**2016 LSTA Grant Abstracts**

Abstracts for the LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) projects approved for funding in Wisconsin in 2016 are available below. These abstracts were included as part of the online grant applications submitted by applicants in September 2015. The abstracts are arranged by LSTA grant categories.

* [**Accessibility**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#accessibility)
* [**Delivery Services**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#delivery)
* [**Digital Creation**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#digcreate)
* [**Digitization of Local Materials**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#digitization)
* [**Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#dpla)
* [**Literacy**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#literacy)
* [**Library System Technology**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#libsystech)
* [**Merging Integrated Library Systems**](http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/lsta/16abstract#mergils)

**Digital Creation**
***MKE Mixers Mobile Makerspace,  $16,816*** The Milwaukee County Federated Library System wants to grow a mobile, shared makerspace for its member libraries. Librarians want to do more maker programs but do not have the funds to purchase or space to house maker resources. The MKE Mixer project is to create maker "programs in a box" that librarians can request to bring resources to their patrons. This mobile makerspace will meet programming needs of librarians and give free access to tools and technologies that are otherwise unavailable to the general population. Currently there are only fee-based makerspaces in Milwaukee County and the cost may be prohibitive. Each Mix Box will cover a specific topic: video production, robotics, circuitry, sewing, etc. Librarians will be able to schedule a Mix Box and customize a program for any age. The mobile makerspace will bring new technologies into libraries that have previously been unable to acquire them and offer innovative programs and tools to our community of almost one million.

 ***WRLS Mobile Media Conversion Lab, $12,008*** The Winding Rivers Library System will develop a mobile media conversion lab, which can travel among our member libraries for use by patrons and for library programs.  Users will utilize the equipment to convert their visual materials (VHS tapes, photos, slides, 35mm film) and audio materials (LP records, cassette tapes) to more current formats (DVD, CD, digital files).  To accommodate our smallest libraries, with limited spaces, librarians will be able to request the equipment pieces individually.

The primary target audience is users of all ages and backgrounds who will use these tools at any WRLS public library; the lab will include items that most libraries and some patrons could not afford to purchase or house on their own.  The secondary audience is the staff of the member libraries, who will increase their technology skills by learning to operate and demonstrate the equipment in the mobile lab, and provide instruction to patrons in using it.

***McMillan Media Studio, $19,635*** McMillan Memorial Library will establish a Community Creation Studio space for patrons to create and consume digital information, promoting digital creativity and learning for all ages. In a partnership with the Wisconsin Rapids Area School District, RCCA Media, the South Wood County Historical Corporation and other community partners; teens will learn how to use digital media tools in the course of academic and community projects. In addition multiple opportunities will be given to allow teen self-expression through multiple medium include music, video and art. The digital lab will also be open to the general public with some items (cameras, microphones, etc.) available for checkout.

 ***Teacher Technology Kits, $12,195*** The Teacher Technology Kits will enhance the new Teacher's Resource Center at the Fond du Lac Public Library. Each kit features a different type of technology with enough materials for classroom use, along with helpful instructions and project examples.  The kits are a gateway to technology experimentation in the classroom, diminishing the barriers such as comfort level, cost, and opportunity.

With 7,300 students in the Fond du Lac school district alone, 568 Teacher cards issued, and a demonstrated desire on behalf on instructors for access to the Library's technology equipment, the need for educational access to technology remains strong.

The Technology kits build local instructors technology confidence levels while providing access to dynamic educational tools.  Students gain exposure to cutting-edge technologies, building a foundation for future exploration within the Library's Idea Studio.

 ***Memory Project Studio, $920*** The Memory Project Studio is a place for creation, community, thinking and sharing.  As a digital content studio, it is where FBKML community members can go to get their memories created, saved and shared.   Learning will take place by the creator, and the receiver of these memories.   A special collection of conversion hardware will help community users convert existing analog resources into digital ones to use in content creation projects.  The Memory Cafe participants, along with the Manitowish Waters Historical Society, along with any community member, will expand historical records created through the Memory Project Studio, resulting in the sharing and educating of all age groups.  FBKML Memory Project Studio incorporates the knowledge of instructors and local content creators to lend their skills in projects that help grow the memories of the community.

