



NATIVE AMERICAN LIBRARY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

Sample Application NAE-258776-OLS-25

Kaw Nation

Amount awarded by IMLS: \$139,414

The Kaw Nation will promote community access to the Kanza Library and Learning Center's many resources and services through increased staff, hours, and programming. The library will provide a parent/teacher resource section for the Shidler/Kaw City School District; an afterschool program and tutor will assist students with homework and career planning; and STEM activities will engage youth. Programs for adults and Elders include a Native Book Club, specialized events, and cultural workshops. Language classes will be taught in the Learning Center to increase tribal language literacy. Staff will continue to enhance and expand library services to include an outdoor learning center that is open year-round. The project will also provide support for staff to travel for training at professional conferences. The project will benefit the rural citizens of Kay County and surrounding communities.

Attached are the following components excerpted from the original application.

- Tribal Profile
- Narrative
- Schedule of completion

When preparing an application for the next deadline, be sure to follow the instructions in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the grant program to which you are applying.

KANZA LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Cultural Resources Mission Statement

We the Wind People, People of the South wind, trusting in our Creator to provide guidance, promote and sustain the culture and traditions of our people thorough preserving and learning from our history, telling the Kanza Story, protecting records and sacred sites, and valuing the teachings of our elders.

Service Area

The Service Area included in this proposal is inclusive of all Native Kaw Members nationwide, as well as the general population of Kay County; specifically focused on the rural, underserved communities of Kaw City and Shidler, OK. There are 3,864 Kanza Tribal Members nationwide. The Kanza Library and Learning Center receives approximately 1000 visitors per year; with additional attendees during the powwow and Eagle Watch. The local Kaw Nation service area encompasses all of Kay County including over 945 square miles.

History

The Kanza Library and Learning Center is the result of a dedicated group of people working to ensure that the culture of the Great Kaw Nation and of all Native American people are honored, preserved, and remembered. The 4,200 square foot Kanza Library and Learning Center opened its doors to the public on August 6th, 2010, and features a library, offices, meeting room with large projector screen and wireless projector with technology to allow for educational classes and conferences. Kanza Language classes are taught here and at another tribal location in Newkirk, OK. A computer access center is available for public use. The Kanza Library and Learning Center is also the home of a ½ mile paved walking trail and sits on land donated by the City of Kaw City. The walking trail features a StoryWalk and a percussion park. The basic elements of the Kanza Library and Learning Center are very much the same as any public library or learning center. We contain collections of material, are organized for use by the community, operate in a facility set aside for that purpose and are managed by personnel with specialized skills. The purpose of the Kaw Nation Library and Learning Center is to provide the following:

- **Recreational Reading** – Providing materials of popular and cultural interest to community members of all ages, including a children's area
- **Community Information Center** – Providing accurate and useful information for individuals and organizations
- **Community Activities Center** – Providing activities and services in cooperation with other community agencies and organization and serving as a meeting place for groups and classes
- **Independent Learning Center** – Providing materials and services to individuals to support their formal and informal educational and self-improvement interests
- **Research Center** – Providing specific information on selected subjects
- **Community Computer Access Center** – Providing free Internet access and computer usage to library patrons of all ages
- **Cultural Center** – Archiving and managing records for the Kaw Nation tribal government
- **Cultural Activity Center** – Providing activities that preserve the history and culture of Kaw Nation

Project Justification

Kaw Nation's tribal headquarters are located in Kaw City, rural Kay County, Oklahoma. The Kaw Nation's service area and tribal jurisdiction is comprised of Kay County; consisting of a total area of 987 square miles including 919 square miles of land and sixty-eight square miles of water. According to the 2020 census, the population of Kay County is roughly 43,700. Of these 43,700 residents more than 5,167 are of Native American descent. Kaw Nation boasts 3,868 tribal members across the United States with 774 living within the Kaw Nation Service Area of Kay County, OK. While there happens to be a mid-sized city located within Kay County, Ponca City (with a population of around 24,424), the majority of the Kaw Nation Service Area is farm and ranch land, dotted here and there with small rural towns.

