

The Idaho Commission for Libraries FY11 state appropriation is a 34.5% decrease from the original FY09 state appropriation.



The Idaho Commission for Libraries administers Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

FY2009 LSTA competitive grant projects

In FY2009, public libraries in Idaho were awarded \$137,237 in Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds for projects that support the Board of Library Commissioners' strategic issues for Idaho's libraries, are consistent with LSTA's priorities, and support the 2020 Vision for Idaho's Library Future 2007–2020. The libraries involved in the the following projects serve a total of more than 387,000 patrons:

- **Library Consortium of Eastern Idaho (LCEI):** \$45,703 to merge the catalogs of 20 LCEI libraries—reducing the number of servers needed and making local collections available to patrons consortium-wide.
- **Cooperative Information Network (CIN):** \$35,476 to add Priest Lake and West Bonner District to the network, add courier service, and add authority control for cataloging—improving the consortium and cataloging process.
- **Emmett Public Library:** \$56,058 to join the LYNX Consortium—providing a sustainable means to automate and to communicate with their patrons.

FY2009 LSTA Continuing Education grant projects

Over \$36,000 in LSTA continuing education grant funds were used for 71 applicants for first-time attendance at library conferences, staff and trustee development, and support for formal library courses.

Bonita (Bonnie) Speas, library coordinator for the Caldwell School District and librarian at Jefferson Middle School, attended the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) National Convention and implemented some ideas that intrigued her, including:

- **Tech2Go for teachers:** she spotlights a different technology or Web 2.0 resource each week, which often increases student demand and teacher interest in that technology.
- **“Bookstore” style arrangement of some of the library collection:** she sets up tables with various genres such as Chic Lit, GUYS READ, and Historical Fiction, which attract student attention and keep the books circulating.

Jefferson Middle School (grades 6, 7, and 8):

- Over 700 students
- 48% Hispanic enrollment
- 77% of families are low income



“These follow-up surveys really confirmed that [Read to Me First Book and Every Child Ready to Read programs] work. Not only did the parents say they are still doing these things, but they...shared examples of things their children can now do as a result of the programs.”

- Dr. Roger Stewart on the impact of Idaho's Read to Me programs



A comparison view of backside of old Plummer Public Library and the front entrance to the new



LILI-Unlimited FY2009

- Over 6.9 million Idaho items are in the LiLI-U catalog
- Over 200 Idaho libraries participated
- Idaho libraries loaned and borrowed 119,584 items

12th annual Read to Me meeting

Sixty-one library staff members and four community partners representing 38 libraries from around the state left the 12th annual Read to Me meeting with action plans for reaching more underserved families in their communities.

- Head Start Association Executive Director Stan Burton urged librarians to remember the “Three Fs” when planning services for Head Start families: Fun, Food, and Familiarity.
- National Literacy Consultant Saroj Ghoting shared ideas on taking the six early literacy skills a step further.
- Reading Coordinator at the State Department of Education Jenny Fisk shared information about the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI).
- Boise State University Department of Literacy's Dr. Roger Stewart shared his latest research results on Idaho's Read to Me programs, which indicate that, six to nine months later, parents who participate in the programs are continuing early literacy activities with their children.

Breakout sessions at the Read to Me meeting included tips on outreach to daycares and programming for English Language Learners.

USDA Rural Development grants/loans

Plummer Public Library

In November 2008 Plummer voters approved a \$500,000 bond to fund construction of a new library building. Financing for the bond was secured from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. USDA also granted an additional \$95,000 of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. The new building is scheduled to open July 5, 2010.

Payette Public Library

Stimulus funds may inject new life into Payette in the form of an expansion of their library building. Results of a feasibility study commissioned in 2009 indicates that they could expand the current facility. The study included a proposed expansion design that would cost \$1.5 million. However, the project was put on hold due to the economic slowdown.

