2022-2023 LSTA grant abstracts

Strengthening Capacity

Braswell Memorial Public Library

Braswell Library: Computers for Adult Education   Awarded: $9,750.00

Braswell Library will create a new computer lab at the main library. Working in collaboration with Nash Community College, the computer classroom is used to train unemployed and underemployed adults in basic computer, keyboard, and internet skills. The new computers will support student education by including web cameras and microphones to meet the needs of users for video conferences, Zoom meetings, and interviews.

Caswell County Public Library

Caswell County Storywalks   Awarded: $25,002.00

Caswell County Public Library will install Storywalks along local community walkways to provide a fun, educational, physical activity that promotes early literacy skills. Storywalks will encourage healthy outdoor family activity while cultivating a love of reading in community youth. The library will work with the two county towns and neighborhood organizations to locate the Storywalks in high-impact, high-poverty locations. The library will schedule on-site programs at each location to promote the Storywalks, library programs, and walkways. The Storywalks will encourage physical activity and use of local outdoor resources, early literacy, and family time together in nature. Stories will be changed every other month.

Catawba County Library

The Power of Play   Awarded: $43,659.00

To support young families and strengthen caregivers' abilities to help their preschool children develop early language and literacy skills, the Catawba County Library will establish an interactive early literacy play space based on the five skills outlined in the "Every Child Read to Read" program. This strategically designed space will encourage parents and caregivers to sing, talk, read, write and play with their children, strengthening their early literacy skills and preparing for kindergarten. Additionally, the Catawba County Partnership for Children will deliver Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) workshops at the library and provide consultation and training to help the library establish a parent's playgroup to bring families together in this space for guided play programs.

Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center

Forward Together:Community-Based Capacity Building   Awarded: $135,713.00

Forward Together: A Comprehensive Community Based Strategy to Capacity Building at Cumberland County Public Library (CCPL) is a result of a community assessment process as a part of the 2020 Project Long Range Strategic Plan. It found that CCPL's community desired innovative, science and technology programs for youth, schools and families, and collaborative spaces for groups and individuals of all ages. It highlighted the library did not have the spaces or technology to meet these needs. Forward Together will provide innovative programming and active learning spaces. From STEAM programming

partnerships, to a Creation Station, a Digital Preservation Lab, and collaborative, multi-sensory spaces, Forward Together is the foundation to expand CCPL's capacity for serving our community.

Davidson County Public Library

Facility Needs Assmt. for Northern Davidson County   Awarded: $12,750.00

The Davidson County Public Library will work with a consulting firm to assess facility needs in Northern Davidson County. The current facility, located in Welcome, has served that part of the county since 1971. Due to challenges inherent in the current facility and robust growth in that area of the county, the time is opportune to assess current and future library space needs for Northern Davidson County, including those related to programming, meeting room use, accessibility, and location. The consulting firm will seek community stakeholder input during the assessment process.

Elizabeth City State University, G. R. Little Library

G.R. Little Library Modernization and Improvement   Awarded: $72,754.00

The G.R. Little Library proposes to purchase and install a modern, RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) system for the library's entire physical collection, along with self-checkout stations. A modern, RFID-based system will modernize the library's inventory management system and allow for swift and accurate inventories of the library collection, leading to increased efficiency and accuracy in library operations. Self-checkout stations will lead to improved user experience through increased convenience, privacy, and efficiency. This project will modernize library operations and user experience at the G.R. Little Library.

Farmville Public Library

Farmville Public Library FY23-28 Strategic Plan   Awarded: $28,224.00

The Farmville Public Library (FPL) will hire a consultant to facilitate a comprehensive strategic planning process resulting in a five-year strategic plan for FY2023 through FY2028. The consultant will collaborate with FPL staff, Library Board of Trustees, local government leaders, community stakeholders, and the citizens served by the library to design a plan that will guide future programs and service of FPL. The planning process will include an environmental scan of the community, community-wide surveys, and focus groups and interviews with stakeholders to identify the needs and priorities of Farmville. Through this process a measurable set of goals, objectives, and activities will be written into the strategic plan to guide FPL in serving the evolving needs of the community.

