



# LSTA State Program Report - Summary

FFY19

Arkansas State Library

January 2021

Grants Office





## LSTA FFY19 Expenditures

The following report shows the federal LSTA Grants to States expenditures by the Arkansas State Library.

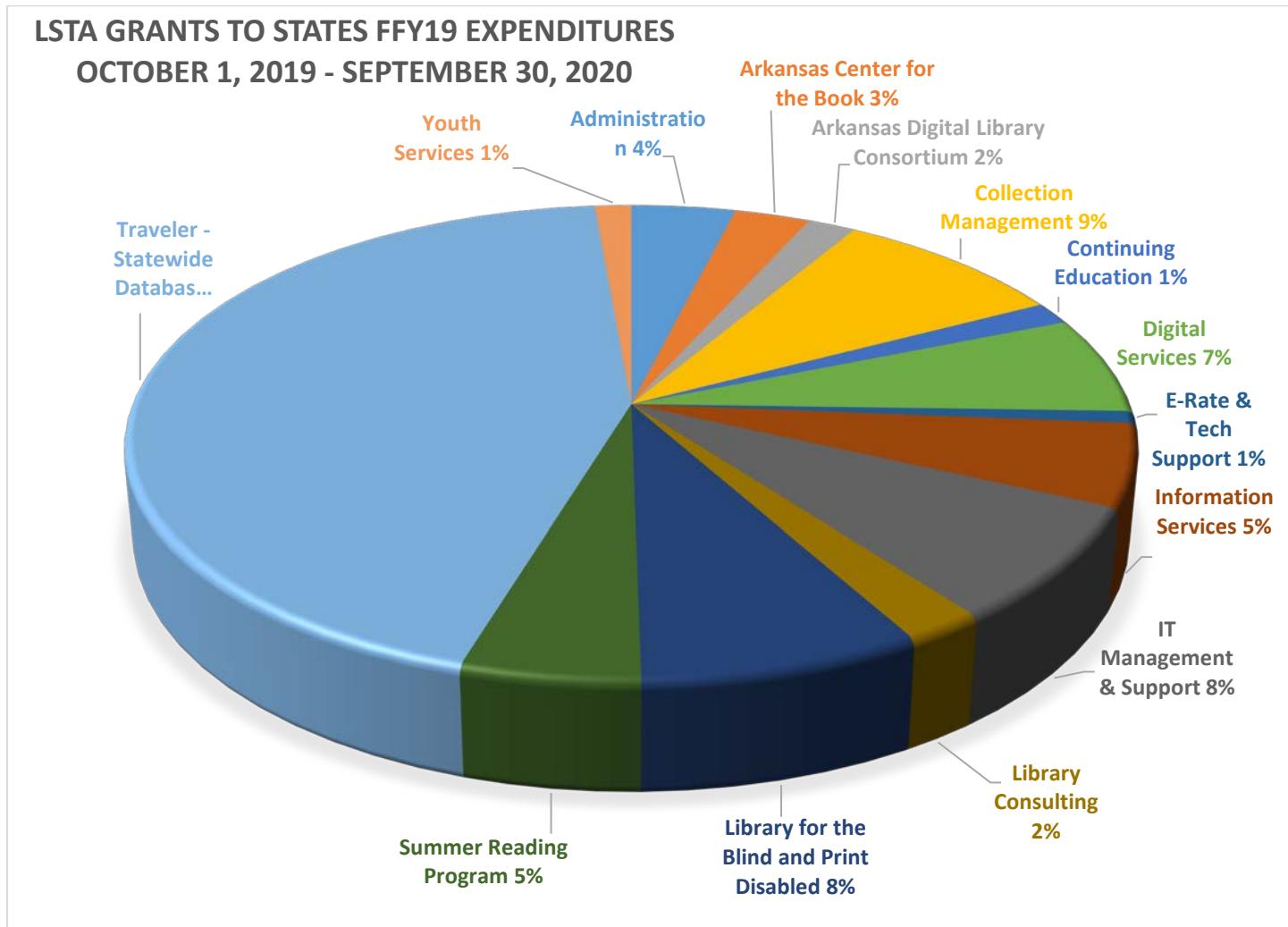
The pie chart indicates the percentages by project. The abstract of each federally funded project lists the amount spent as well as a state match or other match.

