

## PLP Innovation and Technology Opportunity Grant Program Application

Library Name: South San Francisco Public Library

Project Title: Clean Air for All: Circulating Indoor Air Quality Monitors

Select criteria that you are applying under (check all that apply):

- Service that introduces a new idea, program or vision that is not currently used in libraries in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Service that may benefit other PLP members in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Service that may benefit other California libraries in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Please provide a one paragraph project summary.

Our communities are doing their best to contend with the twin respiratory health crises of COVID-19 and wildfire smoke. With shelter-in-place orders in effect, many are spending more time indoors than ever before. As their environment is polluted with wildfire smoke, they often need to spend this time indoors with windows and doors closed. Now more than ever, people will need to address issues with indoor air quality if they want to live their best lives, happy and healthy.

2. Please provide a detailed description of the proposed project including the population served and the demographics of that population.

Air quality monitors will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis through the Library's curbside pick-up service. Devices, which cost between \$100 and \$200, will be circulated in a plastic container with any needed accessories for basic operation. In addition to these devices, the library will spend \$500 to obtain library materials on respiratory health and home improvement, including information on how to maintain a clean, healthy indoor environment. A guide to using the library's resources for improving respiratory health will be published and included with the monitor.

There are many causes of indoor air pollution. This program will help motivate people to take steps toward improving air quality, or so we hope. exploring sources of contaminants, which could include pets, hard to clean areas, mold, and air filters in need of replacement, to name a few. New maintenance and cleaning routines may help lead to better health outcomes.

Regardless the source of the pollution or the solution explored, the air quality monitor will provide immediate feedback to those seeking cleaner air.

South San Francisco is a very diverse community. Nearly 40% of residents were born outside of the United States. Access to preventive care resources in a variety of languages is important in South San Francisco, as 14% of households have limited English language skills, and more than 20% of students enrolled in schools are English language learners. Needless to say, our promotional materials will be available in a variety of languages, including Spanish, Chinese, and Tagalog.

Many South San Franciscans may be unable to afford the expense of an air quality monitor, especially during this time of economic upheaval and distress. With approximately 31 percent of families earning less than \$50,000 per year, more than 20 percent living at or below the poverty level, there exists a tremendous need for public services and do-it-yourself health resources in South San Francisco.

3. What are the goals and objectives of the project?

Goal 1: Distribute 30 air quality monitors via the library's curbside pick-up service.

- Objective 1a: Identify and acquire three types of air quality monitors
- Objective 1b: Prepare devices for check-out, including determining loan rules, cataloging and packaging.
- Objective 1c: Promote availability of devices in multiple languages.
- Objective 1c: Evaluate the project, including gathering circulation statistics.

Goal 2: Encourage people to take steps to improve their indoor air quality and respiratory health.

- Objective1a: Establish collection of library materials on respiratory health and indoor air quality.
- Objective1b: Create informational brochures in multiple languages for inclusion with air quality monitors.
- Objective 1c: Distribute survey to determine what borrowers learned and what steps they took or plan to take to improve their environment after using the indoor air quality monitor.

4. Explain how this project fits with the library’s strategic directions.

South San Francisco Public Library’s Five Year Strategic Plan calls for providing innovative, new and trending tech to our community, in part to address rising inequities between those who can afford health-improvement devices and those who are left behind. For example, we already circulate wearable fitness devices, thanks to a PLP Innovation Grant from several years ago. By circulating air quality monitors, we are able to empower people to take the first steps to address poor environmental conditions in their living spaces at a time when respiratory health is paramount.

5. Please include your project timeline (include detail of activities).

<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Month(s)</b>
Acquire air quality monitors, packaging materials, books and DVDs	September-October 2020
Create informational brochures	September 2020
Package devices and brochures	September-October 2020
Launch Program	October 2020
Promote the kits and train staff to be familiar and assist with each kit	October 2020
Circulation of the Monitors and evaluations	Continuous
Complete initial analysis of survey data	January 2021

6. Please include your project budget. (Note: Indirect costs are not allowed).

<b>Item(s)</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>PLP cost</b>	<b>Local In-Kind Cost</b>
<b>Smart air quality monitor w/ chemical + particulate readings</b>	<b>10 @ \$200/each + tax</b>	<b>\$2,190</b>	
<b>Smart air quality monitor w/ particulate readings only</b>	<b>10 @ \$150/each + tax</b>	<b>\$1,642.50</b>	
<b>Simple air quality monitor w/ particulate readings only</b>	<b>10 @ \$100/each + tax</b>	<b>\$1,095</b>	
<b>Books and DVDs on respiratory health and indoor air quality</b>	<b>\$500</b>		<b>\$500</b>
<b>Packaging</b>	<b>\$150</b>		<b>\$150</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4,927.50</b>	<b>\$650</b>

7. Please indicate how you will evaluate success of your project.

The project will collect both quantitative and qualitative data to identify program strengths and areas for program improvement. We will track circulation numbers of devices as well as survey data. Each device loaned will be accompanied by a survey which we will collect each time the monitor is returned. Our key indicators of success will include circulation data and steps taken to improve air quality and health, as well as the results of those efforts on air quality metrics, as reported by participants in the program. Results will be shared with the PLP community, and SSF Library looks forward to presenting program outcomes at a future ALSC Institute or CLA conference.

8. Please indicate how the project will be sustained after the grant term is over.

With the ongoing threat of air pollution and the need for sheltering-in-place, we anticipate a need for indoor air quality monitors for years to come. Given the importance of respiratory health, we hope to be able to secure ongoing funding through the City's general fund as well as future grant opportunities.