 ***Lakeshores Library System / Kenosha County Library System Mobile Maker Spaces, $16,710*** In this proposal, Lakeshores Library System(LLS) and Kenosha County Library System(KCLS) are teaming up to support Mobile Makerspaces for our members.  To date, both systems have worked on smaller pilot projects in a variety of venues to bring opportunities for learning and expression to their patrons.  In this grant we aim to bring in more kits to enable our members to develop programming for small groups in order to encourage collaborative learning and experimentation.  We have kits aimed at several demographics, including aspiring artists, crafters, robotics engineers, and those interested in preserving family and local history. LLS and KCLS serve 17 libraries at 23 locations with a combined service population of 470,000.

 ***STEAMpacs, $1,729*** Many individual residents within the Grantsburg area are unable to acquire current technology and communication resources on their own. However, these are the resources that build confidence and knowledge in people within the science and manufacturing industries. The Grantsburg area is known as the manufacturing center of the region although the local industries often struggle to find people to fill technical positions in their rural businesses.

The grant would provide for engineering and technology hardware and software for students of all ages to explore and create with. The fall 2014 completed library addition is the ideal location for a team of library professionals, local industry experts and educators to build an environment of encouragement, instruction and innovation in STEAM programming. By sharing resources and knowledge, we will ultimately, building stronger local manufacturing businesses and sustainable lives for community members.

 ***Neenah Laptop Project, $8,880*** The Neenah Public Library does not own laptops; the funding for 10 laptops would enhance daily patron activities, strengthen our tech workshops, offer tools for staff training, and allow for a wider variety of programming. Patrons will be able to use these laptops at the library for common tasks; laptops for private test proctoring, webcams for employment interviews, and software for hands on training and instruction. These laptops will be used to strengthen current library programming; for instance the laptops will be featured in the library’s popular “Tech Talk Tuesdays” class. The laptops will also play a vital role in an exciting initiative to offer STEM related programming at the library. In partnership with local businesses, such as the web-design firm Stellar Blue and the local organization Women in Technology of Northeastern Wisconsin, the library has plans to provide hands on STEM learning experiences, highlight employment opportunities, and share a love of all things tech!

 ***ALS Mobile Makerspace,  $6,388*** The Arrowhead Library System (ALS) will expand the Mobile Makerspace that travels to member libraries for programs. The makerspace provides the opportunity for member libraries to promote community engagement, provide access, foster new ideas, and encourage exploration.   With the rapid changing technology landscape, it is difficult for many to keep up with new technologies. The monetary cost alone is prohibitive, especially in Rock County where 14.3% of the population is living below the poverty level.  As library card holders, 84% of the county’s population has access to new equipment and technology through the ALS' Mobile Makerspace. The makerspace gives library patrons and the local community an opportunity to explore and test in a safe environment, with equipment and technology that they would otherwise not have access to. The makerspace also allows patrons to explore and learn at their own pace, focusing on their own interests to meet their technology goals.

**Digitization of Library Historical Materials**

 ***Jefferson County Union/Hoard's Dairyman Digitization, $9,280*** This project will complete the digitization process for the Jefferson County Union and Hoard's Dairyman magazine published by W.D. Hoard, an early Wisconsin governor. It will make these publications available online through the Wisconsin Newspaper Association. The Jefferson County Union is a newspaper that was started and edited by W.D. Hoard, an early Wisconsin governor. Mr. Hoard also started the premier dairy industry publication, Hoard's Dairyman, which is still published today. The Hoard's Dairyman insert began in 1885 and was published as a part of the Union. Both of these publications are important parts of Fort Atkinson and Jefferson County history. They are also very important to the history of the dairy industry in Wisconsin. This project will preserve these two projects and make them available online for researchers locally and around the world.