This information is taken from the annual State Program Report submitted to IMLS.

LSTA – Library Services and Technology Act

IMLS – Institute of Museum and Library Services

FFY – Federal Fiscal Year



The following information includes the abstract, LSTA funds expended, state match expended, and other match funds, if appropriate, of each federally funded project reported on the State Program Report (SPR) as submitted to IMLS in December 2020. Not all programs have state funds. The required match is a total number and a project does not need a match. Arkansas State Library reports all state funds as match so it always exceeds the 34% required match.

LSTA FFY19 Grant Award: \$1,839,886

Required State Match: \$947,820.06

With the COVID-19 Pandemic, many projects shifted focus and the way services were offered to libraries throughout the state. The following project descriptions reflect changes made for continuation of services.

## Projects

### ADMINISTRATION

The LSTA Program Administrative Project provided leadership and guidance to all LSTA project directors to ensure that federal and state guidelines were followed in planning and fulfilling projects. Although projects are statewide with no sub-awards, budget requests were required and submitted to the LSTA Coordinator. These budgets were reviewed by the ASL Executive Committee which recommended budgets for each LSTA project. Arkansas state government did not shut down during the first months of the pandemic. All offices remained open with those who could, working from home. Travel was non-existent and purchase requests slowed until mid-July. This project coordinated personnel services and purchasing for all LSTA projects during this reporting period.

LSTA: \$71,758

State Match: \$968,438

### ARKANSAS CENTER FOR THE BOOK

This year has been challenging for the Arkansas Center for the Book due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic especially impacted the Book Clubs and If All Arkansas Read the Same Book activities; as these are primarily in-person activities that needed to be reconfigured for virtual implementations. Many book clubs persevered with discussions over online platforms or with meetings in outdoor settings. The project's one book/community read activity, If All Arkansas Read the Same Book, adapted well to virtual presentations. In addition, speaker fees were reduced due to online rather than in-person speaker visits, and funds were redirected toward supporting reading in ways that maintained the project mission. Lessons learned from this fiscal year will be applied to activities through fiscal 2020, as pandemic restrictions continue; to sustain the Center's mission to stimulate public interest in the value of the written word and its continuing impact on society.

LSTA: \$52,115

State Match: \$83,145

### **ARKANSAS DIGITAL LIBRARY CONSORTIUM**

The Arkansas Digital Library Consortium (ADLC) was formed to facilitate the acquisition and use of digital content by pooling the buying power of Arkansas public libraries. In 2019, ADLC's open consortium had 32 members with 103 individual library branches.

One of the goals of the consortium was to focus on purchasing best-selling titles that were often too expensive for libraries to keep up with demand. Sharing these titles across library systems allowed the shared funds to address the most in-demand titles and the libraries to focus on titles for their unique communities. When most Arkansas libraries closed their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ADLC's collection in OverDrive was able to meet the rising demand for digital content.

LSTA: \$33,071

State Match: \$0

Other Match: \$577,338 (public libraries)

### **COLLECTION MANAGEMENT**

The Collection Management division used funds to acquire, process, catalog, and deliver resources for the State Library's digital and tangible collections. Collections maintained by the project include General Non-Fiction, Reference, Library Science, Patent & Trademark and the Arkansas Collections.

Bibliographic visibility of the materials was provided through the library's online catalog and OCLC WorldCat, and remote access to digital subscription resources via the library's website. These activities were supported through the maintenance and administration of the library's ILS, authentication service, cataloging platforms and website.

