

LSTA Minigrants 2011 Final Project Reports

AUTOMATION

Defiance City Schools

Project Coordinator: Jeanne Mansfield

Federal Amount: \$21,000

Project Purpose: In order to centralize and link building data, to provide a web-based automation system, and to increase accessibility to the collection for our patrons; Defiance Elementary School and Defiance Middle School converted from a Follett stand-alone system to the SirsiDynix web-based system through Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA). All of the students and staff in the elementary and middle school buildings now utilize the new online public access catalog. The High School Media Center already utilizes the SirsiDynix system. This project allowed for the completion of district-wide automation through the INFOhio consortium. Specific objectives of the project were: 1. To provide the 1894 students and their teachers online access to all library collections of the Defiance City Schools. 2. To promote the online catalog to parents and guardians so that they are able to access the library holdings.

Project Activities/Methods: In order to complete the conversion process, both libraries were thoroughly weeded and records of weeded materials were deleted from the existing system. Because all barcodes needed to be 13 digits with a 14-digit check number, many barcodes had to be changed, and data was revised in the existing systems to reflect the changes made. Staff met with the NWOCA representative to discuss cataloging specifications and circulation procedures in each building. Once these parameters were established, MARC records from each library were exported and downloaded to CDs which were mailed to the technology site, NWOCA. Working with NWOCA staff, records were previewed and modifications were made as needed. Much of this fine-tuning process was completed during the summer months. Once school started, the two librarians and two of the aides completed training on the WorkFlows automation system. The third aide had a separate day of training on a different date. Training included computer set-up, as well as hands-on training of the following functions: circulation, item maintenance, reports, cataloging, and OPAC. The online system was promoted to parents through the school newsletter, to staff through an informative e-mail, and to students through class instruction on iPads at the elementary level and on laptop and desktop computers at the middle school. Federal funds were used for contractual services with NWOCA, barcodes and barcode scanners. In-kind contributions were for additional equipment costs.

Project Outputs: The following items were purchased as part of the project: conversion services from NWOCA, five iMac computers with service agreements, five scanner kits with neck stands, three Powerscan Mobile units, six packs of barcodes, one iPad charging station, and colored cardstock and paper for patron library cards and reports. NWOCA staff conducted on-site training and two professionals and three aides were

trained on the system over a period of two days. During August and September there were 116 log-ins to CAT/CAT JR.

Project Outcomes: The statistics illustrate that the online catalog is increasingly being utilized. In October 2010, which is outside of the project year but the first month after the system was fully operational, there were 2,721 logins to CAT/CAT JR. This is a huge increase from the former system, which was not online accessible and available to students on only four library desktop computers at the elementary and a minimum number of terminals at the middle school library.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Ida Rupp Public Library

Local History Preservation

Project Coordinator: Deborah Rossman

Federal Award: \$6,675

Project Purpose: This was a collaborative project between the Ida Rupp Public Library (Port Clinton) and the Ottawa County Historical Museum to access an extensive collection of historic, local newspapers on microfilm.

Specific objectives of the project were: To preserve local history and genealogical materials within the city of Port Clinton and surrounding areas by facilitating scanning, printing, saving, digitizing, and storing historical media. To promote the availability of local history and genealogical materials by providing access to these resources. To promote user awareness concerning the availability of local history and genealogical materials in the museum and the library.

Project Activities/Methods: Equipment was purchased and installed and training occurred. The new equipment facilitates access to the patrons and employees of the Ida Rupp Public Library and the Ottawa County Historical Museum to an extensive collection of historic, local newspapers on microfilm. The machine is used by staff in answering reference questions and by patrons researching local history and genealogy, as well as by staff of the Ottawa County Historical Museum. Although the usage (2-5 patrons per week) has not increased over the old machine, the services to this target interest group have improved tremendously. The scanner's capability includes the following options: WORD-Search, spot edit, customizable toolbars and button text, custom cropping, adjustable speed control, scroll speed lock and on-screen help support. Staff finds it easy to use. The ultra-compact ScanPro 2000 has a desktop footprint the size of two sheets of letter-sized paper. This microfilm scanner is designed for the rigors of public use applications and provides many powerful, time-saving features for working with microform images quickly and efficiently. When space availability is important, it fits almost anywhere. Training was offered to the staff and the community. Press releases were published in The Beacon and in The News Herald. Federal funds were used to purchase the ScanPro 2000 image data microfilm scanner and viewer and an Intel Dualcore computer to support the scanner.

Project Outputs: Twenty-five people received training. Two staff members were chosen as experts to work with community members.

Project Outcomes: Providing this resource in partnership with the Ottawa County Historical Museum has had many positive results, even more than

anticipated. The library's relationship with local historians has been advanced. As a result of the partnership, the library has been asked to work with local interest groups in seeking and writing grants to restore the Port Clinton lighthouse.

Other Results: The Ida Rupp Public Library will continue to offer local history projects in order to better serve the needs of the community. There are several projects on the agenda, including an Abraham Lincoln traveling exhibit and the renovation of the Port Clinton lighthouse. The microfilm reader will be used to enhance both of these projects. In addition, staff hopes to have a century home research project and a "Doors of Port Clinton" project. These initiatives will require research better enabled with the new ScanPro 2000.

