

**Butte County Library
Library Advisory Board
North Valley Community Foundation Grant Project Update
2020/2021**

Project Name:	NVCF Book Club in a Box
Report date:	July 21, 2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

The project is well under way, with our first set of 3 books purchased and delivered by The Bookstore in Chico. The next step will be to order the next 3 books in August.

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

The budget for this grant is \$3,000.00, to be used to purchase 10 sets of 12 different titles for the Book Club in a Box sets housed and offered to the public by the Butte County Library. The sets are to be purchased locally from The Bookstore in Chico, used by the Chico Adult Book Club and then added to the sets in Oroville for the public to use.

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

The first set of items have been received and processed, and the first title will be discussed at the July 22nd meeting of the Chico Adult Book Club. That set of 12 books will then be sent to Oroville to be added to the Book Club in a Box sets, to be available to the public.

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

We have not had any issues or challenges with implementing this grant. It has been rewarding and smooth working with our local book store, and the community has expressed excitement in having new titles in the Book Club in a Box set.

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

We think of this grant as a complete win-win for the community: the titles are purchased from a local small business and the whole County has access to the sets of books.

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Project Name:	Library Podcast
Report date:	7/21/2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

The project is in its beginning and is currently on track.

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

Library staff were asked to submit names for the podcast and a name was selected from those submissions. Artwork was created to serve as the cover icon in podcatcher apps.

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

Podcast name selected and artwork designed

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

The podcast name, "Library-ish", represents the contents of the podcast in that the podcast is about anything and everything library related. It is short and easy to remember, which is get for promotion.

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

The next step will be to order recording equipment

**Butte County Library
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Project Name:	Library Training Sessions
Report date:	07/02/2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

We are currently on track. As this grant is tied to a State Library grant, we are waiting on the official word on that grant before we begin the process of spending so we know what we are purchasing for. This was accounted for in the original application, but what was not anticipated was a delay in a passed 21-22 State Budget (it is delayed at time of writing this report), which is the source of the State Library grant. If this continues further, we will begin this grant's spending without an update from the State to prevent putting this grant at risk.

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

As this grant is tied to an LSTA-funded grant from the State Library, we needed to hear the status of our application there so we could know to what extent this LAB-funded was to cover the gaps if the State Library application were not to be approved. We were excited to hear, in mid-June, that the State Library application was approved, pending the passing of the 2021-2022 State Budget, which means that we know now that very little of that grant will need to be covered by this one. With the timing of this news and its proximity to the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1, spending has not yet started.

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

Activity is currently at a standstill as we wait for the final word from the State Library on the budget. Once the news arrives, the first activity will be purchasing the electronics and software.

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

This grant is tied to a grant project from the State Library. If that application were not to be approved, then this LAB-funded project would include its activities. For reasons that aren't clear, there was a several-month delay in the award announcement from the State Library, which arrived mid-June, therefore, our ability to move forward with the initial purchasing was hampered. The official budget announcement is still pending the passing of the 21/22 State Budget.

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

Activity is currently at a standstill as we wait for the final word from the State Library. Once the news arrives, the first activity will be purchasing the electronics and software.

**Butte County Library
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2020/2021**

Project Name:	Mural Contest
Report date:	7/1/2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

The project is on track.

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

The contest is currently open, schools have been contacted, and flyers are being placed at youth/family-centered locations. I have yet to use my budget.

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

I've been working most on promoting the contest by contacting the schools, posting flyers at local youth hubs and businesses, and posting them via social media.

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

The following schools and charters have been contacted and are promoting the contest: Chico Unified School District, Oroville Union High School District, Inspire, Hearthstone, and Ipakanni. I've left two messages for Durham Unified School District and am waiting to hear back.

I put flyers up in Oroville at Mugshots, The Union, The Axiom, and The Live Spot. I'm communicating with Kimberlee about putting flyers up around Durham as she lives there, and am planning on either going to Chico to put up flyers or communicating with someone at the Chico branch about putting flyers up around town for me.