Forsyth Technical Community College

Forsyth Tech Library Strategic Planning Process   Awarded: $29,100.00

Forsyth Technical Community College aims to strengthen the capacity of its central library by engaging a skilled consultant to prepare a comprehensive assessment of strengths, weaknesses, and threats with equal attention to current needs and future opportunities. Although traditional library functions remain important, library staff and college leadership are eager to further position the library to support the college vision to become "a catalyst for equitable economic mobility, empowering lives, and transforming communities". Supporting the college vision requires vital, modern, and dynamic library

facilities and resources to create opportunities for broader and more innovative ways of serving the needs of the college community and remaining relevant into the future.

Gibsonville Public Library

Planning a community-focused library   Awarded: $11,750.00

The Gibsonville Public Library seeks to hire an experienced consultant to develop a needs assessment that identifies current and future library facility needs based on input from the Gibsonville community and provides recommendations for addressing those needs.

Guilford College, Hege Library

Visual Edge: Sustaining Art as Special Collection   Awarded: $16,471.00

Guilford College's Art Gallery is co-located in Hege Library and, as of 2020, is a component of Quaker Archives and Special Collections. These recent organizational changes mandate developing a strategy incorporating art as a special collection prioritizing visual literacy and curricular engagement. This includes attention to collection development and management of current art collections and future priorities aligned with institutional planning underway in 2022-23. An experienced curator similarly based in an academic library setting serves as consultant. The project includes relevant institutional site visits for librarians and teaching faculty and campus conversations to envision a sustainable future for visual arts in the library inclusive of our increasingly diverse campus community.

High Point Public Library

High Point Public Library Space Needs Assessment   Awarded: $36,000.00

The High Point Public Library is seeking a planning grant for a space needs assessment. By utilizing a space needs assessment, the library will be better able to serve users, allocating space for what is in their best interests. This will also allow us to fulfill a part of the library's current Strategic Plan's long range goals, which is to develop a growth and sustainability plan for the facility.

Methodist University

The Voyage to Alma at Methodist University   Awarded: $28,500.00

Ex Libris' Integrated Library System (ILS), Voyager, was implemented at Methodist University in 1999, in a world where print materials dominated library collections and online degree programs were virtually nonexistent. Now, over twenty years later, Methodist University's Davis Memorial Library is seeking an LSTA grant in order to implement an ILS built for today's world; Ex Libris' Alma. The dynamic public interfaces and mobile application will entice users while the cloud-based, unified platform will revolutionize staff efficiency. Additionally, staff users will benefit from improved workflows and the ability to work when away from the campus server.

Neuse Regional Library

Neuse Regional Libraries Strategic Plan 2022-2023   Awarded: $12,117.00

Neuse Regional Libraries will develop a new strategic plan for 2023-2028 based on a Community Needs Assessment conducted under the direction of a highly regarded consultant. The Library will hire

temporary canvassers to help conduct the survey element of the assessment, and will provide appropriate training to staff conducting the survey in order to successfully reach segments of the community that the Library has identified as currently being underserved and lacking awareness of library services. The Library's Leadership Team will then use the results of the Needs Assessment and consider the input of the community at large as well as staff, Board members, and other key stakeholders in the creation of a new strategic plan and corresponding action plan for the next five years.

New Hanover County Public Library

Local History Archival Management Assessment   Awarded: $20,625.00

New Hanover County Public Library proposes hiring an archival management consultant to provide expert analysis of our local history policies, collections, services, space, and work processes to optimize access and expand our user base in a new facility. After 40 years in its current home, the library is updating our North Carolina Room mission and management practices in preparation for a move. The downtown library will be co-located with the county's Cape Fear Museum in a library-museum complex in space adjacent to the current library facility. This project will draw fresh attention to the library's respected local history archives, presenting an opportunity to attract new users and improve our service model.