Anecdotal Info: A library staff member in Port Clinton, Ohio received a phone call from someone in Aroca, Iowa. Her friend, who had lived in the Port Clinton area, had recently passed away. When the staff member looked on the Internet, she was able to determine the obituary date and information about her, including the fact she was a two-year all-state basketball champion. She loved to sew and was a great cook and a great mother and grandmother. Within 10 minutes, the staff member used the ScanPro 2000 to print the obituary and email it to the requester in Iowa. Soon after, staff received a letter and check in the mail applying for a memorial donation of \$20 to purchase a book for the library. The person in Iowa asked that a book about basketball be purchased with the donation money in honor of her friend.

Marietta College Library

Digitizing Civil War Materials

Project Coordinator: Dr. Douglas Anderson

Federal Award: \$8,700

Project Purpose: The objective of the Digitizing Civil War Materials grant project was to produce digitized versions of two manuscript collections and two photograph albums relating to the American Civil War from the Marietta College Legacy Library's Special Collections. To achieve this, the original documents and photographs were scanned and selected images were enhanced to improve readability, metadata was prepared describing each of the digital objects, and those digital collections were mounted on an institutionally managed instance of OhioLINK's Digital Resource Commons, a database service provided to member institutions for the delivery of digital objects to the public. Specific objectives' of the proposal were: to establish a digital collection of resources related to the Civil War in order to facilitate access by researchers; to increase availability, usage, and impact of these collections as they are made more accessible to members of the college community, the citizens of Ohio, and to researchers world-wide; and to preserve the original materials for posterity by providing high quality digital surrogates for routine use.

Project Activities/Methods: A professional-grade flatbed scanner was purchased. An independent contractor, using the purchased scanner and other college-owned equipment and some personally owned equipment, produced initial raw scans and enhanced derivative images of all of the manuscripts and photographs. Library staff prepared the images and metadata templates for ingestion into the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons (DRC) system and uploaded these to the server for batch ingesting. Another independent contractor connected to the DRC via the Internet

and provided enhanced metadata records for all items. The metadata created for the project conforms to the Dublin Core specification and the OhioLINK metadata manual. Library staff worked with OhioLINK staff to move the database from the test system to the production system. These collections are now available to the public at: <http://drc.library.marietta.edu/handle/2374.MARIETTA/886>. The following technical challenges were encountered during the execution of the project: 1) Staff was not successful in connecting the digitizing contractor to the college network for working remotely, for reasons that are not clear and may be tied to the fact that the contractor uses a Macintosh computer and was attempting to connect to a Windows server. Since the remote access was intended primarily for use during a personal trip, the project proceeded without this capability and work resumed on the project after the trip was complete. This caused no difficulties in completing the project as planned. 2) At one point, an increase in security on the OhioLINK server prevented the metadata contractor from accessing the system for several weeks. Once the access problem was determined to be caused by the increased security, college IT staff was able to provide the contractor with VPN access to the college network, which in turn enabled her to access the OhioLINK servers appropriately. This delay threatened the timely completion of the project, but in the end work was finished appropriately. 3) The challenges faced by library staff in mastering the XML-based interface design of the D-Space system used by the DRC in order to implement customizations needed by the project have delayed the completion of one important feature anticipated in the project proposal. The library's Technical Services and Systems Librarian has attended training on XML-based themes in the D-Space system, but the training did not cover the necessary details to allow the library to implement this feature. Specifically, this feature is the placement of a feedback link on the item record display that captures the handle number of the specific item being commented on. The Library will pursue further training in order to complete this aspect of the service, although it is uncertain when such training will be made available. The college's public relations unit has produced and will distribute a press release announcing the completion of the project and the availability of this new digital resource. A version of the article will be featured in Marietta Magazine, the college's primary print publication for alumni and supporters. The article will also be placed on the college's and library's web sites and released to local and regional media outlets, as well as to local and state historical organizations. Federal funds were used for contractor fees. Local funds were also used for contractor costs as well as for the scanner.

Project Outputs: A Microtek ScanMaker 9800XL with Transparent Media Adapter was ordered, received and deployed. Images scanned: 2083 Images retouched: 76 Metadata records created: 604 Images were from the following collections: William Rufus Putnam, Jr. collection, Samuel Hildreth Putnam collection, 53rd O.V.I. photograph album, and 91st O.V.I. photograph album. Statistics for the usage of the DRC databases developed through this grant will be included in the Year-After Evaluation report.

Project Outcomes: The outcomes of this digitization grant will be derived from the use by the public of the virtual collections created through this project now that it has been released for general access. The evaluative steps planned include the analysis of the website usage statistics using standard tools, as well as the solicitation of feedback from users. The

feedback mechanism will take the form of a web-based form that elicits suggestions for improvement, nature of usage, how the user discovered the resource, and simple demographic information on the user. This tool is still in development.

Other Results: As part of the wrap-up of the project with the digitization contractor, the college will receive documentation and/or training on various image enhancement techniques applied in the project. This will provide a tangible benefit for future projects undertaken by the college.

