San Mateo County Libraries

Agenda Item IV. C.

To:	JPA Governing Board
From:	Anne-Marie Despain, Director of Library Services
	Raquel España, Development Manager
Date:	September 13, 2022
Meeting:	September 19, 2022
Re:	Grant and Fundraising Report for FY 2021-22

Background

On February 6, 2006, the JPA Governing Board authorized the Library Director to approve the acceptance of grants as stated in Article II of the Bylaws for the San Mateo County Library Joint Powers Authority (Library JPA). Article II states that the JPA shall, "Authorize the submission of applications for federal, state, local, and private grants and approve acceptance of such grants as are received, and allow for the delegation of this responsibility to the Library Director" and "Accept contributions, or authorize the Library Director to accept contributions, of money or property to the Library system and make appropriations in accordance with any limitations imposed by the contributors on the appropriate distribution and use of such gifts, and the Library JPA budget."

An annual report is provided to the Library JPA Operations Committee and Governing Board summarizing grants awarded during the fiscal year.

Discussion

Grant opportunities present themselves throughout the year and range from small grants designed to support activities at one library, to larger grants that support system-wide initiatives. While we actively seek grant support for existing and approved major initiatives, as a matter of practice, the organization does not apply for grants that establish new programs that will require ongoing funding requirements.

During the period of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, the Library JPA was awarded eight grants:

- $60,000 from the California State Library to provide local resources and build partnerships in the North Fair Oaks Community. This grant supported staff training and materials to help the community get access to the resources they needed including housing, food, and wellness.
- $50,400 from the California State Library to support the Big Lift Inspiring Summers families. The family literacy grant provided each family with a comprehension box, age-appropriate books for youth, and a parent/caregiver set of books.

- $40,064 from the California State Library to support ongoing adult literacy efforts. The literacy program recruits, trains, and supports literacy volunteers, providing learner-centered one-on-one or small group tutoring.
- $20,000 from the Office of Community Affairs of San Mateo County to provide ongoing and up to date information and outreach on Covid to designated communities. Increased outreach included blogs, website, social media, in-person programs and more.
- $10,000 from Pacific Library Partnership to provide 1,250 Take and Make Kits for school age youth. These kits were provided during the Summer Learning Challenge.
- $5,600 from the California State Library to enhance Lunch at the Library programs. This grant supported take home learning kits for sites in East Palo Alto, Half Moon Bay, Pescadero, and Colma during summer community meals in 2021.
- $5,000 from Raising A Reader. This in-kind grant provided 100 summer learning kits for Raising A Reader families.
- $250 and membership in Urban Library Council's learning cohort to enhance middle school learning with the creation of the Middle Scholars program.

The total grant revenue awarded in FY 21-22 was $191,314. For comparison, in FY 2020-21 we were awarded $241,283, and in FY 2019-20 we were awarded $406,900.

As outlined in the Library JPA Agreement, the Governing Board is authorized to form and appropriately associate with one or more nonprofit organizations devoted to developing additional resources and funds to enhance operations and support San Mateo County Libraries. San Mateo County Libraries is fortunate to have support from our ten Friends of the Library groups. In FY 2021-22, the Friends donated a total of $163,702 to support local programs and services. The Foundation for San Mateo County Libraries was established to complement the work of the Friends and focus on supporting systemwide initiatives and capital projects. In FY 2021-22, the Foundation donated $116,000 to support Big Lift Inspiring Summers, Raising A Reader, Equity Through Art program, and staff engagement.

In FY 2022-23, we are working with Friends and the Foundation to focus on and increase support for building projects in East Palo Alto, North Fair Oaks and Pacifica and makerspaces in Belmont, Foster City, Millbrae and San Carlos.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with accepting this report.

Recommendation

Recommend Library JPA Governing Board accept the Grant and Fundraising Report for FY 2021-22. Operations Committee members present for the September 13, 2022 meeting concurred with this recommendation.