

VI. GENERAL, MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE, & LIBRARY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT FUNDS

A.1. Finances – LSIF funds received – Action Item

The ICfL staff have received inquiries and/or funds from three sources recently and are requesting Board support to spend the awards from the Library Services Improvement Fund (LSIF).

The **STEM Action Center** provided \$40,000 to support the Summer STEM from your library program. Summer STEM has been a successful program that has brought STEM programming to many Idaho families at a relatively low cost per participant. Enriched learning opportunities during the summer months are critical to helping children combat the “summer slide,” and libraries are able to demonstrate for families how they can continue engaging with STEM at home. In 2021, ICfL staff will award up to 65 libraries with \$500 mini-grants for STEM outreach programming. STEM books and other resources will also be provided. The Commission will evaluate the program with participant surveys and submit a final report with all data and outcomes to the STEM Action Center. One library had to return their \$500 Summer STEM grant last fiscal year and staff were advised to roll that amount into this year’s program, providing a total of \$40,500 for the 2021 Summer STEM program

The **Idaho Scottish Rite Foundation** donated \$15,000 to the Idaho Commission for Libraries for its summer reading program. The funds will be used to purchase approximately 7,000 books that will be distributed to all public libraries in Idaho for their summer reading initiatives.

Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (BUUF) is working with ICfL staff to present a proposal to fund up to \$10,000 for the Idaho Libraries Welcome All project. Funding will provide targeted, curated training opportunities, free of charge, for Idaho library staff aiming to expand their knowledge, interest, and investment in creating a welcoming library environment for all patrons—that is, a learning environment that is equitable, diverse, and inclusive for all patrons. Funding from the BUUF will be used to purchase access to webinars, hire a specific trainer, and/or purchase seats in professional development courses with content related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Some funding may be used to purchase related professional development books to be given/housed/lent to Idaho libraries for staff use over the course of the grant period.

As outlined in Idaho Code, Board approval is required for all expenditures from the LSIF:

33-2506 (2) Purpose. The purpose of the library services improvement fund is to further the development of library services for all the people of Idaho. Moneys in the library services improvement fund are appropriated to and may be expended by the board of library commissioners at any time for the purposes provided in this section.

Board Document 21-31

(4)(c) Payments from the library services improvement fund may be used only for the purposes approved by the board of library commissioners. Funding decisions shall be solely within the discretion of the board of library commissioners.

Suggested motion: I move that the expenditure of up to \$65,500 from the Library Services Improvement Fund be approved for implementation of projects outlined in Board Document 21-31.

M/S _____/_____