Onslow County Public Library

Family Place Library   Awarded: $18,093.00

Onslow County Public Library will become a Family Place Library. Families who are unable to afford day care and/or preschool will be able to provide the learning and social skills necessary for their child's school career.   Modeling and teaching ways to interact and learn for parents in the early years, connecting services, and most importantly connecting families will create opportunities that reach far into each family member's life. The mission of Family Place Libraries™ is to increase the capacity of libraries throughout the nation to recognize and realize their full potential as community hubs for healthy child and family development, parent and community involvement and lifelong learning beginning at birth.   The mission of Family Place aligns perfectly with Onslow County Public Library's mission to enrich, empower and inspire.

Randolph County Public Library

Expanding StoryWalks to Bridge Early Literacy Gaps   Awarded: $16,300.00

The Randolph County Public Library is seeking LSTA funds to place a permanent StoryWalk at parks in three communities: Archdale, Randleman, and Seagrove. The response in the community to existing StoryWalks has been overwhelming and illustrates how successfully StoryWalks can meet a number of needs in our community: preparing children for educational success, bridging early literacy gaps, fostering family engagement, and encouraging outdoor wellness activities.

Randolph County Public Library

Randolph County Public Library Radio Frequency ID   Awarded: $78,425.00

To improve visitor experiences and increase services to individuals and organizations served by library outreach, the Randolph County Public Library is seeking funding to implement Radio Frequency Identification technology (RFID) throughout the seven-library system. RFID and compatible self-checkout machines will provide library patrons with reduced checkout wait times and offer them service similar to what they have become used to in many shopping locations. Saving of staff time also will benefit both in-house library users and those accessing library outreach by freeing staff for more substantive patron interactions. Patrons also will benefit from a more efficient experience seeking library materials as a result of more accurate inventory and security control made possible by RFID.

Western Carolina University, Hunter Library

Library Space Usability Study   Awarded: $9,310.00

This project is a usability study of the physical library space. Using eye-tracking glasses, users will assess the library space. This will involve giving participants tasks from a predetermined list, as well as allowing participants to give free-form feedback. There will also be opportunities for participants to detail their usual use of the library. The data gathered from this project will allow us to create a more usable physical space.

Expanding Access

Cleveland County Library System

Cleveland County Mobile Library   Awarded: $100,000.00

Cleveland County Library System is seeking funds to support the purchase of a new technologically equipped bookmobile which will serve as a mobile library to the citizens of Cleveland County. A technologically equipped bookmobile will enable CCLS Outreach Services to provide its current bookmobile patrons with access to digital information and the opportunity to increase their technological literacy and workforce development skills by attending classes taught by Outreach Staff. The mobile library will provide traditional circulation services and non-traditional services by partnering with community organizations to address the literacy, digital access, and address the gap STEAM and STEM skills for youth ages 10 to 21, with strategic stops in the county.

Duplin County Library

Duplin County Library Migration   Awarded: $10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

Durham County Library

Teaching Technology: The Cutting Edge Made Mobile   Awarded: $79,750.00

Through Teaching Technology: The Cutting Edge Made Mobile, Durham County Library will assist in bridging the digital divide in Durham by bringing programs, services, and resources outside the walls of the library and into the community through utilization of the Tech Mobile. The goals of the project

include increased access to information technology for the community and hands-on experience with and learning of diverse, cutting-edge technology for all ages. Updated devices and new cutting-edge technology with supplementary curriculum for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics based outreach events will allow the Tech Mobile to expand and improve services and programs to the community, focusing specifically on vulnerable and historically underserved groups and individuals.

Gibsonville Public Library

Gibsonville Public Library Migration   Awarded: $10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library

Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library Migration   Awarded: $10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

North Carolina A&T State University, F. D. Bluford Library

Creating Research Objects for Students by Students   Awarded: $74,060.00

To increase students' information literacy & research skills, and to support online learning, the F.D. Bluford Library aims to collaborate with students to create instructional videos that will be housed on our library's website under a creative commons license available for instructors and academic support services to incorporate into their teaching by providing tools that students need to produce original research. Allowing students to take the lead on content creation, not only helps them gain a deeper understanding but helps them see themselves as creators of knowledge. Anticipated outcomes are that users will be able to improve core skills, access information anywhere, and have the library produce quality tools for information literacy and research, to improve overall understanding.