**Accessibility**

***Serving job-seekers, the jobless, and the under-employed    $1,000*** Wisconsin lags behind the labor rebound experienced by neighboring states and the numbers of our working poor and jobless continue to rise. This growth is happening in communities of all sizes and public libraries are making efforts to provide opportunities for community members to find secure and rewarding employment. Now is the time for public libraries to reflect on community need, library mission, and organizational purpose.  Library administrators, boards, & staff, recognize this timely need and ask for guidance and planning assistance. The  'Serving job-seekers, the jobless, and the underemployed' planning grant will provide opportunities for library staff in the South Central Library System to gather together to identify needs, evaluate and discuss current trends, investigate services, meet with staff from social service organizations, attend a regional ‘Serving Job-Seekers and the Underemployed’ summit, and cooperatively plan library services for homeless populations.

 ***Manitowoc Public Library Citizenship Information Project, $8,393*** Immigrants are special service populations for the Manitowoc Public Library, comprising 2.54% of Manitowoc County’s total population. At this time no organization in our county offers citizenship classes or dedicated assistance with the naturalization process, making immigrants a distinctly underserved population. The Manitowoc Public Library (MPL) Citizenship Information Project is designed to address this significant gap in services for our county’s immigrant population through the creation of a Citizenship Information Center at MPL, designation of a citizenship resource staff person, and delivery of professional development and public information sessions on citizenship requirements and process. We predict a measurable increase in the use of our public library citizenship resources, an increase in knowledge about citizenship among library staff and community members, and an increase in requests for adult literacy tutors through our One-to-One Adult Literacy Partners Program.

 ***Dane County Economic Assistance – Library Outreach,  $6,485*** This projects seeks to address barriers that impede the economically disadvantaged from obtaining library cards. The Library Outreach to Dane County Economic Assistance Participants grant will focus on: 1. Helping the economically disadvantaged obtain library cards and clear up library fines.  2. Marketing library services to people living in poverty. The targeted population for this grant will be participants in Dane County Economic Assistance programs.  Direct marketing and library outreach for this grant will take place in the waiting room lobby where people apply for Dane County Economic Assistance programs.  The intended outcome for this project is to increase access to the public library for those living in poverty by providing an opportunity to both apply for library cards and receive help in waiving or reducing fines. This grant will also raise awareness of public libraries via direct marketing through digital signage and the establishment of a waiting room reading nook.

 ***Building Dementia Friendly Libraries in Northern Wisconsin,  $20,321*** The Building Dementia-Friendly Libraries in Northern Wisconsin project addresses the informational and social needs of individuals with memory loss residing in nursing homes, assisted-living facilities, attend senior centers or are homebound. Participating libraries will host “Memory Cafés,” and create memory kits for use at Memory Cafés. A Memory Café is a place where individuals with memory loss and their caregivers can gather in a safe, supportive, and engaging environment. Memory kits are designed to support discussion. Staff will attend “Dementia-Friendly Community” trainings to learn to recognize the signs of dementia as well as communicate and assist persons with dementia. Participating libraries will work closely with area senior centers, residences for the elderly, county aging units, and home care agencies. The Aging and Disability Resource Center of the North was instrumental in this project's creation and will be involved throughout the implementation of this project.

 ***Hearing Loops in Community Meeting Rooms, $20,000*** The goal of this project is to proudly add the MCLS member libraries to the list of community organizations that lead the way in providing appropriate accommodations for community members.  Therefore, the Manitowoc-Calumet Library System is requesting assistance from LSTA to achieve three main objectives.  The Manitowoc-Calumet Library System is requesting assistance from LSTA to achieve three main objectives. 1) Install hearing loops in each library's meeting room to improve patron and guest satisfaction in the library environment, 2) offer a workshop that will provide knowledge of best practices using a hearing loop and raising awareness of hearing disabilities among library staff, as well as any interested parties, and 3) promote the library as an advocate of individuals with hearing loss and set an example of providing accommodations for members with special needs for the rest of the community.