Exemplary Reason: The Marietta College Legacy Library has developed a significant collection of original materials related to the rich history of Southeast Ohio. The use of these materials is increasing as students, faculty, and members of the local and wider community discover their existence. The Legacy Library's statement of Mission and Goals includes, "Engage the efforts to digitize unique archival holdings in order to preserve their valuable and fragile items and to facilitate use by a broad range of constituencies." Two large collections of materials and photographs were previously digitized through a National Park Service Saving America's Treasures grant. This project focused on collections from the mid-Nineteenth Century and particularly those that had a relevance to Southeast Ohio's role in the Civil War. The Col. William Rufus Putnam Collection is made up of more than 1,300 papers, containing two series of documents that pertain to the Civil War. The Samuel Hildreth Putnam Collection consists of letters that depict Putnam's life before, during, and after the war. This collection will be of particular interest to historians whose focus is on American life during the 19th century, the American Civil War and Southeast Ohio's role in the war. Additionally, two photograph collections depicting soldiers from the 53rd and 91st O.V.I. regiments are now available online. The carte de visite images are about the size of baseball cards and depict members from the military units. University staff, Civil War researchers, and other users are enthused about the availability and accessibility of these materials. Dr. Kathryn McDaniel, Associate Professor of History, Marietta College stated: "Marietta College's digitization of several American Civil War collections provides an invaluable resource to scholars, including our own Marietta College students. This year's senior research seminar is studying the period 1850-1870, and this kind of access to primary source documents will be quite useful to them in completing original research projects. Because archival hours during the normal business day do not necessarily match the times students typically study, the ability of students to access these sources anywhere and at any time gives them the convenience to fully explore these rich and evocative documents on their own schedules. Moreover, the ease with which any Marietta College student can access these documents will certainly enhance our ability to use local primary sources throughout our classes. The local connection to such major events in our nation's history literally brings home to students the impact of these events on everyday people. Students can hear the voices of the past more clearly because of their ready access to letters and personal accounts of local notables. This collection conveniently puts the primary-source records of past individuals within easy reach of both students and faculty." Another comment was received from Scott Britton, Executive Director, The Castle, Marietta, Ohio, and Past Commander of the

General B. D. Fearing Camp, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He said, "The results of this digitization project have opened up invaluable new research materials for Civil War scholars and researchers like myself. Their new digitized photographs are a great cross section of Union soldiers, from unknown Privates to famous Generals. This project allows you to zoom in on the photos to see the most minute detail, showing wonderful details of their uniforms, equipment and uniform decorations of various kinds. Colonel Putnam's papers will undoubtedly offer an entirely new perspective on Morgan's Raid and the Battle of Buffington Island, the only Civil War battle on Ohio soil. Even the most avid Morgan's Raid historian will be surprised by the new, detailed information available in these records. I'm delighted many of these priceless gems have been uncovered and opened up to history buffs around the world. I can't wait to get started going through it all!" This project is exemplary because of the contribution to the statewide project Civil War 150 (<http://www.ohiocivilwar150.org/>). Additionally, the development and implementation of the feedback mechanism in the form of a web-based form that elicits suggestions for improvement, nature of usage, how the user discovered the resource and simple demographic information on the user will be monitored by State Library staff. This tool has the potential to be replicated and would be beneficial in determining outcomes associated with digitization projects.

Marysville Public Library

Digital Learning

Project Coordinator: Ellen Mangine

Federal Award: \$10,582

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project was to increase patron access to information by providing additional digital content and increased technical and educational opportunities for staff and the public. As more and more people are turning to computers and mobile devices for information and communication, the Library recognized the need to provide greater access to resources online and increasing technology accessibility to the public. Through this grant, Marysville Public Library planned to add a new collection of online learning tutorials for patrons. They also planned to provide new equipment for staff and patrons to use for digital learning, video chat, and interactive presentations. Specific objectives of the project were: 1. To create a digital library of five on-demand, online learning tutorials for library staff, five online tutorials for the public, and five online local history presentations by April 2012. 2. To pilot a new series of interactive digital programs in early learning, teen tech, and computer classes. 3. To train at least three staff members in the use of new technologies by September 2011. 4. To offer at least four training sessions to the public on the use of the new technologies by April 2012. 5. To provide online access to the local obituary index by joining the R.B. Hayes Ohio Obituary Index.

