

Pacific Library Partnership 2015-16 Grant Program

Background

The PLP Executive Committee is continuing the very successful Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program for 2015-16. In addition to the customary grant award program, there will also be a new category for those libraries seeking funding to replicate a previously successful grant. The total amount of available funds is \$150,000.

Funding Limits

Each grant application may not exceed \$15,000.

Category A: PLP Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program

Funds will be available to fund implementation of an idea, program or vision that provides a new service model or brings a fresh idea or interpretation to an existing model of library service. Reviewers will be asked to evaluate applications based on these criteria:

1. Service that introduces a new idea, program or vision that is not currently used in PLP or surrounding libraries
2. Service that may benefit other PLP members
3. Service that may benefit other California libraries

Category B: PLP Grant Replication Program

There has been a significant number of very successful grants that can easily be replicated in another jurisdiction. In order to encourage this practice, the PLP Executive Committee is introducing a new category: the PLP Grant Replication Program. All the previously funded grants are posted on the PLP website at plpinfo.org. To view the past grants, go to the *About* tab in the header and click on Innovation Grants. Reviewers will be asked to evaluate applications based on these criteria:

1. Clear articulation of how the grant will be replicated.
2. Rationale for any changes or enhancements to the original grant application. It is expected that the grant funding request will not exceed the amount of the original grant. If it does exceed the original amount, a compelling case should be made for the increase in funding.

3. Demonstrated understanding of the concept, success and “lessons learned” from the original grant and documentation of any follow-up with the original awardee.

Requirements

Those that receive grant funding will be expected to submit a final report

Review Panel

The PLP CEO will recruit a three-person panel from outside of PLP to review funding applications and provide feedback on the proposals.

Timeline

Grants are due on Friday, October 30, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

**Pacific Library Partnership
2015-16 Grant Program**

Due Friday, October 30, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

Please provide the following information in a Microsoft Word document. Please email the completed form to Wendy Cao at caow@plsinfo.org.

1. Title of Project From Housing to Homes: A Partnership to Establish and Enrich Positive Family Learning Environments
2. Category (A or B) A
3. Library applying for funding San Mateo County Library
Name Anne-Marie Despain
Email despain@smcl.org
Mailing Address 125 Lessingia Court San Mateo CA 94402

4. Amount of funding requested \$15,000

PLP Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program

1. One paragraph project summary.

San Mateo County Library and the Housing Authority of San Mateo County are partnering to support literacy and learning in the home and at the Housing Authority. The project is two-fold. First, we will create and install an active learning and literacy play space in the Housing Authority waiting room. Currently there are no resources or materials provided to the many families waiting in the Housing Authority lobby. To enrich the waiting time, we will install a permanent pop-up experiential early learning play space to encourage child-adult interaction and child directed learning while forging a strong library connection—all the while, meeting the families where they are. Second, we will work closely with the 100 Housing Authority case managed clients who have the most significant need and face the most barriers to self-sufficiency. As part of their routine appointments in their yearlong program, all clients will sign up for library cards and library staff will provide a minimum of 5 high quality books to all families with children.

2. Explain how this project fits with the library's strategic directions.

This project strongly corresponds and advances two of San Mateo County Library's strategic goals. By providing an active learning library play space, we cultivate an active presence and will be creating a space that supports discovery, enriches lives, and uplifts the community. It is a priority for us to identify ways to provide service beyond our buildings and establishing a positive space in the Housing Authority is just such an opportunity. In addition, by working to engage socioeconomically disadvantaged families and providing them access to library resources as well as increasing their home libraries, we will be providing evidence based supports to address and shrink the opportunity gap.

3. A description of the proposed project including the population served and the demographics of that population.

Housing Authority serves socioeconomically disadvantaged clients of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Half of this project focusses on a sub-population within the Housing Authority clientele that represents people with the highest need and the most significant challenges to overcome. Roughly 100 families will be served by the library card and home library initiative and thousands of families will be served by the library learning play space.

4. Goals and objectives of the project.

The goals and objectives for this activity are to successfully engage underserved community members with high needs by:

- Providing library cards to all Housing Authority case managed participants and their families
- Providing 5 books per household of families with children for Housing Authority case managed participants
- Building an active early learning and literacy library play space in the Housing Authority lobby

5. Project timeline (activities).

December 2015: Work with case managers to sign up and distribute library cards to participants

January-June 2016: Distribute all books to build home libraries

January-June 2016: Quarterly assessments of library card usage

January 2016: Measure available lobby space and solicit input about activity and learning preferences among families

March-May 2016: purchase and assembly library play space components

June 2016: grand opening of the library play space at the Housing Authority

6. Evaluation of the project.

Evaluation measures will include pre and post surveys, sample interviews, and direct observation.

This project will be successful if:

- Case managed housing authority participants report an increase in reading in the home after receiving their 5 books
- Case managed housing authority participants report an increased positive association with reading
- Case managed housing authority participants' library usage increases
- Case managed housing authority participants report an increased comfort level with the library
- Sample observation of the library play space indicates it is used by majority of waiting youth
- Housing authority clients indicate their child has fun learning while interacting with the library play space
- Housing authority clients report an understanding that libraries support play and families

7. Project budget.

Active Learning Library Play space:	\$10,000
5 books for every child in a case managed family:	\$5,000
Total:	\$15,000

PLP Grant Replication Program

1. One paragraph project summary, including description of the unique aspects of the project.
2. Explain which grant was selected to replicate and why.
3. A description of the proposed project including the population served and the demographics of that population.

4. Goals and objectives of the project. (Include here any rationale for changes to the original grant application.)

5. Project timeline (activities).

6. Evaluation of the project.

7. Project budget.