 ***Kenosha Connects, $15,928*** Families and underserved adults in Kenosha are in need of strong support to develop the digital skills required for school and work success. Kenosha Public Library seeks to fill this need through Kenosha Connects, a hotspot/ Chromebook lending program modeled on the successful NYPL Library Hotspot program. Lending mobile hot spots, coupled with wifi-enabled Google Chromebooks will put powerful technology into the hands and homes of Kenosha residents.

 ***Accessible Early Literacy: Apps and Websites Supporting Early Learning,  $15,000*** Arrowhead Library System seeks to make the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program more accessible to low-income, smartphone-dependent families. With one in four children in Rock County living in poverty, many families have limited access to information. Creating an app will make it easier for them to use this simple early literacy program. The app will also encourage outreach promotion by member libraries and community partners.

ALS understands that early literacy and school readiness prepares our children to become productive citizens, providing huge economic payback for our communities. Therefore, this grant project also undertakes the enhancement and expansion of a website to serve the budding Rock County Advocates for Young Children, a coalition of agencies and organizations working together to improve the lives of our youngest residents and their families.

**Literacy**

  ***Parent Engagement, School Readiness, and Play, $7,250*** The Parent Engagement, School Readiness, and Play Project includes three primary components;1) a structured, parent-focused “Storytime University” focusing on teaching parents, alongside their children, school-readiness strategies  2) supporting literacy outreach kits to sustain lessons learned at Storytime University, giving parents tools to teach school-readiness skills, and addressing access barriers, and 3) increased marketing to create a community commitment to early education and the five early literacy practices. Collaborating organizations will increase support to families lacking access to early child development tools in the home and in the community. The project goal is to increase awareness and practice of the importance of parents’ role as first teachers among families as well as throughout the community to bolster school readiness and the long-term success of learners, families, and caregivers in the St. Croix Falls area.

 ***Milwaukee Public Library Literacy Kits, $3,360*** The Milwaukee Public Library Literacy Kit seeks to enhance the learning experience for adult tutoring subjects at Milwaukee Public Library (MPL). MPL provides walk-in tutoring for adults may cover: GED preparation, civil service exam, English as Second Language learning, academic improvement, workforce readiness, or simply for adult enrichment. Students may be non-native English speakers, below the poverty line, and/or lack a high school education. Literacy kits will include visual tools and educational materials to assist those with challenges reading print materials. With the kits, tutors can work with confidence knowing they have the tools needed to teach concepts and students can learn in a style that suits their unique abilities and knowledge. Tutors will receive training to use these tools and will report usage statistics each month. Expected outcomes of the project include student and tutor retention, improved feedback from students, and high use of kits.

 ***Enhancing Children’s Early Literacy Skills, $15,595*** The Enhancing Children’s Early Literacy Skills by Introducing Early Literacy Computers project seeks to fund AWE Early Literacy Stations and Bilingual Spanish Stations at four Waukesha County Federated Library System libraries.  Libraries emphasize the six Early Literacy Skills which are important in developing readers. The stations facilitate a safe, integrative learning session for children and caregivers while educational programs correlate to Common Core and state standards including literacy. These stations provide diverse early literacy activities and computer skills to children ages 2-6 years old, impacting the vital developmental age of 2-5, as well as reinforcing early literacy, computer and other curricular subject areas for school aged children.  Children, especially those from English Language Learners and lower socioeconomic communities, will benefit greatly from a diversified educational experience which provides them with a head start on school, reading, and technology.

 ***Adult Literacy Service Needs of the Manitowoc County Corrections System, $2,000*** In July, 2015, the MPL literacy program coordinator was contacted by representatives of the Manitowoc County Jail Classroom (a Lakeshore Technical College program) and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections/Division of Community Corrections to discuss the potential for adult literacy tutoring for current county jail inmates and individuals on probation or parole. Individuals within the corrections system (during and after incarceration) comprise a special population for purposes of public library service. They face barriers to library use due to physical access, insufficient English language skills, disabilities, and limited literacy or information skills.