Project Objective #1- The library is using the equipment and software to
Activities/Methods: create a digital library of 15 on-demand, online learning tutorials and local history presentations. The topics to cover first include: (For Staff) Library Orientation, Polaris Overview, Website Overview, Sharepoint Overview, SMART Board Tutorial; (For Public) Library Tour, Express

Check Tutorial, Microfilm Tutorial, Freegal Tutorial, eBook Tutorials, Genealogy Resources Tutorial, Library History, Union County History, Historic Marysville Walking Tour, Local History Life Story videos. The videos will be produced in a variety of ways. Several staff members are creating scripts and ideas for their chosen topics. The Marketing Manager and Assistant Director will use the ideas to produce the videos. Videos may include live video footage, still photos, computer screen shots, captured computer screen demonstrations, voice overs, and/or music. These will provide patrons and staff 24/7 access to information that will help answer questions about the library, materials and resources, and the community's history. A YouTube account will be created for all videos and presentations which will be promoted via website, newsletter, and newspaper. Objective #2- The equipment is being used to update, improve, and provide new interactive activities and programs. To date 35 sessions have been offered for children, teens, and adults. Programs were promoted via the website, library newsletter and weekly newspaper column. Objective #3- Fifteen staff members have been trained in the use of new technologies provided by the grant. These staff members can now use the equipment for programming purposes and will also be able to help the public. Objective #4- Yet to be accomplished. Objective #5- Staff has begun entering data into the R.B. Hayes Obituary Index, and the following years are now accessible: 1849-1854, most of 2007, 2011, and 2012. Staff will continue this process until all years are indexed and available online. The availability of the Index will be promoted once more data is available. Federal funds were used for the SMART Board and the SMART Audio kit, PC and iMac computers, Logitech QuickCam Pro WebCam, BlueMicrophone and additional video accessories, software, and the membership fee for the R.B. Hayes Obituary Index. Some items, including software and the equipment cart, ended up costing more than budgeted for the local match so this was included as local allocated. The Library also purchased a second wall PC for the SMART Board for use in a second meeting room.

Project Outputs: Objective #1- The following software and equipment was purchased to create online videos and tutorials: 2 iMac computers with iLive software 1 scanner 3 web cams 1 microphone 1 headset 1 video camera tripod 2- Office 2008 for Mac software 1 Acrobat Pro 9 and Photoshop Premium 9 software Objective #2- The following equipment was purchased for use in programming and recording presentations: 1 SMART Board 1 SMART Board projection and audio system 1 SMART Document camera 1 installation kit 1 PC for Smartboard 1 cordless keyboard and mouse for PC A total of 425 people have attend programs using the new equipment; however, the number of unique participants was 275. Objective #3- 15 staff members have been trained in the use of new technologies. Objective #4- No public training sessions have been offered yet. Plans are to promote public training in January 2012 with programs beginning in March 2012. Objective #5- Staff has begun entering data into the R.B. Hayes Obituary Index, and the following years are now accessible: 1849-1854, most of 2007, 2011, and 2012. There is no way to measure how many hits our data has had in the index.

Project Outcomes: Objective #1- Several staff members have been involved in the process of creating online tutorials and informational videos for the first time. Many staff members have also been introduced to the Mac computer for the first time, so the knowledge gained using it can help with interactions with patrons using Macs. Staff hopes that as new

videos are published, patrons will begin using the library's website even more for 24/7 information. Objective #2- Patrons have already commented on how great some of the programming using the SMART Board equipment has been. Computer class attendance has increased and teachers can interact better with the students with the new equipment. The equipment has also been very popular with the Teen Tech group who comes to the library to use laptops, play video games, and enjoy the tech features of the library. The new board allows more kids to interact with an activity at a time. The staff has also been successful at providing more interactive presentations with the new equipment which really enhances book clubs and children's programs. Objective #3- Several staff members have been trained in the use of the new equipment and many of them are now thinking of more creative ways to use it in current programs, meetings and presentations. They are also getting ready to help train local groups like homeschoolers and others that regularly meet at the library to use the new equipment. Objective #4- As more members of the public begin to use and enjoy the new equipment, staff believes that word of mouth will spread and more will desire to use the library meeting rooms for this purpose. Objective #5- Staff already knows that people travel from all over the country to search for genealogy information in Union County. Staff believes that by adding local obituaries to this index, more people will gain quick access to Union County information online, right at home.

Anecdotal Info: It was such a pleasure to meet one senior in a computer class that had taken a class at the library a couple of years ago, but came back recently for a refresher. She loved the new class style so much better and she said she really learned a lot. She felt so confident after that class that she started coming back to the library frequently to use the public computers and Mango database to learn French. She is a very happy patron, and is now learning a new skill at age 75!

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

Digitization Project

Project Coordinator: Jason Buydos

Federal Award: \$24,000

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project was to expand the digitization program at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Through this project, the library purchased a microform digitization machine to be used to digitize microfilm and microfiche. Through digitization, the Library will provide greater access to print materials that are in the public domain and have local significance. Currently, patrons may access this material during the Library's open hours only. Digitizing material eliminates this barrier to access. In addition, digitization allows the Library to share its collection with the libraries and researchers worldwide. Specific objectives of the project were: 1. Digitize and make available a minimum of 300 titles related to local history and genealogy. 2. Generate 50,000 hits or uses of this digitized collection within the first year of availability.

Project Activities/Methods: A FlexScan main unit with five seats and nextStar and Fusion software was purchased and installed and staff was trained. A selection process was used to determine the priority order for the

digitization. Criteria was based on: items in the public domain, items that were unique to the Library's collection or had local interest, and items not already freely available online. After images were scanned, metadata information was prepared. Materials are available through the Library's catalog and OCLC WorldCat. Federal funds were used for the equipment purchase.