In 2008, Kaw tribal members expressed a desire to have a library and learning center with long distance learning capabilities in Kaw City. This was brought to the attention of the Nation by tribal members at a community meeting. Tribal members stated that it is extremely hard to get children to a reliable learning facility, such as the Ponca City Library, time constraints and transportation being the biggest issue. One tribal member also stated, "When my older kids were in school, they had to borrow neighbors' computers to do research or type papers because I could not afford a computer or internet access. This would help my younger kids a lot." In 2009, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant Program, Kaw Nation completed the construction of the Kanza Library and Learning Center (KLLC) in Kaw City. Before the Library and Learning Center was built, a few bookshelves in the tribal Social Services Building were all the tribe had to serve as a library. Books could be checked out, but with no formal circulation system in place, checking out of books was by 'honor system' basis only. Kaw Nation has lost several books due to this fact, including some that cannot be replaced. The 4,200 square foot Kanza Library and Learning Center opened its doors to the public on August 6th, 2010, and features a library, offices, meeting room with large projector screen and wireless projector with technology to allow for educational classes and conferences. Library hours are Monday – Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and Saturdays from 9 am to noon. A Library Coordinator and assistant currently staff the library. The Library Director oversees all grant activities, events, reporting and oversees all procurement and budget administration for KLLC. The Kaw Nation Language Program is also staffed in this building and helps with library events by providing language classes through the learning center and other culturally appropriate lesson plans. The library staff maintains all aspects of the collection and offers a vast array of materials for library users.

The library has an active Basic grant as required through this funding opportunity and uses those funds to update library books and materials, hold storytelling events and provide minimal on-line continuing education opportunities for library support staff. In the last project period, we were able to purchase a popcorn machine and a snow cone machine for specialized activities, and this is also used as a treat or reading incentive for our young readers. The tribe purchases the popcorn and the ingredients for the snow cones when we have events and activities. This funding request will also broaden the training capabilities and allow the tribe to better serve tribal citizens through the addition of more extensive, professional training. These trainings will be both online and in person.

Since inception, the Kanza Library and Learning Center has become a strong community pillar to rural Kay County, OK and serves not only Kaw Tribal members, but all who live in and around our service area. The library provides numerous activities and resources for the community and tribal departments of the Kaw Nation. We promote education by providing book loan programs to area schools, we engage in lifelong learning opportunities by attempting to appeal to readers of all ages, and we focus on our tribal members by providing culturally enhanced reading and resource material. It is the response to citizen

participation, Tribal Council recommendations and our tribal goals and objectives that this funding request is comprised of. **(See attached Tribal Resolution 25-05)**

This funding will allow Kaw Nation to broaden its services, helping to increase membership and further engage the community. One of the main problems we face as a tribal library is that many community citizens do not realize that our library is open to the general public. This is a result of several factors with the main cause being that the library was closed to the public during the COVID pandemic. Once the library was opened we had a Library Coordinator that for a period of time believed that the library was only open to tribal members and as such did not welcome community participants. As the tribe realized the situation, a new Coordinator was brought in, and we have begun extensive efforts to become all-inclusive and welcoming to all community members – both in our service area and to neighboring communities. Shortly after our new Coordinator began her position, the library was once again closed to the public to undergo complete renovation with tribal ARPA funds. With this we removed all carpeting and replaced with flooring, painted all the rooms, added hands free doors and features within the restrooms and upgraded many of the libraries features. Although this has improved the library, it still appeared to the community that we were once again closed to the public, so we continue to publicize the library and create new programs and activities to revitalize our services and gain community engagement.

