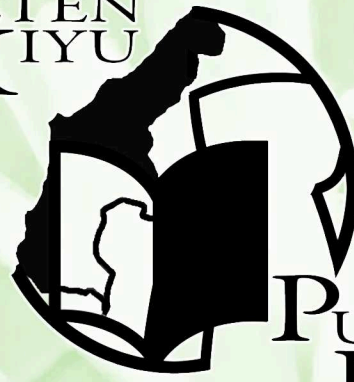


JOETEN
KIYU



PUBLIC
LIBRARY

**FY 2010 Basic State Programs Allotment Grant
LS-00-10-0052-10**

**John Oliver DLR. Gonzales
Project Director**



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

Part A. Numerical Program Data

Complete these tables to compile numerical information on grants, applications, and awards for this grant period.

Table A-1	Public	School	Academic	Special	Multi-type	SLAA	Totals
Number of Eligible Applicants	1						1
Number of Eligible Applications	1						1
Amount Requested (\$)	\$83,305						83305
Number of Grants Funded	1						1
Amount Expended (\$)	\$82,184						82184

Definitions:

Eligible applicants: Please refer to the report instructions for definitions of types of libraries.

Number of eligible applications refers to the number of eligible requests for LSTA funds in any given fiscal year.

This number includes: competitive and non-competitive grants, subgrants, contracts and cooperative agreements with eligible libraries and those projects/activities conducted within or by the State Library.

Table A-2	Purpose of LSTA	# Grants Awarded	Total Funds Expended
	Library technology, connectivity and services		\$0.00
	Services for lifelong learning		\$0.00
	Services to persons having difficulty using libraries		\$0.00
	Total	0	\$82,184

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Project Director: John D. Gonzales	Phone: 670-235-7315 or 7322	
Library: JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY	E-mail: johnnogonzales@gmail.com	
Address: P.O. Box 501092 Chalan Kanoa	Library Type: State Public Library	
City: SAIPAN	State: MP	Zip Code: 96950
Amount Expended: \$82,184.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check here if a statewide project

Project Description:

Include project purpose, targeted audience, activities/methods, evaluation process, and results. Explain how the LSTA funds were expended. Do not attach budget forms or invoices.

Needs Addressed in the CNMI 5 Year Technology Program for FY 2010:

- Establish the Information Technology Center of the Rota Public Library
- Establish the connectivity of a Digital Library System to the Outer Islands (Rota and Tinian) that would enable connectivity between libraries for inter-island search and library circulation
- Establish Professional Development of the Library Staff to match the need to stay up to date with new technology and provide a more knowledgeable base of computer efficiency.
- Develop inter-island communication via Digital Video Tele-Conferencing (VTC)
- Provide Digital Library Services via Bookmobile to extend computer access and internet accessibility to the remote areas of the CNMI, particularly the capital and population center of Saipan
- Establish Computer Learning Classes to provide the community with self improvement technology skills and awareness of the latest in internet accessibility and computer software applications
- Provide Internet and Software Application to the community by way of the Internet Technology Center

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Establish the Information Technology Center of the Rota Public Library Branch (RPL)

The Rota Public Library branch (RPL), through the Office of the Rota Mayor, has dedicated and established a space to allocate computers for an Information Technology Center to provide internet and computer access for the community. The compelling need for broadband to be installed in the facility to provide justified internet access to a major underserved and vulnerable island community with intermittent, limited, slow, and sometimes no connectivity at all, has been hampered due to the unusual delay in the approval of JKPL's FY 2010-2011 E-Rate application.

We are well on our way to achieving success towards this objective on the basis that the minimum adequate computer workstations and the network hardware needed to be installed have since been obtained and most of the items have been deployed to RPL, while waiting for the internet installation and connection upon approval of JKPL's E-Rate application.

Computers for the RPL ITC are prepared using the latest in Open Source Technology known as UBUNTU Linux. This is software that is used at the main JKPL ITC and, therefore, serviceability remotely or by phone is feasible should technical problems arise.

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Establish the connectivity of a Digital Library System to the Outer Islands (Rota and Tinian) that would enable connectivity between public libraries for inter-island search and library general circulation

While the grand opening of the Rota Public Library branch remains delayed pending approval of JKPL's FY 2010-2011 E-Rate application so is the status of this priority objective. Thus, RPL is still in the process of complete operations with internet accessibility.

Tinian Public Library branch (TPL) is currently connected via DSL, but the limitation of speed and interisland connectivity means outer island internet (beyond the main DSL trunk line's location in the capital of Saipan where JKPL is located) is still too slow to maintain a reliable data speed transfer that is necessary for the JKPL Horizon Library System to be usable. With the pending E-Rate approval, which will provide a much faster internet connection, this project will likely be initiated and completed soon.

Success towards this object is still pending due to connectivity upgrade still in process.

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Establish Professional Development of the Library Staff to improve basic technology skills and match the need to stay up to date with new technology and provide a more knowledgeable baseline about computer efficiency.

Computer software and applications training was initiated with the JKPL staff in FY 2010. This training consisted of efficient use of file saving, file sharing, and file management. Software applications such as *Word Processing*, *Spreadsheet*, and *Powerpoint*, which are essential to majority of the staff in their work performance, operations, and reporting were taught.

