



From the State Library - February 5, 2021

Libraries Transforming Communities Awardees

Libraries, we wanted to make you aware of some upcoming grant opportunities and also recognize the 18 Iowa libraries recently awarded Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries grants from ALA.

Libraries awarded include Algona Public Library (Algona, IA), Britt Public Library (Britt, IA), Cherokee Public Library (Cherokee, IA), Eckels Memorial Library (Oakland, IA), Elberon Public Library (Elberon, IA), Eldora Public Library (Eldora, IA), Elgin Public Library (Elgin, IA), Ely Public Library (Ely, IA), Jamaica Public Library (Jamaica, IA), Knoxville Public Library (Knoxville, IA), Nevada Public Library (Nevada, IA), North Liberty Library (North Liberty, IA), Oxford Public Library (Oxford, IA), Polk City Community Library (Polk City, IA), Sergeant Bluff Public Library (Sergeant Bluff, IA), Sheffield Public Library (Sheffield, IA), Spencer Public Library (Spencer, IA), Whiting Public Library (Whiting, IA). **Congratulations!**

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries from ALA

ALA has just opened a second application round for this grant and will be giving out 450 additional grants to small and rural libraries. Participating libraries receive training in how to lead conversations through an ALA e-course on basic facilitation skills; host at least one conversation (in-person or virtual) with community members on a chosen topic; and receive \$3,000 to support community engagement efforts. Grant funds may cover a range of expenses, including staff time and collections and technology purchases.

Deadline: March 4, 2021

[Libraries Transforming Information and Application](#)

Tools in Action Micro-Grant Program from the Rural Libraries and Social Wellbeing Project

Tools in Action participants work through five weeks of social wellbeing resources with a personal rural librarian guide. After the five weeks they complete two monthly reflections and one Zoom interview. The rural library staff person receives \$500 to support their work over the program period, and the public library where the participant works receives \$500 as seed money to be used to extend library service according to the staff person's wishes.

Deadline: February 13, 2021

[Tools in Action Information and Application](#)

Matching Funds for Healthy Living Projects in Iowa and South Dakota from the Wellmark Foundation

The Wellmark Foundation is dedicated to improving the health of Iowans, South Dakotans, and their communities. The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations and community groups that develop, implement, and enhance sustainable projects that 1) increase access to and consumption of nutritious foods, or 2) promote safe and healthy environments in which to be physically active. The Foundation's Matching Assets to Community Health (MATCH) grant program is designed to bring other funders together to support community health projects. The following two grant opportunities are offered: Large MATCH Grants of up to \$100,000 must be matched 100 percent. Small MATCH Grants of up to \$25,000 must be matched at 50 percent.

Deadline: Large MATCH Grants- February 17, 2021; Small MATCH Grants- May 26, 2021

Healthy Living Information and Application

Family Literacy Grants from Dollar General Literacy Foundation

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation supports nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and libraries that offer literacy programs in communities served by Dollar General. The Foundation provides support through the following grant programs: Adult Literacy Grants support nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to adults in need of literacy assistance. Family Literacy Grants support family literacy service providers that combine parent and youth literacy instruction. Summer Reading Grants help nonprofit organizations, schools, and libraries with the creation or expansion of summer reading programs for students who are below grade level readers or readers with learning disabilities.

Deadline: February 18, 2021

Literacy Grants Information and Application

Gardens for Good Program from Nature's Path

The Nature's Path Gardens for Good program supports nonprofit organizations with community garden projects in the U.S. and Canada. The focus is on community gardens that make fresh organic food more accessible in the local neighborhood. Grants must be used specifically for the development of an organic garden that will supply food to a nonprofit feeding agency such as a food bank, soup kitchen, emergency pantry, shelter, before- or after-school program, or other similar type of program. Projects must demonstrate high community support and a viable plan for the project. For 2021, Nature's Path will award 21 grants of \$5,000 each.

Deadline: March 24, 2021

Gardens for Good Information and Application

The State Library is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.