North Carolina State University on behalf of NCSU Libraries

Extending NC Cooperative Extension Digital History   Awarded: $10,884.00

The NC State University Libraries will conduct a one-year project titled "Extending NC Cooperative Extension Digital History" to further digital discoverability of primary source materials on agricultural extension and its impact on North Carolina's citizens and the state's 20th century agricultural economy. This project will scan, describe, and create a full text index of 5,945 digital objects (pages/items) from reports, pamphlets, publications, film, and other archival materials in the Libraries' collections on North Carolina Cooperative Extension. The project will create a single online access point in which library users, North Carolina citizens, and researchers throughout the world can access these important historical materials.

Onslow County Public Library

Onslow County Rec & Read Mobile Trailer   Awarded: $29,521.00

Onslow County Rec & Read is a project developed by the Onslow County Public Library and the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department. The two entities are coming together to promote reading literacy and physical fitness throughout Onslow County by taking their programs to underserved areas of the County, events, and gatherings. This will be accomplished through the purchase a mobile box trailer which will hold equipment and supplies to present these programs. The Rec & Read trailer will be wrapped in a graphic design to promote the program, along with Onslow County Public Library and Parks and Recreation. Rec & Read will then travel throughout the County to present programs and promote resources encouraging reading literacy and physical fitness.

Perry Memorial Library

Perry Memorial Library Bookmobile   Awarded: $100,000.00

Perry Memorial Library is a single branch library system serving the citizens of Vance County. The library seeks a bookmobile to essentially create a mobile branch that will increase community outreach and reach a larger audience by providing additional stops to schools, rural locations (i.e. parks, churches), and special events. The vehicle would be outfitted with shelves for materials and include WI-FI capabilities to increase access and reduce barriers to citizens.

Pettigrew Regional Library

Pettigrew Regional Gets Crafty   Awarded: $14,726.00

Pettigrew Regional Library will create crafting spaces and programming for the patrons in the three county system. With a renewed interest in creating, patrons will have access to technology and new viritual and in-person programs that will allow them to enrich their lives.

Stanly County Library

Stanly County Public Library Migration   Awarded: $10,000.00

NC Cardinal is a growing consortium of North Carolina public libraries with the goal of sharing resources and expanding opportunities through using a single online catalog. The State Library provides initial startup/migration funding for participating libraries to join the consortium. Hardware, software support, and training contracts are funded by the LSTA Grant.

Wilson County Public Library

Assistive Technology Library   Awarded: $9,902.00

Wilson County Public Library is seeking funding to purchase assistive devices to provide for library customers in Wilson County. The goal is to create a library of assistive devices that all ages can check out and use in or outside the library.   Many of the customers that are served do not have access to this technology. By providing this collection, the library can bring this technology to library customers and make the library's resources more accessible for the community.

Wilson County Public Library

Lockers for Literacy   Awarded: $49,999.00

The Wilson County Public Library is seeking grant funding to purchase two (2) outdoor smart locker systems and book returns for remote installation in underserved rural communities. The equipment will provide convenient pickup and return of reserved materials.

Community Engagement

Craven-Pamlico Regional Library

Maribelle Hollowell Annex   Awarded: $49,902.00

Craven-Pamlico Regional Library (CPRL) in collaboration with Heartworks, a non-profit afterschool care facility, will break down existing barriers to literacy in rural Pamlico County by creating a safe, welcoming, vibrant, and accessible library space (Maribelle Hollowell Annex) in the Heartworks building. CPRL will have an developmentally appropriate and culturally-inclusive collection and offer programs focused on encouraging reading, overcoming barriers, surviving tragedies, promoting self esteem, and personal growth for preschool through 8th grade. Technology, (hotspots, iPads and Chromebooks) will be circulated. The annex will join CPRL in sharing resources and collections in Craven and Pamlico County not only supporting access, but lifelong learning.