Early this year, Idaho libraries received word that the USDA Rural Development ARRA would be focusing on library construction projects. In light of the low interest rate provided by USDA/ARRA and matching grant funds, the city of Payette will hold an election on August 3 for a \$1.5 million building bond. If the bond passes, USDA will match the bond with \$400,000. An additional \$100,000 will be added through city funds. The bond amount will also be underwritten by USDA/ARRA at a 4% interest rate, and the library will seek partial interest reimbursement through the Build America Bond program or as a recovery zone facility.

Statewide networking projects

LSTA funding of nearly \$250,000 supported the Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) program in FY2009 to facilitate online access to resources for all Idahoans. LiLI Unlimited is a web catalog for finding items in libraries statewide and the LiLI Databases provide access to the full text of magazines and newspapers.

E-rate funding in public libraries

The Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund, commonly known as the E-rate program, is administered under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Through the E-rate program, discounts are made available to eligible schools and libraries for

E-Rate Funding: 5 Years at a Glance	
FY06	137,797
FY07	98,990
FY08	125,370
FY09	137,840
FY10 so far	127,889
Total	\$627,886

telecommunication services, Internet access, and internal connections to ensure that they have affordable access to these services. In 2009-2010, thirty-three Idaho public libraries applied and were funded. So far in Wave 1 of 2010 E-rate funding, 40 libraries have received funding commitments.

Public libraries receiving E-rate funding in 2009:

- Aberdeen District Library
- Ada Community Library
- Bear Lake County Library District
- Boundary County District Library
- Burley Public Library
- Clarkia District Library
- Clearwater County Free Library District
- Clearwater Memorial Library
- DeMary Memorial Public Library
- Emmett Public Library
- Garden City Public Library
- Grace District Library
- Grangeville Centennial Library
- Hailey Public Library
- Jerome Public Library
- Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries
- Larsen-Sant (Franklin County District) Library
- Latah County Library District
- Leadore Community Library
- Lewiston City Library
- Meridian District Library
- Midvale Community Library
- Mountain Home Public Library
- North Bingham County District Library
- Payette Public Library
- Plummer Public Library
- Salmon Public (Lemhi County District) Library
- South Bannock Library District
- Tensed-Desmet Community (Benewah County District) Library
- Tri-Community (Benewah County District) Library
- Twin Falls Public Library
- Weiser Public Library
- West Bonner Library District

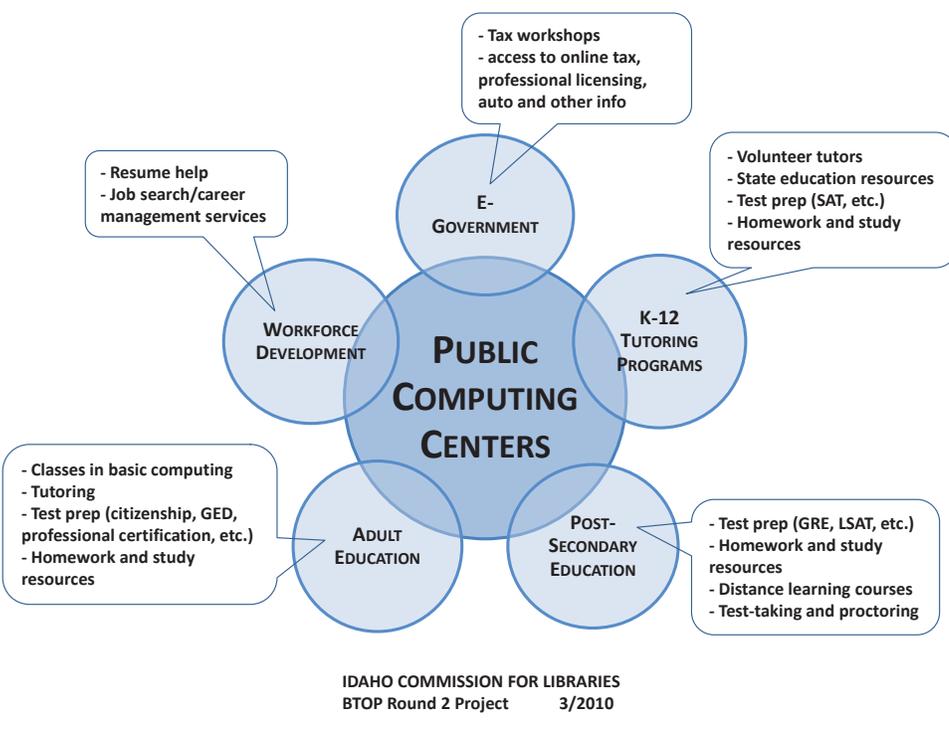
Broadband (BTOP) Proposal for Stimulus Funding