Participation in this professional development was received with positive results. This is apparent in the methods of file and document output, which are now more organized and manageable. There are noticeable minimal requests from staff regarding assistance from the ITC Department to render the files into manageable forms. There are also minimal requests from staff for ITC to identify practical ways to present files in the way other staff would want it.

Weaknesses in this objective are that there still remains a small percentage of staff that still require assistance with basic aspects of the office applications and file management.

This will be met with further professional development not only with JKPL staff, but also with staff of TPL and RPL branches that would cater within the working schedules of the staff. Branch libraries may benefit from this basic technology and additional advanced trainings, and we will open these series to any other non-profit organizations that utilize a library system or similar system.

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**Develop and Facilitate inter-island communication
via Digital Video Tele-Conferencing (VTC)**

With the construction of the Video Teleconferencing Center (VTC) completed adjacent to JKPL's ITC in the main branch in Saipan, we await for the delayed approval of JKPL's FY 2010-2011 E-Rate funding so that we would be able to install and obtain the much higher broadband services requested to enable better and faster internet speed and more stable and steadier interisland connectivity.

VTC will enable ITC to set up a more viable, cost-effective, and efficient alternative to inter-island communications to be available for any public library branch staff and even community based organizations to utilize, conduct, and communicate via inter-island video tele-conferencing, while minimizing exorbitant costs of travel. VTC is poised to empower any public library branch to avail of and set up web seminars and possibly even online basic computer classes to the outer islands and beyond.

This project is still pending in compliance to our Basic State Program 5 Year Grant.

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Provide Digital Library Services via Bookmobile Library Outreach to extend computer access and internet accessibility to the remote areas of the capital and major population center of Saipan through JKPL

A few laptops had been purchased for the Bookmobile Outreach Library Services and were to be used to provide media access primarily for underserved students. The laptops were originally planned to be used by underserved patrons with limited or no transportation who live in remote villages away from JKPL in the main populated island municipality of Saipan. The laptops would bridge the digital divide through internet access by way of a mobile hotspot, which would also allow bookmobile patrons to access the internet and possibly connect the search feature of the JKPL circulation system remotely.

This project remains to be achieved pending the delayed approval of JKPL's FY 2010-2011 E-Rate, which would allow for better and faster internet connectivity services.

Successes in this project are in the purpose and training in the use of the laptops to improve the technology skills of the community through our Bookmobile Library Outreach Services by teaching patrons to avail of technology services and internet access when the Bookmobile is at their designated center or area.

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Establish Computer Learning Classes to provide the community with self improvement and awareness of the latest in internet accessibility and computer software application

The computer learning program is intended to educate patrons about the proper use of computers and manipulating essential office type applications, such as spreadsheet, word processing, and powerpoint presentations. These classes enable anyone to be more confident when working on their own office or home computer.

Participation in this program is very progressive and there has been a lot of great community feedback and positive results. For example, 1 out of 3 students are likely to get their own laptop or home computer and confidently use it; community feedback and return students are positive, especially in the return students who show and likely request for more advanced classes regarding the use for office software applications.

Another notable success is with the expanded computer consumer awareness, as students demonstrate confidence in ascertaining what computer they are in the market for, and understanding what model and capacity are right for them.

Weakness in this program is in the following:

- Language barrier for non-speaking patrons who want to participate in the class
Patrons who do not speak read or write in English are unable to take these classes as the instructor cannot provide bilingual or translating services
- Restrictive class schedules limited to 1 day (Saturday) for 5 consecutive weeks
In light of the reduced government imposed austerity prior to October 1, 2011, attempts to have classes throughout the week were met with complaints from patrons who felt that the computer classes took up too much time for regular patrons to just use and access as is the core focus and the purpose of the ITC facility. So one day was designated the Saturday Computer Class, which would have classes spanning from 10am to 2pm consisting of Beginning Basic Computers 10am to 11am, Word Processing 11:00am 12:00pm, Excel 1:00pm to 2:00pm, Powerpoint Presentation 2:00pm to 3:00pm. Despite this dedicated Saturday for classes ITC was met with complaints in the accessibility of the facility by regular patrons.

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Provide Optimal Patron User Internet and Software Application Experience to the Community through the Internet Technology Center

JKPL's ITC is now going green with the use of a central virtual computer system through our utilization of Thin client devices and a central server. The associated costs of upgrading and updating software have been reduced substantially, which savings were reinvested by directing the decommissioned computer desktop workstations to the Rota Public Library Branch for its ITC and replaced a few old systems at the Tinian Public Library Branch.

Successes toward this objective are in the simplicity and optimal user end patron experience with ease in web browser experience, ease of printing, and improved access to the internet; security measures and policies ensure patrons better safety in their use of the computers for many tasks in which they apply; substantial cost savings realized in terms of hardware, utility consumption; desktop space more available as we no longer have individual hard drive towers attached to each computer monitor but to a central server; and ease of technical upgrades as staff no longer need to upgrade each individual hard drive units but only a central server, freeing up vital time to more freely assist patrons on a more intimate or one-to-one basis.

Admittedly a major weakness with this initiative is mainly in the local power grid issues. Often times the systems are affected by major power fluctuations, which damage essential hardware. Measures have been taken to reduce this problem, but with consistent power issues, much of the measures are taxed and failure is imminent, causing valuable downtime while funds are spent to repair or replace damaged electronics.