A recent assessment of our library revealed the need for updating community-based activities and resources. Many of the items listed above pertain to the changing needs of our rural community and were recommended to help increase membership and community engagement. This will be a two-year project that will improve library services provided by the Kaw Nation in a rural, underserved community. The community is limited on resources and opportunity; further the majority of those served are low to moderate income. Our library provides valuable resources to area schools, community members, those seeking to research, find work, and have a place to meet, communicate and gather. Within our small community there is no other place that children can gather or engage in specialized activities, there is no community center for youth/adults to access technology, the schools within our district are financially strapped and often have limited opportunity when it comes to reading current publications and are often behind the times in comparison to higher populated areas. Our goal with children and youth is to become a community cornerstone where families can have a place to congregate together to engage in family friendly activities and programs and as a result increase literacy and a love of reading and books. Our Library Coordinator will create a reward program through the Children's Book Club to engage youth and reward children for developing reading skills. We hope to improve library services, increase community participation, improve attitudes towards learning and even inspire youth towards the development of the field of library and information services with this funding by showing how fun library participation can be. We will partner with area schools, intertribal departments, local business, and community members to complete objectives of student resources in order to provide the best learning and education opportunities that we are able with our grant funds.

The target group is the rural citizens of Kay County, specifically those living within Kaw City, OK and Shilder, OK which are both a part of our tribal jurisdiction of Kay County, OK. Rural communities are great places to live for many, however, poverty and deprivation exist in rural places with crucial economic, geographic, and demographic factors, relating to distance, population sparsity, ageing, social isolation, and market structure that can significantly impact people's lives and whether or not they have access to critical opportunities found in urban areas. We feel that the addition of real-to-life related programs that are lacking in schools due to budget restraints and other economic downturn will help engage and teach

life skills to our community library patrons. Previous book clubs have been extremely popular for engaging community that normally have very little businesses or interaction opportunity besides the local convenience store. Kaw Nation works to engage directly with our population to enhance opportunity and learning capabilities to ensure fair access to public services, and actively engage in shaping the community in which we serve. However, the tribe is not immune to economic downturn and without valuable grant funding opportunities; we are limited in our ability to best serve the community. The tribe works extensively to improve the quality of life and provide the best services that we can within our service area, but there are always areas in which we can improve services. One of our personal tribal goals is to *“enhance the Kaw Nation by being dedicated to investing in the Tribe’s future, treating the family as a whole, promoting education and self-sufficiency from childhood on, and achieving coordination across all programs and services.”* The ultimate beneficiaries of this project will be the surrounding community and area students, as well as those who are underserved and impoverished. Our childcare development program is a great example of the utilization of resources the library provides. The children of the center engage in interactive storytelling events and participate in a library exchange program; the kids also attend the library throughout the summer session and enjoy all the benefits the library has to offer from the children’s room to checking out books and videos. Our relationship with the childcare center and the community allows us to let parents actively participate in their children’s reading. The inviting nature of our library provides a place where families can enjoy the space, and we can actively support literacy development. One of the areas that we can improve within this area is to better engage in early childhood learning. It is a known fact that children learn many of their social skills within their first five years of life. Infants and toddlers experience life more holistically than any other age group. Early childhood education will help guide our children along the path to being healthy, intelligent, productive, and cooperative individuals. We also want to make our library more accessible for mothers with small children. Having an inviting area where parents can read with their children will help instill a love of reading and a pattern of behavior that promotes learning without it being forced. The addition of a children’s audio section in our previous project period helped enhance reading skills with the ability to read along, promoting word recognition and helping the child to become a more independent reader. This is an area we plan to continue to expand upon to improve child learning opportunities. In addition, we will add specialized activities and events focused on child interaction including crafting projects that are culturally related and use Kanza language throughout the library to help enhance children’s understanding of tribal culture and language at an early age. We will partner with Brace Books in Ponca City, OK and other media resources to provide resource materials and engage in promotional opportunities to obtain local authors and storytellers for specialized events.