On March 15, the Idaho Commission for Libraries submitted a Public Computing Center Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant proposal, "High Quality Public Computing in Idaho Libraries," to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). This proposal has advanced to the "due diligence" phase. The objectives of this project are to:

- increase connectivity rates in the least connected of Idaho public libraries
- upgrade public computing resources in those libraries
- leverage partnerships to offer services in education, workforce development, and e-government statewide

Overall BTOP budget \$2,850,346 Federal grant request \$1,907,531

What the BTOP Project Looks Like in Practice: In Person and Online





School library teams formulate blueprints for 21st Century Libraries

“Teach me the technology that I need. Teachers need to be aware so I can be prepared.”

- Melba High School student attending the conference

The bottom line from the Impact Study findings is that students are more likely to succeed and excel when librarians play active and collaborative roles with teachers and administrators.



Idaho Talking Book Service

- Budget for FY2010: \$371,000
- Patrons: about 3,200
- Annual circulation: 160,000



Since 1985, Let's Talk About It programs have been held in over 80 communities across the state of Idaho, from Bonners Ferry to Montpelier.

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Partnering to Shape 21st Century Learners conferences

At the Partnering to Shape 21st Century Learners conferences—held in Boise, Coeur d'Alene, and Pocatello in spring 2010—participants networked with colleagues and the famous ‘Washington Moms,’ who led a grass-roots campaign in Washington State to raise awareness of the importance of libraries on student academic success. School librarians served as team leaders and, along with an administrator and one or more parents, formulated blueprints for their 21st century libraries, envisioning inviting, teen-friendly places that promote global citizenship. The teams further explored building partnerships and discussed the Idaho School Library Impact Study findings (see below).

Idaho School Library Impact Study—2009

In April 2010, the Idaho Commission for Libraries released the final report of the “Idaho School Library Impact Study—2009: How Idaho School Librarians, Teachers, and Administrators Collaborate for Student Success.” The Commission contracted with RLS Research Group for this study, which was endorsed by the Idaho Department of Education. Idaho is one of 20 states that have completed similar studies and the results are expected to be widely reported in library and educational journals and forums. A research brief of the study is included in your packet. View the full report and an executive summary at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/doc/idaho-school-library-impact-study-2009>.

Talking Book Service (TBS) transfer to LSTA funds

A series of cutbacks initiated during state FY2009 severely reduced the Commission's state funds. Although the Talking Book Service had been supported entirely by state funds, it is a direct service to the underserved, one of the target audiences for LSTA funds. The Board of Commissioners approved the transfer of personnel costs for seven TBS staff members and TBS operating costs such as the KLAS circulation system to LSTA funds. Idaho TBS focuses heavily on outreach via public libraries to help them better serve those requiring reading alternatives.

25 Years of Let's Talk About It book discussions

This year marks the 25th anniversary of “Let's Talk About It,” a statewide library program that brings readers and scholars together to discuss literature from various themes over the course of a season. Program participants expand their reading interests and explore important cultural issues in the context of their own lives and the lives of others. Since 1985 the program has been a partnership between the Idaho Commission for Libraries, the Idaho Humanities Council, and the Division of State Programs of the National Endowment for Humanities, with support for more than 12 years from US Bancorp.

About the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL)

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele. Our role is to encourage and challenge librarians to deliver programs and services useful to the adults, teens, and children in their communities. To learn more about ICFL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.

About the Idaho Library Association (ILA)

The purpose of the Idaho Library Association is to advance the common library interest, to promote the organization and development of better library service in the State of Idaho, and to foster a friendly relationship among all those interested in library service. To learn more about ILA, visit <http://www.idaholibraries.org/>.