

**CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA)**

**Final Program Narrative Report
(LSTA Form 9)**

Grant Information

Library Jurisdiction	Yorba Linda Public Library
Project Title	Yorba Linda Grows: A Seed Lending Library
Grant Award #	40-8299
Grant Period	2013/2014
Amount of Grant Award	\$7,500
Amount of Grant Expended	\$7,500
Local Match	\$1,675
In-Kind	\$17,641.66
Total Amount of Project (amount expended + match + in-kind)	\$26,816.66
Number of Persons Served (should not include total population of service area or potential population to be reached)	810

Project Director

Name	Julie Zeoli
Title	Librarian
Library Address	18181 Imperial Hwy. Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Phone Number	714.777.2873
Fax Number	714.777.0640
E-mail Address	juliez@ylpl.lib.ca.us

This report is due on the date listed in the LSTA Grant Guide for this project. Follow this link to view the Grant Guide. <http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/lsta/manage.html>

Email this report in "word format" to lsta@library.ca.gov then mail ORIGINAL and 2 copies to:

California State Library
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001
Attention: Fiscal Office - LSTA

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____
(Please sign in blue ink)

Project Final Report

A final narrative report is required on the use of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds following the completion of a project during each project year. The information you report will be used to complete the California State Library report of how funds were expended. Excerpts from this report may be submitted to the Federal government in their evaluation, or may be published by the State Library or shared with other institutions. Please answer all of the questions thoroughly. Please attach any reproduction copies of photographs of project activities or media produced for the project.

Project Purpose

Include your program purpose statement here

The Yorba Linda Public Library's Seed Lending Library project, "Yorba Linda Grows" provided the public with an opportunity to develop healthy, sustainable lifestyles by offering resources to start their own at-home garden (including a circulating 'seed library') and a series of educational events. These services fostered healthy lifestyles through smart food choices, increased sustainable living, and gardening education. The Seed Lending Library also boosted community connections by meeting the growing interest of healthy living within the Yorba Linda Community, and connecting individuals at all stages in life.

Project Activities and Methods

How did you accomplish the project? What were the steps involved? How did you engage the target audience?

This project was accomplished by establishing a seed lending library and creating a series of activities. In order to accomplish the project, the library researched and outreached to several libraries throughout California and the United States to help guide the project. Yorba Linda Public Library (YLPL) staff spoke to several libraries with established seed lending libraries, and received feedback and support materials. Mid-project, staff from YLPL traveled to the Santa Clara Library to network and share resources and ideas on project improvement. In addition, the library outreached to various local gardening organizations, including the Orange County Master Gardeners, in order to offer a series of gardening workshops in support of the seed lending library.

From the information gathered, the library established a seed lending library and coordinated several gardening and healthy cooking events. The seed lending library launched to the public in September 2013, along with a presentation on Growing Food from Seeds by the OC Master Gardeners. Over the course of the grant cycle, a total of 13 events were held to educate the public on gardening and healthy eating in order to help engage the targeted audience and establish support for the seed lending library.

Project Outputs

What was created for the project and how much? (For instance three promotional brochures were created and 75 copies distributed; or three training classes were designed; two sessions of each were held, and 80 people were trained)

One Seed Lending Library was established with 362 registrants; 49% of those registrants returning at least twice to borrow more seeds from the seed lending library.

Three promotional brochures were created explaining the seed lending library and library materials available for participants to help educate them on gardening on healthy living.

Seven (7) Gardening Workshops were held, with a total of 243 participants in attendance.

Six (6) Healthy Eating/Cooking Workshops were held, with a total of 205 participants in attendance.

One (1) website was created to inform the public of the Seed Lending Library and upcoming workshops.

One (1) Seed Library Resource binder was created for staff and public use to help guide the public, including vegetable growing guides, seed saving notes, and a list of local community gardens.

Project Outcomes (if applicable)

Please state the outcomes and the results of your evaluation.

Outcomes for this project were attained by surveying seed lending library users and gardening/healthy lifestyle events offered at the library.

By the end of this grant cycle, project outcomes are as follows:

97% of program participants stated they have increased their knowledge of gardening and/or healthy cooking.

83% of program participants stated they attained a greater understanding of how to live a more healthy, self-sustaining lifestyle through the seed lending library and/or educational events.

94% of program participants stated they have increased (or intend to increase) their use of library services from usage of the seed lending library and/or related events by borrowing more seeds, using library materials related to gardening/healthy living, attending additional library events or a combination of any of the above.

67% of program participants stated they intend on using the seed lending library by borrowing seeds for the first time.

74% of program participants stated they intended on learning how to save seeds after using the seed lending library and borrowing seeds.

54% of program participants stated they intended on returning seeds to the seed lending library.

95% of program participants stated they intended on using at least one of the recipes they learned during a healthy cooking event.

Additional Project Outcomes

Please state any additional intended or unintended outcomes and what data sources you used.

Anecdotal Information

Tell us a story. Give two or more examples of how the project has helped an individual or group in your community.

As a part of the library's outreach efforts, a series of letters were written to heirloom seed companies throughout the United States. The library desired to acquire donations and/or support for its project from companies that shared the same interest of sharing heirloom variety seeds with the community. As a result of these letters, the library received a total of \$1,036.66 in heirloom seed donations to help support the project.

The library was also solicited by two local gardening organizations to offer a presentation on the Seed Lending Library. Library staff presented two (2) presentations to two (2) different groups outside of the library. From this, the library was asked to support a local community garden by donating seeds to its users. The library did donate the requested amount of seeds to help support the local community garden.

The library received numerous comments from seed library users about how the seed lending library has allowed them to start a garden at home. Users of all ages, from children to seniors, have commented on the success of their gardens and have brought in pictures to share with staff. Comments on the library's social media sites include: "We have beans, onions, zucchini, cilantro, radishes, carrots, and eggplant growing. Thank you YL Library!!! My kids love it :)"; "We've got beans and kale growing in our garden from the seeds we got a few months ago, thanks Yorba Linda Library!"

Exemplary Project

If you feel your project was exemplary and others could learn from it and replicate it, please tell us why.

This project could be extremely beneficial to other libraries interested in starting a seed lending library. By establishing the seed lending library, we inspired many nontraditional library users to start patroning the library. In addition, this project grew enormously over the course of the year. The library's outreach efforts and collaboration with local groups, such as the Orange County Master Gardeners, has helped to establish a strong relationship that will continue to last for years.

FEEDBACK FOR THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY ON THE GRANT PROCESS

We want to learn and improve our grant processes. Please let us know what worked and what we could do differently to make it a better experience. Thank you!

I truly enjoyed working so closely with the State Library and the project monitor. Having the project monitor and the State Library staff available to answer questions and provide guidance in such a timely and professional manner was extremely beneficial to the success of the project. In addition, I truly enjoyed the application process, including the phone interview. I believe that this provided me with a wonderful opportunity and experience in order to grow professionally.

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