The contest has been posted via Instagram/Facebook/our website, and has been shared over 30 times on social media.

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

I was relying heavily on a press release announcing the mural contest as a huge outreach opportunity. Unfortunately, a press release will not be possible. I'm currently trying to figure out better ways to promote the contest in a way that will reach more families and youth.

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

Kudos to Kimberlee Wheeler for being a great source of support.

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Project Name:	REACH Career Online High School
Report date:	7/7/2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

REACH/Career Online High School (COHS) is on track and has a target launch date of 8/2/2021

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

We were notified on June 11th that our application to receive 3 scholarships for \$3285 from the California State Library was a success. We will have a total of 6 scholarships to offer to our public. June 21st we received the Califa bill for the 3 local scholarships totaling \$3285 (NVCF grant funds)

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

COHS implementation has kicked-off with our successful application to the California State Library for matching funds. We've attended a welcome introduction and our COHS Management session will take place on July 28th. A target launch date of August 2, 2021 has been established for COHS.

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

Marketing materials will be provided by COHS and we expect to have those on our BCL website soon.

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

**Butte County Library
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Project Name:	Virtual Young Adult Book Club
Report date:	July 6, 2021

Indicate whether the project is currently on track, at risk, or off track:

Currently 'on track'

Give a quick summary of your project status including budget (about 2-3 sentences):

The budget for this project is \$2,500 and we have yet to spend due to the new fiscal year starting after the launch of the club; spending from the grant award will begin this month as we purchase the August title. The Friends of the Library helped support the club in late spring as it was forming; this enabled us to attract more teens before the start of summer. The library has been partnering with The Bookstore in downtown Chico to source and order the books for the kids and that has been a very positive relationship.

The key areas or milestones achieved (Choose what you've been working on the most since starting or your last update):

Our main goal is to attract teen participants from every community in Butte County, and we have been successful in increasing our numbers gradually. Great work has been done to promote the book club on the library Instagram account and with in-branch flyers and displays. Processes have been developed to get the books into teens' hands even though the meetings are online.

Add a high-level overview of each key area:

- 1.) Attracting participants- this process has been genuinely organic and has involved word of mouth and friends telling friends, even though we are advertising the club through all channels of promotion. Parent involvement has also been a factor in approving teen participation and engagement online, or getting to the library to get the physical copy of the monthly book selection.
- 2.) Promotion- The flyers and ads that have been developed are contemporary, widely dispersed and inviting. Instagram has shown to be a strong platform for teen programs for the library thanks to the success of the Fandom Club's existing audience. Project coordinator Katie Anderson leads discussions with teens and is supported by two other staff, Joe and Andrea, who focus on young adult programs. Promoting the club is always part of the meetings themselves.
- 3.) Book processing- much discussion took place around the way books would be distributed to teens, ultimately adding received titles to the catalog so they can become boxed book club sets for future events. Access is a priority as we know many teens lack transportation. Branches are able to use existing courier services to transfer books to and from branch libraries based on demand.

Give attention to any issues or challenges the project has run into:

The main challenge is obtaining participants for the club, as teens are known to be harder to reach, especially in the summer months. We are persistent in our efforts and will keep trying well into the fall season, with hopes of even more teens joining us from south county communities like Gridley and Biggs. Once we achieve that, we will need to see what challenges exist in having a unified approach to how the club functions so that all voices are equally heard, and no community dominates the discussion or outcomes. We will learn this as we go. There has been interest in having in-person meetings but that presents transportation issues and needs adult support in order to realize. How to distribute the books proved to be more challenging than realized at first, because we see the book as the incentive for teens to join us, so we want them to have it for an extended period and feel it is their privilege to be first to turn the pages on a new YA book.

Include additional notes or highlights (These could be a list of next steps, kudos you want to give someone, or anything else you want to highlight):

Kudos to Katie Anderson for facilitating the actual book club events and for making this project a reality. Kudos to the LAB for supporting this idea with the great hopes that we succeed. Recruiting teens to join the club is our top priority and will remain so until we are able to deem the overall sustainability of the program.