Previously the library and learning center was able to upgrade our technology resource area by purchasing new computers for use by library patrons enabling the library to continue engage the community by providing a community computer access center. The community is appreciative of this vital resource that helps in job searches, research, and learning of new skills, among other benefits. The library will continue to provide free internet access allowing many in this low-income population the opportunity to use the computer center to conduct business, engage in job searches, research, and many other useful assets the technology provides. Through this funding request, we will attempt to expand our services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats even further to promote lifelong learning, workforce development, digital literacy and support the communities/area schools need for education. Our Library Coordinator takes great interest in our local youth and the need to help them further their educational pursuits as supported through our afterschool program request. Sometimes, simply helping students become better organized or develop better study skills can be the difference in drop-out or future success, our children can be given to-do lists to remind

them of what they need to do and what materials they need to complete a task, making things less overwhelming, we can help organize notes and/or how to use those notes to help them study, playing a vital role in the learner's education by providing assistance with one needed area, or a variety, depending upon the students individual needs. We feel that this is one of the best things and specific areas that we can improve upon that will help our local children succeed in school. For outdoor learning and interaction, we have added a basketball goal, a fully paved walking trail and installed StoryWalk intermittently throughout the trail that features new stories each month. In addition, through ARPA funding a percussion park was also installed in several areas along the ½ mile paved walking trail. Before this trail there were no outdoor learning or health related parks or pathways in the town. These things can be accessed even when the library is closed to provide continued community engagement.

In addition to this, we wish to provide a parent/teacher resource section for the Shidler School District. This includes the students from Shidler and Kaw City who often do not have the current educational resources that many larger communities benefit from. This will provide the capability to become directly involved in our area schools and become a liaison between home and school with the final goal to help all parents participate more fully and effectively in their children's educational development, as well as to support our financially strapped school district and teachers in gaining knowledge and resources that they would otherwise not have access to. In the past, Kaw Nation has had multiple partnerships with our area school districts that help us to improve the services we provide and to help the schools deliver educational opportunities to area youth and the schools have been grateful for our contribution to the community. The principals and teachers are always very welcoming of our efforts and take an active role in working with our library services in order to determine what items best help them to promote learning. Through our combined efforts we are building more positive relationships between home and school, increasing literacy, as well as developing and maintaining needed supports within the community. In this proposal we are adding a much-needed afterschool program with tutoring.

The library serves many elderly patrons as well. These patrons enjoy multiple benefits that our library offers including a large print section and a computer access center. We have a walking trail, an outdoor reading area, a kindness rock garden and a photography club that was provided from previous programs. We have also featured specialized activities including Native cultural activities in the past that have been highly successful leading us to add this as a monthly activity for community members. Our library appreciates our senior population and attempts to offer services that reflect the wide interests of today's older adults. Our staff helps older patrons access the computer center and offers guidance in order to help them explore the world of technology including how to access the internet, set up email, conduct online banking and bill pay, as well as access online health information. With this funding we would like to expand services to elder patrons, as well as the community in general with addition of an elder outreach program that will provide books and crafts to be delivered monthly to our homebound elders and disabled patrons. Our book club's will feature current and popular reading materials for children and adults with an accompanying craft activity. Our goal is to promote community, health & wellness and to provide a safe haven for children, youth, adults, and elders of our rural community.

Our final area of focus surrounds our staff within the library and learning center. In order to best serve our community and tribal citizens we must maintain a professional and highly trained staff. Kaw Nation will commit our Library Director to attending orientations and trainings provided by IMLS, as well as working diligently to improve our scope of services through continuing education of our staff.