East Carolina University

Documenting a Local Win over Environmental Racism   Awarded: $49,415.00

East Carolina University Special Collections and the Phoenix Historical Society will collaborate on a documentary film telling the story of one community's fight against environmental racism. In 1995, Iowa Beef Processors, Inc. proposed a hog-processing plant in Kingsboro, North Carolina - a predominantly Black community between Rocky Mount and Tarboro. Residents raised concerns about the social, physical, and environmental costs of the plant's operation. These efforts resulted in extensive public debate and ultimately reversed the rezoning approval. This project will provide open access to the film through ECU's Digital Collections website, will provide public screenings of the documentary, and will make available historical documents related to the work of the Kingsboro community.

Lincoln County Public Library

Digital Art Studio   Awarded: $50,000.00

The Lincoln County Public Library plans to develop an innovative digital arts lab that will support and expand the library's arts programming. The library will partner with the Lincoln County Arts Council to offer classes and an art show to introduce new technologies and techniques into a community that has requested more arts programs from its library system. Apple iPads, Apple Pencils, and sublimation printers will be used to encourage creativity and also serve as a teaching tool to bridge the digital divide which is currently a challenge to much of Lincoln County's population. Additionally, the equipment and materials purchased will work in conjunction with all three library branches' maker spaces to make the technology more broadly available to residents.

Neuse Regional Library

Mind Over Matter:Conversations About Mental Health   Awarded: $68,364.00

Neuse Regional Libraries will implement a series of programs to address community mental health issues and expand access to social services. Health care professionals will lead discussions on depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and sleep deprivation. Chromebooks and hotspots will be available for check out to encourage off-site participation. A full-time social worker will be hired to connect community members with resources that will help them access mental health services and other important social services. This position will also help lead the Let's Connect! initiative, an existing pilot program which utilizes social work interns from East Carolina University and was created in response to the strain COVID-19 placed on rural communities that were already struggling.

Special Grants

North Carolina Library Association

NCLA Leadership Institute 2020+2   Awarded: $6,000.00

The NCLA Leadership Institute is an intensive 4 day residential event designed to cultivate and inspire North Carolina library leaders. The Institute will take place September 13-16, 2022 at Black Mountain YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly. In addition to the 4 day event, participation in the Leadership Institute requires a 1 year commitment to engage in a group mentor/mentee relationship, attendance at a 1 day follow up session, and participation in the 2023 NCLA Biennial Conference. The mission of the Leadership Institute is to create opportunities for learning and skill building in leadership and mentoring. The Institute cultivates an improved understanding of self and others while inspiring participants to serve in leadership roles within the profession at local, state, and national levels.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

North Carolina Digital Heritage Center   Awarded: $603,154.00

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center supports community engagement and lifelong learning by promoting and increasing access to North Carolina's cultural heritage. The Center does this by helping libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions throughout the state to digitize materials from their local and family history collections and make them freely accessible online. The Center also helps North Carolina institutions share information about their digital collections with a national audience through the Digital Public Library of America. The Center is committed to providing flexible and relevant services that meet the changing needs of North Carolina's cultural heritage institutions.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

People Not Property Slave Deeds Extension Project   Awarded: $99,915.00

People Not Property - Slave Deeds is a collaborative endeavor led by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro University Libraries in partnership with the North Carolina Division of Archives and Records, registers of deeds across North Carolina, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and other cultural heritage organizations. An expansion of the existing Digital Library on American Slavery (http://dlas.uncg.edu/), the project builds a unique centralized database of bills of sales that index the names of enslaved people from across North Carolina and beyond. The database is made freely available via the Internet. People Not Property currently houses material and data from 13 North Carolina counties, and includes 10,869 documents referencing 54,007 people.