The library will undertake a needs assessment of the Manitowoc County Jail and the Division of Community Corrections in Manitowoc for education assistance, and the capacity of One-to-One Adult Literacy Partners at the Manitowoc Public Library to provide tutoring services for adults during and after incarceration.

***Empowering Youth with Skills for Lifelong Learning, $10,793*** Southwest Wisconsin Library System (SWLS) participating libraries will partner with local school districts to provide an environment for youth grades 2-6 to come together in a group setting to attend programs that enhance STEM skills, hone critical thinking skills, and continue to form a solid base of lifelong learning skills. The grant activities ensure the creative use of the library and its resources to engage children with hands-on learning techniques to promote STEM skills in a collaborative, learning environment and equip youth with skills that will encourage them to become lifelong learners in order to complete their education and prepare them for future employment.

***Hispanic/Latino Community's Literacy Needs, $2,000*** The Manitowoc-Calumet Library system will work with member libraries, the Family Living Educators at the UW-Extensions in the two counties, and a contracted Spanish interpreter to survey the resident Hispanic/Latino population for the purpose of creating a plan to meet this targeted population's literacy needs.  Through the process, a plan will be created to address the following items of interest in relation to the Hispanic/Latino population: 1) barriers to library use, 2) literacy and information needs, 3) marketing strategies, and 4) best practices for serving the needs of Hispanic/Latino patrons.  Upon the completion of the planning grant, the libraries will have a completed plan to be used as a guide to better serve the targeted population.  The findings and resulting plan will be shared with the public and the library community.

**Delivery Services**

  ***NWLS Delivery Service, $15,000*** Delivery has been an established, accepted, important, and expensive element of NWLS service since October of 1998.  Using the combination of federal, state, and county funds, NWLS will continue to support the delivery service, as the service of choice, among its member libraries. Delivery is integral to resource sharing: the level of efficiency of the delivery network determines the level of satisfaction of patrons and library staff.

 ***Delivery Services - Wisconsin Libraries Delivery Network, $75,000*** South Central Library System (SCLS) provides the intersystem connection of the statewide delivery service.  SCLS will use the grant funds to underwrite the vehicle maintenance and fuel costs related to the statewide delivery service for public library systems.  This service is vital for the physical delivery support of interlibrary loan materials.  The LSTA funds subsidize the share of costs each of the 17 public library systems in Wisconsin are responsible for funding their continued participation.

**Library System Technology**

***SWLS 2016 Technology Projects, $14,100*** In the summer of 2015, a survey was sent to find out how the presence of the online version of Consumer Reports affected subscriptions of the magazine by the member libraries. Reviewing the survey results, it’s clear that the libraries and their patrons value the ConsumerReports.org subscriptions. Another area that has been identified as a need to improve the technology skills of library staff.  Funds from this grant will be used to provide on-site training for library staff on functionality in Google Apps – Drive, Docs, Sheets and Forms.
  ***Improving WRLS Infrastructure to Increase Wireless Access, 22,600*** The Winding Rivers Library System (WRLS) will upgrade the system’s technological infrastructure by installing a new server, which will facilitate increased wireless access, helping its 34 member public libraries provide faster and better service for their patrons and communities.

Two libraries chosen as pilot locations will receive wireless mesh access points.  The proposed new units will not only provide better wireless access to their patrons and communities, but will allow logging and reporting, which will enable the IT staff to better fine tune and secure the network, and will give the system administration the ability to see and adapt to the changing technology needs of patrons.  If this proves successful, the project may be expanded to more library locations in the future.

 ***Integrated Library System Charges, $8,400*** $8,400 will be used to help the public library system subsidize the annual maintenance cost of SirsiDynix Integrated Library System.  The system is responsible for funding the ILS and LSTA funds will help bear the large annual cost of the ILS on behalf of the member libraries.