Project Work Plan

This project aligns with **IMLS's agency-level Goal 2: Strengthening Community Engagement Objective 2.2 Support Community collaboration and foster civic discourse. Through this the Kaw Nation will implement NAE Program Goal to develop, enhance, or disseminate practices, programs, models, tools, or library staff training to strengthen library and archival service for Native American Tribes. Objective 1: Serve the learning needs of the community and Objective 2: Improve community well-being. Within this request, we hope to achieve multiple objectives with the overall Goal of increasing membership, community participation, improve the well-being of community, and becoming inclusive to all and providing a professional and necessary resource within our rural community that can be utilized by all persons within our tribal service area.** Our main focus will involve various methods of educational programming including specialized programs for library patrons and community-based users related to Native culture through development, implementation, and evaluation of culturally based activities. Emphasis will be placed on the individual needs of our students and lifetime learners with appropriate teaching and creative facilitation approaches to curriculum development. To achieve these things, we will focus on the three following objectives and the activities listed below:

- **Promote/Champion Lifelong Learning** – Expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats to support needs for education, lifelong learning, workforce development and digital literacy.
 - Creating targeted activities to engage all members of the community through the creation of specialized book clubs and projects for adults/elders attending KLLC.
 - Provide a Native Book Club open to the public with guest authors, specialized events and cultural cooking classes, and opportunities to learn about Kanza history, culture, and language. Nonnatives show great interest in our tribal culture, and we hope to engage our entire community as a result.
 - Provide specialized Native cultural projects for tribal citizens including ribbon skirts, regalia, beadwork, concho belts, etc.
 - Become a Trusted Source of Information within our rural Tribal Community
 - Provide resource material, updated research, and information services, including providing community internet, early, digital, health, financial, media and other literacies to improve educational opportunities.
 - Provide Kanza Language Learning that includes a focus on infusion of language preservation, tribal history/culture, and current events. Offer language learning with specialized coloring pages featuring Kanza language. Continue to build capacity with native books that depict accurate history of tribal cultures including Oklahoma and other tribes across the nation.
 - Provide intern program that promotes library sciences and future librarian skillsets.
 - Partner with the Kanza Child Care Center to provide specialized activities and reading hours for the day care children twice monthly to increase literacy and cognitive skills.
 - Provide an afterschool program to assist with studies and educational needs of youth in order to improve performance of grades and increase graduation rates.
- **Build Capacity to Improve the Well-being of our Rural Community** – including children from birth to age 17 from families with low income as defined by the OMB – Expansion of Services to be inclusive of all children within the community and the local school district to provide hands-on and outdoor learning
 - Provide a Student Resource Section for the Shidler/Kaw City School District
 - Provide reading materials for students to engage in educational learning including providing weekly readers which are educational, and the students love, but the Shidler schools had to discontinue due to lack of funding.
 - Creating STEM/STEAM learning opportunities through craft-time, book clubs and projects for children/students attending library

- Provide quarterly seasonal activities in the learning center.
 - Provide a Children's Book Club with guest authors, storytelling, and cultural activities.
- Provide an Elder outreach program that delivers books and craft kits to elders/ disabled patrons that are homebound to increase interaction and resources that would not otherwise have.
- Provide a youth/elder garden along the walking trail for community consumption. The garden will be maintained by youth and elder mentors and will contain vegetables and foods relevant to tribal culture that will be taught to show traditional ways of food preparation.
- Provide a bi-monthly yoga class that will be for adults and tribal elders to promote healthy activities every two weeks a yoga class will be provided – a regular class one session and then the next will be chair yoga that is more friendly for elders and those who have trouble sitting on floor.
- Provide Training and Professional Development to enhance the skills of current library workforce and leadership to advance delivery of library and information services
 - Library staff will attend IMLS designated mandatory trainings/orientation and the ATALM Conference for enrichment learning and library expansion opportunities.
 - Library Coordinator will participate in online and in-person library enhancement trainings. Online trainings will be provided by ALA, and in-person trainings will involve mentoring through the Ponca City Library and neighboring tribal libraries.
 - Collaborating with other community/tribal libraries in the adoption of best practices and innovations. Identification of trends/social norms to help us make the best decisions towards community development and enhanced library services.
- **Increase Public Access** – Enhance and expand current library services to be inclusive and a community resource to increase membership and provide access to collections and content; promote library service policies that ensure access to information to all members of the community.
 - Enhance Coffee Nook/Community Resource Area – this is an area where tribal elders and community members will have an inviting area to read/research that is updated regularly with news media, magazines, and the latest best sellers. The tribe provides hot coffee and cocoa.
 - Provide outdoor learning and contribute to community health and fitness by providing StoryWalk that features interchangeable children's stories, tribal culture, and historical facts monthly. Continue to build capacity on and around the walking trail and percussion park.
 - Provide a monthly Movie Night with an outdoor movie screen with popcorn and snacks provided by the tribe. On inclement weather days the movies will be viewed in the library on our big screen TV. Family friendly and Native American movies will be selected.
 - Become a Trusted Space for community engagement and dialog.
 - Update policies and procedures to address access barriers to collections, programs, and library information.
 - Provide crafts and activity kits for library patrons to engage while visiting the library that are make and take.
 - Provide specialized crafts and activities with movies on Saturday mornings from 9 am – noon to increase public access for children/youth and those who are not able to attend during the regular hours during the week. In addition, provide an adult craft session once a month on the 2nd Wednesday after hours from 5-7:30 pm to increase public access.
 - Provide meeting space for Tribal Government Employee trainings, Committee Meetings and Cultural Activities
 - Language Classes will be taught in the Learning Center to increase tribal language literacy.
 - The Library Coordinator will provide Specialized Activities and Learning Opportunities.