The COVID-19 pandemic had no significant impact on project activities or staff workflows. Along with the rest of state government, the library maintained full service levels and remained open to the public at all times throughout the reporting period. On occasion some staff members telecommuted for brief intervals, contingent on their ability to conduct work assignments remotely. Consequently there was no disruption to routine tasks nor any backlog of work created.

LSTA: \$161,908

State Match: \$239,248

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The Continuing Education Project supports professional development for the state's library workforce. Activities are designed to improve skills and knowledge and to foster leadership within the profession. The COVID-19 global pandemic significantly altered ASL's approach and delivery of Continuing Education activities. To support professional development in a virtual environment, ASL invested in AV gear and editing software to create video tutorials and training modules. A Zoom license was acquired to host synchronous training activities and a bundle of courses from Library Juice Academy was purchased. Although the delivery method is different, activities continue to support ASL's aim of advancing the delivery of library services statewide. ASL anticipates that many of the changes introduced in response to COVID-19 will come to be a permanent part of the Continuing Education Project.

LSTA: \$27,926

State Match: \$151,786

### **DIGITAL SERVICES**

The library fulfilled its legislative mandate to serve as the official State Documents Depository, State and Local Government Publications Clearinghouse, and the Regional Federal Depository Library for the state of Arkansas. Free government information was made accessible to citizens, libraries and government entities through this project.

State documents were collected from over 200 Arkansas entities. Tangible materials were permanently housed onsite, while digital documents were made accessible online. Tangible documents were distributed throughout a network of 14 state depository libraries through the Clearinghouse Program; shipments continued throughout the period of remote work. Shipments of tangible documents received through the FDLP were suspended for several months. Otherwise, the pandemic didn't adversely impact the project. All documents acquired were fully cataloged and made visible in the online catalog. Free public access was provided both onsite and virtually throughout the reporting period. Personnel worked to enhance electronic access, streamline internal workflows, and evaluate systems' effectiveness and sustainability.

LSTA: \$121,814

State Match: \$214,677

### **E-RATE & TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**

The E-Rate and technology support project assisted Arkansas public libraries with the acquisition of robust broadband internet access to support patron and staff technology use. The Manager of E-Rate Services worked to encourage participation, provide training, and directly assist libraries in the Universal Service program for Schools and Libraries, commonly known as "E-Rate." The project assisted libraries in applying for discounts on internet access and internal connections equipment to keep pace with current and emerging technologies. The E-Rate project was well-positioned to move to a virtual environment in response to COVID-19. All library applicants met deadlines and essential funding for broadband access and network equipment was committed to applicant libraries. The Manager of E-Rate Services joined the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors representing libraries in January 2020. A technology training project to be implemented in FY2020 was planned, and CARES Act funding became available for this project.

LSTA: \$15,150

State Match: \$131,509

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

This project provided information services to federal, state, local government agencies, businesses, libraries and general public despite the COVID-19 crisis. Utilizing staff rotation, PPE, social distancing, regular handwashing, and hand sanitizer, reference and inter-library loan services continued to be provided via telephone, fax, ASL web page, and in-person. The Arkansas State Library has been one of the very few libraries in the nation to remain open throughout the COVID-19 crisis. As the only U.S. Patent and Trademark Resource Center in Arkansas, patent and trademark assistance was routinely given to independent inventors and small business owners within the state. The reference staff frequently provided services to Arkansans who were unemployed or under-employed and persons who needed legal forms and/or state and federal government information, as well as helping answer a variety of questions from the general public. Inter-library loan service was provided to state employees for work-related requests, along with OCLC requests, and to small, rural libraries in Arkansas that do not have OCLC access.

LSTA: \$102,809

State Match: \$235,770

#### **IT MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT**

The Information Technology Management and Support project provided information technology infrastructure and services which are critical in delivery of our services and information to our staff, patrons, state employees, public libraries and citizens who use the Arkansas State Library resources provided by LSTA. This project worked with every LSTA funded project that is housed at the Arkansas State Library. During the pandemic the manager ensured that those working from home had a laptop and access to all files. Without this support, these projects would not have the resources or methods to reach the citizens in an effective way or be able to navigate the ever-changing world of information technology.

LSTA: \$143,824

State Match: \$145,506

#### **LIBRARY CONSULTING**

Through the Library Consulting project, the Arkansas State Library provides guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services throughout the state of Arkansas. In 2019, the Annual Public Library Survey activity proceeded as usual, but the General Consulting/Site Visits and Library Development Training activities altered in their content and focused heavily on supporting libraries adapt services and policies in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Much of the work that is done in the Library Consulting project transitioned from in-person to virtual. While significant changes in the Consulting project occurred in its format and content during 2019, the purpose of the project remains constant: to foster best practices in the library community and to develop community focused library services by increasing knowledge, confidence, and expertise in the state's library workforce.

LSTA: \$40,209

State Match: \$95,306

#### **LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED**

This project provided public library services to 2,430 Arkansans who are unable to use standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. This project includes Duplication on Demand audio books, magazines in audio, Braille materials and a quarterly large print newsletter sent via the United States Postal Service. Circulation via USPS allowed us to carry out regular circulation during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our Reader Advisor Librarians, who normally work by phone in the office, were provided with laptops equipped with a VPN so they could work from home on split shifts. Our ILS is web-based so we were able to continue safely assisting patrons while also forwarding our phones to our librarians at home. We continually pushed our Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) App via reference and reader's advisory calls and through our newsletter, but with our split shift schedule we had librarians in office to create and send out audio cartridges.

LSTA: \$144,431

State Match: \$266,914

#### **SUMMER READING PROGRAM**

The Arkansas State Library provided a statewide summer reading program through its membership in the Collaborative Summer Library Program. The State Library provided manuals in print, flash drive and digital access formats and purchased the full color print materials for the public libraries for use in their programs. In addition to the \$23,000 in LSTA funds spent by the State Library for materials, Arkansas public libraries spent over \$115,000 of local money on their Summer Reading programs. In 2020, public libraries faced a last minute need to change their Summer Reading Programs from live to online due to the social distancing restrictions of COVID-19. State Library staff offered weekly zoom sessions for library programmers from late spring through the end of the reporting year to help programmers connect, learn new skills and adapt Summer Reading.

LSTA: \$112,424

State Match: \$0

#### **TRAVELER STATEWIDE DATABASES**

The Traveler project provided statewide access to a collection of subscription digital resources for all Arkansas residents. Access to all Traveler digital resources was accessible from the Arkansas State Library's website. All public, school and academic libraries in the state could also register their IP addresses with the Arkansas State Library to enable institutional access, which allowed individual libraries the ability to seamlessly integrate Traveler's exceptional information resources with their own digital collections. Since the State Library used geolocation authentication, no additional login was required for remote access.

The COVID-19 pandemic required schoolteachers and college professors to restructure their lessons for remote instruction. The Traveler resources supported online and distance learning, and ensured that every student in the state had the same access to high quality research and learning materials.

The Arkansas State Library provided training, assistance, and supplemental resources for both technical and end users through webinars, workshops, and instructional materials.

LSTA: \$808,141

State Match: \$0

#### **YOUTH SERVICES**

The Youth Services project adapted projects formerly focused only on services for children from pre-school through age 12. The project expanded to services from birth through late teens. Library staff in positions in which they make choices for collection development, programs, policies and services were offered continuing education and professional development to improve their knowledge and applicable skills. The project provided its annual Youth Services Workshop in March and offered 27 weekly zoom sessions for programmers, 3 collaborative programmer workshops, a 2-part online workshop titled LBGTQ+ U, and provided committee members, nominations lists and program promotion for the Arkansas Student Choice Book Awards (Arkansas Diamond Primary Award, The Charlie May Simon Award, and the Arkansas Teen Book Award-levels 1 and 2).

LSTA: \$25,111

State Match: \$0