 ***ALS Technology Projects 2016, $9,600*** The Arrowhead Library System (ALS) member libraries rely on technology to help them assist and serve their patrons.  ALS will maintain an effective and secure connection for member libraries to the ILS by purchasing adequate WAN bandwidth. ALS will also upgrade the current telephone notification system that all member libraries use to notify patrons of holds, overdue, and other courtesy notices. This service helps to meet the needs of users that are visually impaired by offering an alternative to print.

 ***NWLS Technology and Database Project, $23,700*** The funds from this project will be used to purchase subscriptions to shared online databases chosen by NWLS staff with input from member library staff.  This LSTA project will fund: (1) Ancestry Library Edition, an extensive library genealogy research tool;
(2) Novelist, a reader’s advisory tool; (3) Membership in the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC).  Membership in WPLC provides access to downloadable audiobooks, eBooks and other media;
(4) Enhancements to Merlin, the NWLS shared automation system; and (5) Training for NWLS IT staff.  The high level of training required by IT staff is expensive and often a distance from the NWLS area.

 ***Support for OWLSnet data circuits, $13,800*** OWLSnet member libraries use data circuits to provide Internet access to their patrons and to take advantage of OWLSnet services. LSTA funds will be used to assist in paying for bandwidth for OWLSnet member libraries.  OWLS currently pays approximately $69,000 for data circuits.

 ***LSTA Technology Projects, $26,900*** WVLS proposes to use LSTA funds to enable libraries to access a variety of Makerspace and Creative Technologies for use in programming; and in conjunction with leveraging its Enterprise Services architecture, to empower multi-type libraries to utilize MinecraftEdu resources for educational programming. This will enable educational opportunities for librarians and library directors, to learn more about the specifics of MinecraftEdu, and the myriad STEAM programming potentials those platforms offer.  This will also satisfy the expressed need for libraries to garner access a variety of Makerspace and Creative Technologies such as 3D printers and other STEAM-related creative-technologies equipment.

WVLS will continue to make resources on Makerspace management, Creative Technologies programming, and community engagement available to multi-type libraries.  We will collaboratively plan four in-person workshops which will also be live-broadcast via interactive webinar.

 ***2016 Public Library System Technology, $42,900*** The 2016 Library Technology grant for SCLS will be used to provide better access to library materials and internet through the use of technology. RFID tags will provide stream-lined checkout experiences for patrons. Mobile hot spots will provide access to the internet for those patrons who have none. Patrons at libraries who are able to join the SCLS shared ILS will have direct access to the resources of many libraries. Access to historic documents and oral histories will improve through the digitization initiative.

 ***Technology Project, $11,100*** Eastern Shores Library System office connects via TEACH/BCN to WiscNet, the system’s network services provider. ESLS has 150 MB of transport to WiscNet, and 150MB for WAN traffic, for a total of 300MB with the BCN. The bandwidth was upgraded in mid-2014 as part of the DOA/TEACH project to increase bandwidth for libraries and library systems.

The target population served are all of the residents of Eastern Shores Library System. Through the WAN access provided by this grant which allows resource access to patrons anytime and anywhere they may be. This LSTA grant will provide funding for ESLS’s share of the total telecommunications cost from TEACH and for part of the cost of the system’s member libraries’ TEACH line to the BadgerNet WAN.

 ***Library System Technology, $36,900*** Member libraries are in need of more and better data to make decisions to best serve their populations. MCFLS will license and configure a suite of data analysis tools for member library use. MCFLS will regularly prepare and disseminate reports for member libraries, train library staff to run their own reports, and survey library staff to learn what kind of data is needed. Member libraries will be able to run reports and interpret results based on circulation, market segmentation, and census data, among others, to better serve their communities.

MCFLS will also replace aging and technologically obsolete printing equipment and replace it with current technology so that hold, overdue, and other public notices will be printed more efficiently at a much higher quality. Current equipment is several decades old.

 ***Technology and Design Projects, $34,000*** This project will provide a discovery layer to our entire service population as a way to make searching library resources more in line with how our patrons search other services on the Internet. The discovery layer will integrate our traditional ILS, Badgerlink resources, e-materials, and locally-digitized materials.