The risks to the project will include the possibility of staff turnover, the chance of another pandemic, and the need to continue to gain public access and awareness. Risks will be mitigated by providing continuing education to our new Coordinator, and the knowledge that she has a strong background in child and youth education, and is ingrained in the community. We hope that the risk of another

pandemic is low and there is no valid reason we will have to close the library again after recent renovations. We have begun advertising and publishing our events and activities on Kaw Tribal Radio, on our own newly created Facebook page, our tribal website and within the tribal newsletter, at the city offices that provide a community newsletter, adding flyers to our tribal offices and enterprises, and we have rebuilt partnerships with our area schools, day cares, the senior center and through our tribal programs and have definitely noticed an uptick in patrons and participation. We believe as we continue forward with new programming and building community partnerships that this will continue to increase significantly.

This project will be managed by Kaw Nation Grants & Contracts Director Bernadette Hicks who has also served as the Library Director since 2010. Ms. Hicks has been with Kaw Nation since 2009, has her MBA with an emphasis in accounting and a minor in computer science and has worked on library projects since the library's inception. She is a permanently Certified Grant Writer® through American Grant Writers Association and Certified Grant Manager. She will work directly with the Library Coordinator and staff to execute all activities through this project and will be responsible for programmatic reporting. The Library Coordinator will be responsible for executing the activities of the project with the assistance of the Library Assistant. Ms. Faulkner is new to the tribe but has previous experience working with children and youth. She has done a great job in her short time helping to revitalize library services and creating a fun and new curriculum for our youth. Kaw Nation's Grant Compliance Specialist is Jennifer Jernigan, and she will provide financial reporting and oversight. Ms. Jernigan has been with Kaw Nation since early 2024, and since that time has had many specialized trainings regarding grants management and fiscal oversight. We will also engage our Language Department for cultural activities. General findings and lessons learned will be reported to the Kaw Nation Tribal Council and Chair, as well as the General Council of the Kaw Nation. In addition, we will share these things with IMLS project staff. **(Please see attached timeline, key project staff attachment and staff resumes)**

