



NEWS RELEASE

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ICfL Awards \$5,500 to Idaho Libraries for the Underserved

BOISE, Idaho -- The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) awarded 11 grants of \$500 each to public and school libraries in Idaho to benefit underserved or unserved children.

The ICfL's Underserved Children: Welcoming Libraries Grants will help to ensure that every individual feels truly welcomed and included at the library and that libraries are able to offer inclusive spaces and services for children of all abilities, genders, races, and cultures.

The funds will be utilized for activities that improve equity, diversity, and inclusion in Idaho libraries and better serve the community's underserved groups of children. From the collections offered by the library to its physical space, a wide range of the library's offerings will be examined through the lens of the underserved.

State Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White said, "This grant funding will enable the libraries to provide resources that both reflect patrons' experiences, or mirrors them, and teaches patrons about those who are different from them by providing a window."

The following libraries received the Welcoming Libraries Grant: Ada Community Library, Hidden Springs Branch; Coeur d'Alene Public Library; Emmett Public Library; Franklin County District Library, Larsen Sant; Gooding Middle School; Gooding Public Library; Hagerman Elementary School; Lewiston City Library; Madison Library District; Meridian Library District; and Syringa Mountain School (Hailey).

For more information, please visit: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/rtm/welcoming-libraries/>.

This program is brought to you by the Idaho Commission for Libraries and is funded in part with a federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), grant number LS-00-19-0013-19. The IMLS prioritizes accessibility to the nation's museums and libraries in ways that go beyond basic requirements to those that proactively meet the needs of the whole community.

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) builds the capacity of the more than 850 public, school, academic, and special libraries in Idaho to better serve their communities through: statewide programming and resources, like Read to Me and Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI); consulting; continuing education; partnerships; and aid to underserved populations, such as the visually impaired through the Talking Book Service. For more information, visit: <https://libraries.idaho.gov>.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's approximately 120,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).