Project Outputs: During the project implementation period, 219 titles were digitized and 95 were made available online. 1,607 hits were generated. Several circumstances prevented the project from achieving its stated goal of making available 300 titles. During the grant there were several staffing setbacks. Out of a departmental staff of seven, two staff were out on extended leave and two found positions outside of the department. The two vacancies were not filled until September. Work continues on the project.

Project Outcomes: It is still too early to determine the outcomes and impact of the project. However, given the delays associated with the project and the limited number of titles available to date, it is impressive that there have been 1,607 hits already. Given the number of hits to date and the overall success and impact of the Library's digitization efforts, it is anticipated that the project will have a long-term and far-reaching impact.

Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

Saving the Community Church News

Project Coordinator: Beth Daugherty

Federal Award: \$3,311

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project was to digitize the 15 volume set of the Community Church News (CCN) newsletters and make them available on the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library website. Having these materials available benefits genealogists, family historians, local history students, and anyone with an interest in the community. By digitizing 9,312 pages of the CCN by scanning them and creating portable document formats (PDFs) with optical character recognition (OCR), access to these materials increased from 69 hours per week (current hours the library is open per week) to 24/7 access via the library website. This provides wider access to the rare and fragile CCN, previously available for viewing only in the library, and preserves the contents for future generations.

Project Activities/Methods: The Library contracted with the HF Group (Etherington Conservation Services) of Browns Summit, North Carolina to digitize the fifteen volumes onto two hard drives. The volumes were delivered to the company May 5, 2011 and returned, along with the hard drives, July 28th. One hard drive will be stored in a secure location as a backup. The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library systems department is in the process of creating the CCN online database by organizing the materials using the open source software system, Drupal. This part of the project has taken longer than expected. According to the systems department, the original documents consisted of 15 bound volumes, each of which contained 52 weekly issues of the church newsletter. Preferably, each issue would have been scanned individually; instead, each volume was scanned as a whole. This generated 15 PDFs, averaging 550 MB in size. This made indexing the volumes as part of Drupal impractical. However, a mapping has been created between an already existing index created in Access and the location on the

volume. When completed, a patron will be able to search the index and then link to the correct page on the volume. After the volume is downloaded, the user will be able to search or browse any part of that volume. This is currently on a test machine and working correctly. The systems department is in the process of migrating to the live website. Once the CCN online database is up and running, the Reference Department Staff will be trained in the use of it through individual online instruction, with supplementary written instructions. Staff will then educate and instruct patrons in the use of the database. The online CCN database is being promoted with in-library informational flyers, press releases to local historical societies, schools and universities, signs in the local history area of the library, and information on the library website and Facebook page. Bookmarks will be sent to the schools and organizations. Federal funds were used for the contract with HF Group.

Project Outputs: The following outputs occurred during the project period: Number of CCN pages digitized: 9312. Number of Reference staff trained: 9. Number of press releases to local historical societies: 5. Number of press releases to regional historical societies: 3. Number of press releases to local schools: 10. Number of press releases to local universities: 2. Number of press releases to the Community Church of Stow: 1. Number of promotional bookmarks printed: 500.

Project Outcomes: Outcomes from this project have not been determined yet because of the delay in getting the online database available on the library's website. However, the goal is to increase awareness and use of the Community Church News. This will be accomplished by publicity and by training nine reference librarians and associates. They will assist patrons in the use of the database. Users' increase in knowledge will be measured by an online survey and by the number of hits on the online database web page, as well as tracking of in-house use.

Wadsworth Public Library

Circ Technology

Project Coordinator: Sandy Murphy

Federal Award: \$16,205

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project was to purchase a circulating collection of consumer electronics and computing devices around which the library would provide training opportunities to members of the community who were not familiar with, nor had access to these forms of technology. A particular focus was toward those individuals who needed a basic knowledge of such tools in order to seek career advancement or to be able to say during their job search that they knew how to use such tools. Specific goals of the project were:

- To expand the library's existing collection of circulating laptop computers by the inclusion of other consumer electronics and computing devices.
- To provide training to those unfamiliar with these common devices so that they may seek career advancement or improve their employment opportunities.
- To provide staff training in the use of the devices to ensure their competency and ability to assist customers.
- To create a new technology-based partnership with the Wadsworth Salvation Army.

Project Activities/Methods: Devices were purchased. Upon delivery, the library's IT department inventoried all devices and then they were cataloged and processed by the Technical Services department. Basic catalog records, serial

numbers and library barcodes were entered into the integrated library system. User instruction manuals were kept with the devices. Classes were developed and held. At the beginning of each class, library staff explained the nature and origins of the grant to students, the importance of completing the pre-tests and post-tests, and the value of learning how to use the latest technology devices to improve skills in both seeking employment and how items may be used in various employment settings. Then, a basic overview of each device was presented to students. Numerous handouts were provided to assist the students not only with learning but also with retention. The project was widely publicized in the Wadsworth community. A 20-minute segment on the project appeared on the library's cable television show "In Good Company" broadcast through the Wadsworth Cable. Press releases advertising the classes from both the library and the Salvation Army were sent to the following newspapers: The Post, the Akron-Beacon Journal, the Medina Gazette, the The Plain Dealer, the Barberton Herald, and the Akron Suburbanite. In addition, press releases were also sent to the Wadsworth City School system, Wadsworth City Hall, the Wadsworth Chamber of Commerce, Medina County Events (online calendar), Wadsworth Center for Older Adults, state and local representatives, as well as local churches and civic leaders. Library staff members continue to work together to create procedures on storage, how to circulate (fines, length of check-out, privacy issues), as well as return procedures for the devices. It has been determined that the devices will be allowed to be checked out for two weeks. A set of instructions on how to clear each item will be placed with each device. A disclaimer will explain that it is the customers' responsibility to clear the device memory before it is returned to the library.