***2016 LLS Technology Projects, $14,400*** Our 2016 LLS Technology Project grant funds will improve our libraries ability to service the needs of their patrons in several ways. Funds will be used to support supplies for previously funded MakerSpace kits, fund our participation in Bridges Library System's 1000 Books Before Kindergarten application, bring digital signature pads into our libraries for patron registration, fund a new system projector, and fund a new WAN server for housing WAN applications and services for our libraries.

 ***Telecommunication Support for NFLS' OWLSnet Libraries, $28,400*** This project supports an ongoing telecommunications subsidy paid to OWLS to help support the fiber/copper links and tele-communications network infrastructure provided to 42 NFLS libraries located in 8 counties of northeast Wisconsin that are members of the OWLSnet consortium,   and serve approximately 250,000 residents.  The subsidy helps keep the overall OWLSnet membership fees affordable for all the OWLSnet member libraries. NFLS will work in tandem with OWLS to provide ongoing development and maintenance of the OWLSnet network telecommunications infrastructure. This will assure that the OWLSnet consortium will continue to provide up-to-date technology-based products services to NFLS and OWLS member libraries.  In addition to deploying appropriate network servers and telecommunications equipment, OWLS will secure sufficient bandwidth to continue meeting the needs of all OWLSnet member libraries and their users.

 ***2016 KCLS Digital Resources, $9,000***

2016 Digital Resources grant is for the purchase of the WPLC share for Kenosha County Library System and additional titles through OverDrive Advantage for Kenosha County residents.  The purpose is to allow for more digital resources for the users of the Kenosha Public Library and Community Library, both members of the Kenosha County Library System.

 ***2016 Technology Services,  $12,556*** MWFLS will use LSTA funds to help its member libraries access e-content and provide broadband to make searching for content efficient and reliable. Patron time-management software and remote assistance software provide more efficient use of staff time. All of these services benefit our 18 member libraries and the 217,890 people that are in the service population of the two counties we serve.

 ***Winnefox Technology Projects, $19,100*** The technology grant for which Winnefox Library System is applying is not for one major project, but several smaller ones.  We will be using grant money to improve services we currently offer and to offer some new services.

 ***Evanced Solutions,  $22,400*** This project will allow the 24 libraries in the newly created Bridges Library system to have one of two products from Evanced, Signup or Rooms.  Libraries using Signup will be able to enter programming events once and utilize them both in their website and catalog.  Listing them in the catalog will allow the public to be able to search for events across all 24 libraries.  This will cut down on staff time and a barrier that has existed in doing double work, which results in events not being entered into the Community Profiles part of the catalog.  Libraries utilizing the Rooms product will be able to refer the public to a website to request meeting space and verify room availability.  Rooms will allow all requests to come to one place, cutting down on staff time for phone calls about room availability.

**Digital Public Library of America Participation**

  ***DPLA Participation Support,  $50,000*** The photographs and documents that have been made available online through the OWLS/NFLS InfoSoup Memory Project represent a tiny portion of the range and depth of  materials in the collections of libraries, archives, historical societies and museums across the state. Much of this knowledge is hidden in minimally-staffed institutions with limited hours, accessible to only the most dedicated researchers. To bring more content online, expand the visibility of and engagement with this content, and increase efficiencies around the creation and sharing of digital collections for the benefit of all Wisconsin libraries and library systems, OWLS requests LSTA funds to support the maintenance and growth of the Recollection Wisconsin program. Recollection Wisconsin, as a Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America, offers training and assistance for institutions interested in sharing their local historical resources online, as well as coordinating Wisconsin’s presence in the DPLA.

**Merging Integrated Library Systems**

***KCLS Joins Share Catalog, $12,000*** In 2016, Kenosha County Library System will join the SHARE catalog administered by Lakeshore Library System, dramatically increasing direct access to library resources for the 464,000 residents of Walworth, Racine, and Kenosha counties, increasing use of regional library resources, both physical and digital, and improving residents' satisfaction with the services of the 20 public libraries in the expanded SHARE consortium.