Project Results

By the end of this project period, we anticipate the ability to provide a more well-rounded approach to community engagement, increased membership and community involvement and a higher level of services to the community and school districts that we serve. We will see improved literacy, higher levels of professionalism from our staff and internal growth and development of youth through the afterschool and intern programs. As a result of our program upgrades through the accomplishment of the goals set forth within this proposal, we will have a stronger library services program and a better ability to serve the community. This program will build capacity to improve the well-being of our rural community, promote lifelong learning, and increase public access through enhancement and expansion of library services to be more engaging and increase membership. We will provide STEM/STEAM learning activities, specializing in children, youth, and adult activities. We will also target families in order increase family bonding and to provide life skill training and culturally specific classes that provide native history and language learning. The knowledge and capabilities of the target group will change as a result of our increased efforts to engage the community and provide much needed resources. The tangible products of this project will include not only the increased capacity to serve, but increased community participation, improved learning options for students, and a better understanding of tribal culture through the digital kiosk and daily language learning applications. To determine our success, we will provide impact and customer satisfaction surveys to library patrons pre- and post-funding to determine our areas of improvement and our strengths and weaknesses. We will use this information to provide continual improvement to our library and learning center- learning from the community that we serve

what their specific needs are and where we are helping to improve quality of life and literacy within our service area. While outcome-based measurement is a relatively new feature to our library, we will have the ability to grow from these measurements and define areas where we can better serve patrons. Our output and activity metrics will be inwardly focused to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of activities and programs and analyze program participation, satisfaction of activities, and cost effectiveness. In addition, we will attempt to use our customer satisfaction surveys to measure effectiveness from a patron point of view to determine what best serves the community and identify risk factors that impact the success of our initiatives and how we can mitigate those risks in the future. We will also continue to use sign-in logs to determine if we have increase in participation, as well as viewing actual membership status to see how many members are gained, retained and memberships utilized. We will review our circulation records on a quarterly basis to determine the number of materials being checked out and what the most popular areas of interest are. Another method will be to research with our local school district to inquire if reading habits have improved as a result of our interventions and we will ask that our Child Care development program report to us quarterly regarding early reading numbers and statistics.

Our Tribal Library Coordinator will use this information to evaluate our overall programs internally and report this information to our Tribal Chair and Council, who will then pass the information forward to the General Council. The Library Director and Coordinator will work with the Grants and Contracts staff to complete goals and objectives of this funding and ensure that staff follow the guidelines set forth in the OMB regarding allowable costs. The library maintains a Facebook page and a page on the tribes website where we upload a monthly calendar of activities and flyers for all specialized activities that are scheduled. These things are created through Canva that are professional and work well in communicating with the community to provide awareness and knowledge of tribal and library activities. Pictures of activities will be taken and published in the Tribal Newsletter disseminated to all tribal members and we will also take advantage of press release opportunities with local newspapers to increase knowledge and participation of our library services. Attendance logs will help determine project output, and impact can be determined with written responses and will be useful in continual improvement of library services. Ideas for future actions will also be able to be obtained from tribal and community input.

As a result of this funding, Kaw Nation is confident that we will be able to support program activities beyond this grant period through their initial establishment by IMLS funding. The items and programs established will ensure that we are able to provide a higher level of professional services and quality activities through the increase in institutional expertise and capacity building. This project will lead to systematic change within our organization through a continual improvement process resulting from customer satisfaction surveys and community input. We feel strongly that our library contributes in a meaningful way to the quality of life in our rural community and provides a safe place for patrons of all ages to enjoy the resources and materials that we offer. Because of the rural area that we live in, we want to enhance our services to better meet the needs of the community that we serve, to increase membership and to be a resource to the underserved population of students within our district. The Kaw Nation is thankful for this funding and appreciates the tremendous opportunity to become a valued community pillar as a result of funding through generosity of IMLS. Without this vital funding we could not provide the learning experiences for students and families or continue to develop our resource materials and collection allowing us to stay current and innovative with the changing needs of our community. **Kaw Nation will acknowledge funding support from IMLS in all publications and products that result from this funding. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to work with IMLS and provide quality services to our community and tribal members.**

KAW NATION 2023 IMLS NA/NH LIBRARY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT GRANT

Schedule of Completion

September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2027

Objectives: 1 - Promote Lifelong Learning 2 - Build Capacity to Improve the Wellbeing of Rural Community 3 - Increase Public Access

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