Project Outputs: A total of 12 programs were presented: three training sessions for Wadsworth Public Library staff members; one Technology Open House event to kick off the event to the public; four training sessions held on-site for library customers; and four training sessions held at the Wadsworth Salvation Army training site for their clientele. A total of 208 persons attended training sessions. The following electronic devices were purchased with federal and matching funds for the circulating technology collection: fourteen Barnes & Noble NOOK eBook Readers, four Amazon Kindle eBook Readers, ten Apple iPads and covers, six 4th Generation Apple iPod Touches, six Olympus T-100 Digital Cameras, six Coby VZON HD Portable DVD Players, six Sony NWZ-E354 MP3 Players, six Flip Slide HD Camcorders, six Olympus WS-700M Digital Voice Recorders, six Garmin Nuvi 225w GPS Units, six Franklin TGA-470 Language Translators, six Coby DP860 Digital Picture Frames, four Elmo TT-02RX Document Cameras, and two NEC NP510WS LED Projectors. In addition to the above devices, corresponding carrying cases were purchased for each device. The Circulating Collection of Technology Devices is scheduled to be made publicly available in early January 2012.

Project Outcomes: The library used pre- and post-tests for students in library classes and Salvation Army classes to gather data. Variations of the survey were used for each class. The pre-tests were administered immediately before the training. The tests were designed to assess the students' basic level of knowledge and familiarity of the devices, whether an interest in using the technology existed, and whether the students would check out any of the devices. The post-tests were administered immediately following the training classes. Students were asked to

indicate which items they would check out from the library; which items they would purchase; whether they felt their knowledge of technology had increased; whether the devices would assist in seeking employment; and whether any of the devices could be used "on the job" and then if so, which ones. Post-test results from all four on-site library programs for question #5 ("Do you believe knowledge of any of these devices can assist you in seeking employment?") reported: Retiree: 42%, 38%, 64%, 60% Yes: 17%, 25%, 36%, 40% No: 38%, 25%, 0%, 0% Students were asked a variety of questions on pre-tests administered to ascertain the level of familiarity with different devices. Question #3, "Please indicate below the items that you have actually used at least one time," yielded various results. In classes offered both onsite at the library and at the Salvation Army location, no one reported having any experience with an ELMO document camera, LED projector, or language translator. The top three devices used at least once by students of the library classes were: the digital camera (88%); GPS unit (75%); and Kindle eBook reader (49%.) The top three devices used at least once by students of the Salvation Army classes were: MP3 Player (75%); Flip video camera (75%); and the portable DVD player (56%.) Devices such as the digital voice recorder; Apple iPod; and the Nook eBook reader all had low rates of one-time use (under 25%) by students of all classes. Pre-test results for three of the four on-site library programs reported that 100% of students would use the technology devices if made available to them. Pre-test results for the remaining class were favorable by 87% with 13% reporting "Don't Know" as the answer. Pre-test results for three of the classes held at the Salvation Army reported that 100% of students would use the technology devices if made available to them. Pre-test results for the remaining class were favorable by 94% with 6% reporting "No" as the answer. Out of the four on-site library classes held, 100% of students from three of the classes believed they increased their knowledge of the technology by attending the classes while 90 percent of the students from one class felt the same way. In classes at the Salvation Army site, 100% of students from two of the four classes believed they increased their knowledge of technology by attending the classes while 89% and 90% held the same belief for the remaining two classes. Post-test results for the four on-site library classes reported the following devices as being perceived to be the most useful on-the-job: Apple iPad and iPod Touch, digital voice recorder, digital camera, MP3 player, and the ELMO document camera. Post-test results for the four classes held at the Salvation Army location revealed the Apple iPad and iPod Touch, digital camera, ELMO document camera, LED projector, and language translator as being the most useful devices on-the-job. On-site library class post-test results from the question "Please indicate the items you would check out from the library" were Kindle eBook reader, Apple iPad and iPod Touch, LED projector, language translator, and Flip video recorder to be the most desired items for checkout at the library. The Salvation Army on-site class post-test results reported the Apple iPad and iPod Touch, language translator, and portable DVD player as being the most desirable for check out.

