

## V. Federal Fund

### A. Finances, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – information item

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As reported at the April 2021 Board meeting, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 designated \$200 million in pandemic response funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Idaho's allotment of the ARPA funding will be approximately \$2.4 million.

Governor Little signed the ICFL's appropriations bill on May 10, 2021 and a competitive grant round for up to \$1 million in funding to public, school, academic, and special libraries was opened on May 11. Please see <https://libraries.idaho.gov/grants-funding/arpa-grant/> for more details about the grant. Applications are due June 15, 2021 and funds will be awarded by mid-July 2021.

The ICfL staff will be hiring a limited-service full-time Bilingual/Bicultural Project Coordinator. This person will help build the capacity of libraries to best serve their communities by supporting library staff and cultivating connections with organizations serving Latino communities. The position closes on June 6 and interviews should take place the week of June 21.

On May 3, 2021, the ICfL hired Anna Langrill to serve on the E-Services Team as the IDEA (Idaho Digital E-Book Alliance) Collection Developer. Langrill is working up to 10 hours each week. She has been the Materials Management Division Coordinator at the Ada Community Library for the past five years and continues in that position while working with us.

Additional ARPA funds have been set aside to support public libraries in purchasing digital e-book and e-audio content via OverDrive. This summer, every Idaho public library will be eligible to receive \$2,000 per facility to help purchase additional e-books and e-audio titles.

Staff are currently working on plans for utilizing the remaining ARPA funds to support existing efforts that build the capacity of libraries to better serve their communities. Talking Book Service (TBS) outreach and promotional plans, additional TBS recording studio support, a Digital Inclusion Summit, and wi-fi support for libraries that did not receive equipment and support in FY21 are included in the preliminary plans.

Funds need to be spent and reported on by September 30, 2022.