



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 10, 2020

**DATE:** October 7, 2020

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Andrea Tavener, Development Officer, Library System  
775-327-8360, [atavener@washoecounty.us](mailto:atavener@washoecounty.us)

**THROUGH:** Jeff Scott, Library Director

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Federal 2020 CARES Act Grant-In-Aid Award through the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, in the amount of [\$21,308.00, no match required] for a retroactive term of May 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; Direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Director to sign the grant award documents. (All Commission Districts.)

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### **SUMMARY**

The Library System is requesting Board's approval to approve a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Federal 2020 CARES Act Grant-In-Aid Award through the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, in the amount of [\$21,308.00, no match required] for a retroactive term of May 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; Direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Director to sign the grant award documents.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Stewardship of our community

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

No previous action

### **BACKGROUND**

Washoe County Library System plans to extend its public access computing by purchasing Chromebooks and wireless printers so that patrons can continue to utilize internet access safely. Due to Covid-19, Washoe County Library System (WCLS) has been closed to the public since March 15. Since then, the Library System has enhanced their virtual services, eBooks, and databases for the public much of that has led to explosive usage. Furthermore, the Library System established Grab and Go Services in June. Patrons can now reserve books and physical materials and pick them up at their local library. Even though we have made great strides to enhance our services during this

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difficult time, our biggest gap is to be able to provide public access computing. Reviewing patron feedback and our WhoFi Stats we can see that get over 6,000 sessions a month on our Wi-Fi. These patrons are using our internet outside the library. There is still a very strong need to provide public access computing. We plan to purchase Chromebooks that patrons can check-out and use outside the library and using our wireless internet. In providing these Chromebooks for check-out, we can continue to assist with public access computing and printing as a result of these efforts.

This grant award is retroactive to May 1, 2020, as the grant-in-aid award approval letter was received in late September, and submitted on the first available BCC meeting.

### **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** CARES Enhanced Technology Services

**Scope of the Project:** The \$21,308.00 awarded to the WCLS will be used to purchase library technology related equipment & supplies for use by library patrons.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** In difficult economic times, people depend even more on their public libraries. During the previous years, the Washoe County Library System has seen significant increases in both WiFi and computer usage.

Washoe County Library System will purchase 5 Chromebooks for patron usage at the 8 Urban and Suburban Libraries that span across Washoe County. The 40 total Chromebook computers will be accessed on-site via our existing CIPA compliant WiFi service at all locations. The Library System will purchase 8 WiFi extenders to boost services. The Library System will also purchase Google Chrome Device Management services for all 40 Chromebooks.

Google Admin console will allow the Library System to manage and monitor devices running Chrome OS. The Chromebooks will also allow patrons to apply for online benefits, jobs, create resumes, and more. Patrons will be able to check them out at a later time. The Library System will purchase 8 Tech Tub Trolley's to store for safety and charging, and other various hardware.

The Washoe County Library System will also purchase 8 all in one printers. Each Chromebook will allow access and be configured to provide access to library information resources, library printers, and the Internet In order to guarantee fair access for all of our users. These Chromebooks would be targeted at those underserved and most vulnerable populations, many of whom are finding themselves in the job market for the first time in years. However, anyone may utilize them for use.

Chromebook computers check out will be for in-library use only initially. The Chromebooks and printers will connect to the library network through a wireless connection. The Washoe County Library System will be able to offer access to the Internet to further our mission and to provide a broad range of information resources. We offer use of computers, internet access and printing to the public with no library card required.

**On-Going Program Support:** Washoe County Library System will be responsible for any ongoing maintenance technology expenses associated with this grant approval in the library budget.

**Award Amount:** \$21,308.00

**Grant Period:** May1, 2020 – August 31, 2021

**Funding Source:** Institute of Museum and Library Services

**Pass Through Entity:** Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records

**CFDA Number:** 45.310-CRS

**Grant ID Number:** CARES-20

**Match Amount and Type:** N/A -No Match Required

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** N/A - None

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY21 adopted budget will be increased by \$21,308.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<b>Cost Object &amp; Description</b>	<b>G/L Account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
IO -11766 CARES Enhanced Technology	431100 – Federal Grants - Revenue	\$21,308.00
IO- 11766 CARES Enhanced Technology	711504 – Equipment Non-Capital Expenditure	\$21,308.00

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Federal 2020 CARES Act Grant-In-Aid Award through the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, in the amount of [\$21,308.00, no match required] for a retroactive term of May 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; Direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Director to sign the grant award documents.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Federal 2020 CARES Act Grant-In-Aid Award through the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, in the amount of [\$21,308.00, no match required] for a retroactive term of May 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; Direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and authorize the Director to sign the grant award documents."