

## STATEWIDE REPORT #2

**State Project Code:** 2013-ABC-303

**Project Period:** July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

**State Goal:** Improving community access to library resources for the underserved

### INSTITUTION INFORMATION

1. Submitting Library: West Dakota State Library Agency
2. D-U-N-S® Number: 11-321-9876
3. Street or P.O. Box: 201 E. Maple Bacon St. Southwest Dakota, WD 60501-4235

### PROJECT DIRECTOR INFORMATION

4. Name of Project Director: Jennifer Jenkins
5. Email: [jjenkins@westdakotalibrary.org](mailto:jjenkins@westdakotalibrary.org)
6. Telephone + Ext.: (115) 937-6432 ext. 222
7. Fax: (115) 937-6411

### PROJECT INFORMATION

8. **Title:** Center for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
9. **Project Abstract:** The West Dakota Center for the Blind and Physically Handicapped provides access to materials for patrons who are otherwise unable to use standard print materials due to visual, physical or reading disability. Through a cooperative effort with the National Library Service, the State Library provided books and magazines in special audio cartridge and Braille formats. Patrons of the service receive their reading material in a digital audio cartridge format and a cartridge player free of charge through the mail. Although most of the materials are provided by the National Library Service, the Center does record items of local interest for their patrons.

#### 10. