Library Information

Public Library Services Grant - Final Report

Final Report

Library & Grant Information

Library Name

Hastings Public Library

Address

227 East State Street

City

Hastings

Postal Code

49058-1817

Fiscal Agency Tax ID

836004562

Grant Amount

2,000.00

Confirmation

Please confirm the above information is correct.

If correct, enter yes. If not, please make corrections.

Yes

Budget, Activities, & Evaluation

Public Library Services Grant

Final Report

Budget, Activities & Evaluation Information

Total Amount Spent

2000.00

Activities

Describe briefly and concisely: a. what you purchased,
b. the amounts purchased,
c. for what audience,
d. what activities or programs you are doing with that audience.

ANSWER:
a. We purchased a wide variety of items that can be check out by patrons.
Some items can be checked out individually while others were grouped
together to form kits to be checked out. Some individual items purchased
include: a paper shredder, snowshoes, laser tag, a telescope, a borescope,
and metal detectors.

Each of the kits have individual themes such as mindfulness, birdwatching, learning first aid, senior fitness, microscopes, and travel games.
With these items we've created a 'Library of Things'. The goal of this is to expand services offered by the library and reach different demographics in our community.
b. With grant funding we were able to create 32 different kits or items that patrons can check out. Most of these were individual items although we did purchase multiple sets for laser tag, metal detectors, yoga, and snowshoes.
c. The audience varies greatly by kit. Some such as travel games, cooking kits, telescopes, would appeal to families or patrons of any age. Others are geared towards adults such as the home improvement/drill kit and the paper shredder. Generally, we tried to think of items that someone would need but not so often that they want to purchase their own. Or items one would need to start a new hobby, with this they can give it a try without the financial burden. While kits are geared for different ages, one must be 18 in order to check out a kit. This was done for liability reasons. We did include two 'in-house' kits which are available to patrons nine and up. One kit has the supplies to make friendship bracelets, the other includes duct tape projects.
d. We've used items from the Library of Things with programing; particularly STEAM programs and events. Items are showcased during special events for example, in March we will have indoor birdwatching. Birds will be hidden around the library and families can search for them. During this time, we will highlight our birdwatching kit.

Evaluation

Describe briefly and concisely:
a. the impact of these activities or programs to date.
b. Include the numbers from your evaluations using the IMLS questions - # of people evaluation given to, # of people who filled out the evaluation, #s of people who answered each option to the questions (refer to LSTA Grant Required Evaluation Survey Questions).
c. If you have any feedback from your community about the grant funded materials, please include that, such as anecdotes or comments.

ANSWER:
a. We've received great feedback since we launched the project. Many people have expressed surprise and delight that we have these kits available. As we hoped a wide variety of people have checked things out. From older adults to young people. Many people comment that after checking out a kit they are now more interested in what other kits are available.

The Library of Things was launched on August 23rd as of October 18th a total of 27 items have circulated, some multiple times. Check out length can vary from one to three weeks.

b. We gave out a total of 27 surveys, a total of 14 were returned. Each returned survey was fully completed.
I learned something by participating in this library activity:
Strongly Agree: 9
Agree:
Neutral: 2
Disagree: 1
Strongly Disagree: 1
N/A: 1

I am confident about using what I have learned
Strongly Agree: 8
Agree: 3
Neutral: 1
Disagree:
Strongly Disagree: 1
N/A: 1

I am likely to apply what I have learned
Strongly Agree: 7
Agree: 3
Neutral: 1
Disagree: 2
Strongly Disagree:
N/A: 1

I am more likely to participate in a similar library activity
Strongly Agree: 9
Agree: 3
Neutral:
Disagree:
Strongly Disagree: 2
N/A:

I am more likely to use other library services and resources
Strongly Agree: 10
Agree: 1
Neutral: 1
Disagree: 1
Strongly Disagree: 1
N/A:

Feedback- from comments section on surveys:
'We loved this! My kids learned so much and this sparked a renewed love of learning. They have been talking about the things they can look at and learn about next time we check out the microscope, and the other things they want to check out'

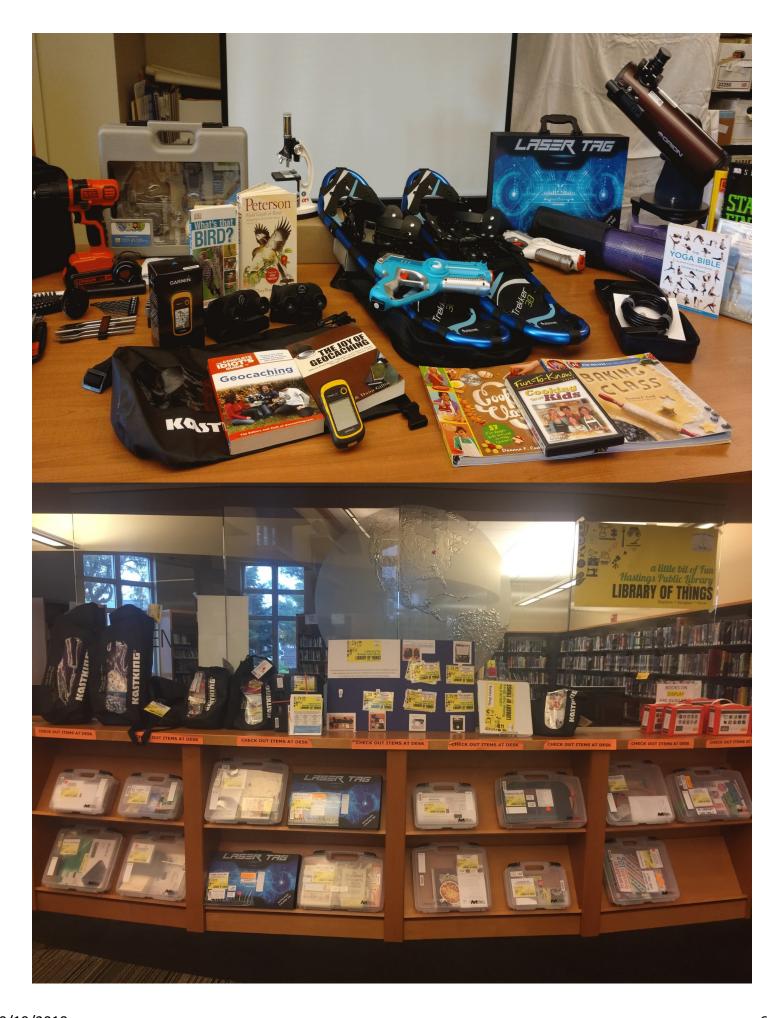'This is the most wonderful program I have ever heard of! Thank you!'

''Things' are a terrific community resource. Thank you to the idea person!'

'My children enjoyed bird watching and finding very much! Thank you!'

We are now working on a second round of 'Things' to add to our collection.

Thank you.

Hastings Public Library

Library of Things

User Survey

For all questions, use the following scale:

1. **Strongly Agree**
2. **Agree**
3. **Neutral**
4. **Disagree**
5. **Strongly Disagree**

1. I learned something by participating in this library activity.
   1   2   3   4   5

2. I am confident about using what I have learned.
   1   2   3   4   5

3. I am likely to apply what I have learned.
   1   2   3   4   5

4. I am more likely to participate in a similar library activity.
   1   2   3   4   5

5. I am more likely to use other library services and resources.
   1   2   3   4   5

6. Do you have any general comments or suggestions for Things to add to the library?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____