SERVICES TO TARGETED POPULATIONS

Dublin City Schools

Using Technology to Provide Services

Project Coordinator: Lenore Cereghini

Federal Award: \$23,960

Project Purpose: This project supports students in the Dublin City Schools district and community who are underserved at the school and public libraries due to educational disabilities as well as those with diverse geographic, cultural and/or socioeconomic backgrounds. Specific objectives of the project were: 1) Provide district students with available assistive technologies, which increase the student's skill sets as indicated by progress on IEP goals and objectives or grade reports in the areas of reading, writing, formulating ideas and research. 2) Provide students with supplemental and adaptive assistive technologies relating to reading, written communication and research activities in order to increase participation and independence in the school and community libraries. 3) Increase skill level as indicated on self-evaluation of students, DCS staff, media specialists, and Dublin Library staff through understanding and knowledge of the tools and technologies purchased to support students' access to library services and activities.

Project Activities/Methods: Forty-five iPads and selected applications were purchased and cataloged in the technology database with each school library receiving five iPads with preloaded applications. Librarians and building staff members were trained on basic use of the iPads and applications. Second level district-wide trainings of iPad applications were held for staff members in each building. These trainings will be ongoing for targeted staff members. Targeted parents, students and community members are being trained on use of the iPads and apps. Trainings are occurring in the buildings with the students and parents. These trainings will continue with several such opportunities during the school year. Students will use the iPad and applications to access audio text, complete written activities, complete research and create projects which include Internet access during library, classroom and home activities. The library media specialist, in partnership with teachers, will assess student understanding of using iPads to access audio text, complete written activities, research and create projects. Federal funds were used to purchase iPads. Local funds were used to purchase apps and audio books.

Project Outputs: The following items were purchased: 45 iPad2s from Apple Computer with internet browser preloaded as well as the follow applications from Apple, Inc: Keynote, Pages, Popplet, Audio Notes, Docs To Go, Proloquo To Go, Assistive Chat, Free Books, Quick Voice, Read To Go, Typo HD and selected audio books. 165 teachers and community members attended the Leadership Academy and/or the Technology Boot Camp. The iPads were first available to students at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year. By the project's termination, 40 students had used the iPad in a school library media center.

Project Outcomes: It is too early to determine outcomes for the project. However, teachers and library media center staff are already seeing increased skills and knowledge for students. Students are actively engaged in using the iPads. Librarians and teachers are prepared to help students and/or are consulting with colleagues and AT Team members

for support and training. Because the technology is so immediately beneficial to a variety of students, the excitement behind the project is causing a momentum for increased interest of staff to build their skills and in return student application and achievement.

Other Results:

Anecdotal Info: Students are able to access technologies that they were unable to access previously. The Library Media Specialist recently observed a student in middle school who because of physical limitations was unable to access technologies. She is now navigating through applications such as Audio Note, Popplet and Typo HD. This student is able to read independently, successfully complete projects and navigate through library activities and school work with success and independence she has never experienced before!

SERVICES TO YOUTH

Shelby County Libraries

Early Literacy Activity Center

Project Coordinator: Bonnie Banks

Federal Award: \$22,773

Project Purpose: The purpose of this project is to provide a welcoming environment where parents and children may engage in age-appropriate activities that promote growth of early literacy skills in young children. Specific objectives of the proposal were: 1. To have 50 unique families engage in early literacy activities with children in the Early Literacy Room during the first year of operation. 2. To have 50% of the parents who frequent the Early Literacy Room be aware of the early literacy skills and the importance of the skills for the future reading success of their children, as indicated by feedback received through a follow-up evaluation of families visiting the Early Literacy Room. 3. To have 25% of the parents visiting the Early Literacy Room utilize the other services, programs, and materials that the library offers for the acquisition of early literacy skills.

Project Activities/Methods: The room was prepared and outfitted with toys, equipment, and furniture for the use of families with young children. Guidelines for the use of the room were created with the input of parents with young children. Brochures were designed and created to promote the Center. A billboard was designed and hung during the month of September. Invitations and brochures were sent to organizations with clientele who may benefit from having access to the Center. Ads were run in the local newspaper promoting the Center. A newspaper article featuring the Center was run. All patrons attending early literacy programs at the library were given brochures about the Center. A visit by participants to the Early Literacy Center following children's library programs has been incorporated into some preschool storytime plans. Federal funds were used for a laptop computer for Skyping, a Super-Coupe (bookcase and reading seat station for children), Treasure Island Deluxe (free standing sensory exploratory unit for babies and toddlers), a magnetic white board, early literacy toys and titles, and marketing materials/supplies.

Project Outputs: The Early Literacy Activity Center was completed at the end of the project period and formally opened in September 2011, after the project termination date. All outputs and outcomes will be reported on

in the year after evaluation (August, 2012) after stats are collected as to the number of unique patrons using of the room, the number of people using the Skype station, the number of patrons who make return visits to the room, the awareness and knowledge of the early literacy skills parents acquire, and the number of people who use other library services, programs, and materials.

Project Outcomes: Data collected from the above outputs will be analyzed to see if families using the Early Literacy Center are favorably impacted.

TRAINING

Galion Public Library

Training Project

Project Coordinator: Vicki Eckenrod

Federal Award: \$12,949

Project Purpose: The Galion Public Library Association offers computer classes; however, the Library could only teach six patrons at a time in a very small space located in a very public area. Only one or two patrons were actually able to work with the computers depending on what was being taught. The Library has also been concerned by the large unemployment rate in Galion and the number of people using the library for job related activities such as job searches, unemployment filing and creating resumes. Unfortunately, these same people have limited computer skills. Through this project, the Library planned to implement a laptop lab to provide classes to help displaced workers. Specific objectives of the proposal were: 1. To provide 10 laptop computers to use in the community room to conduct classes in a functional environment. 2. To increase the number of participants in computer training courses. 3. To partner with local agencies and organizations to produce programs which will allow participants to learn by doing and help those struggling to re-enter the job market.

Project Difficulties: Difficulties with the supplier of the equipment led to a delay in the receipt, configuring and use of the laptops. The laptops were not received until early May and were not configured until later that month. The Library has no programming in the summer except for Summer Reading activities so implementation of the project goals and use of the laptops did not occur until late summer. The first official use of the laptops was for a July 26th webinar from OverDrive about eBooks. Three staff members were able to use the laptops to participate in the webinar. The Library also had an in-service day on August 17th in preparation for joining the Ohio eBook Project. All 12 staff members that attended were able to use the machines and said that it was extremely helpful to be able to have hands-on experience at setting up accounts and downloading materials. The first public use of the laptops was for a "Take a Better Photo" class which had nine participants. The focus of the class was taking pictures outside then manipulating the photographs on the laptops. The Library usually offers four or five computer classes in the fall and again in the spring. At present, the IT Coordinator is preparing fall classes. He is very excited about being able to offer hands-on experience and has revised his curriculum to reflect the change. The first class is scheduled for October 11. As of September 20, nine people have registered, which is three more than would have been able to before

the laptops. As of the project's termination, the Library had not created any programs for displaced workers, but the Adult Programming Coordinator is planning on working with the local Job and Family Services for several possible programs after the first of the year. One program will be on resume writing since the Library constantly receives questions on creating resumes. Federal and local funds were used to purchase 11 laptops, an Apple MacBook, a 16 capacity wheeled cart with recharging capability, 11 mice, an Apple Magic Mouse, 2 optical trackballs and 5 8-outlet surge protectors.

Project Outputs: All equipment and peripherals were purchased, installed and configured. At the project's termination, twelve staff and nine patrons had utilized the laptops in one or more programming opportunities.

Project Outcomes: The actual outcomes of the project cannot yet be determined. Impact of the lab will be tracked by the number of patrons signing up for classes and evaluations which look at the satisfaction of the class content, ease of use in using the laptops, and satisfaction with the learning environment. Attendance and evaluations in classes geared toward displaced workers will be used to learn what other services and assistance the library can provide this population. Outcome results will be reported on in the year-after evaluation.

Springfield Local Schools

Information Literacy for Students

Project Coordinator: Joan Patrone

Federal Award: \$22,479

Project Purpose: The School Library Media Specialist worked with the Technology Coordinator to purchase 30 wireless laptop computers so students in the Library could work on informational literacy and technology literacy skills without having to share a computer with another student, particularly if an entire class was using the library for research. Specific objectives for the proposal were: 1. To provide information literacy skills instruction so students can access and accurately evaluate information and data sources using the latest technology. 2. To provide technology literacy skills so students can successfully use the OPAC using the latest technology. 3. To provide information and technology skills correlated to specific Ohio academic content standards to students using the latest technology.

Project Activities/Methods: In early April, the Library Media Specialist and the district Technology Coordinator ordered 30 HP laptop computers, security locks, and access points. Once these were received, the Technology Coordinator set up and configured the laptops in the Library. At the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, the Library Media Specialist trained three teachers on the new laptops and reviewed rules for using the laptops for their classes. The Library Media Specialist then trained the fifth graders on logging onto the school server using their username and passwords. Sixth graders were trained on using the Windows 7 laptops and reviewed how to do a title search for a library book on the OPAC. Seventh and eighth graders received a refresher on using the OPAC. They also practiced how to find books similar to book titles they enjoyed reading using the OPAC. Federal and local funds were used to purchase the 30 HP laptop computers and peripherals.

Project Outputs: Thirty Windows 7, HP laptop computers were purchased and configured. At the project's termination, the Library Media Specialist

had trained three teachers and 156 fifth and sixth graders on the basics of using the new laptops. These students now need training on how to use the OPAC to locate library books and how to evaluate websites. By the end of November, the Library Media Specialist hopes to have trained eight more teachers on the laptops, and by June 2012, to have trained sixteen additional teachers. To evaluate the project and the use of the laptops, the Library Media Specialist plans to assess and collect data on how accurately the seventh and eighth graders can locate books accessing the OPAC using the laptops. The Library Media Specialist will also assess and collect data on how well students can accurately find websites with accurate, authentic, and relevant information on an assigned subject.

Project Outcomes: As of the project's termination, the actual outcomes of the grant were minimal. However, many of the eighth graders, particularly the low-track class, were able to locate books similar to books they had read and really enjoyed. Many seventh graders have used the laptops to locate books for SSR in Language Arts using the OPAC.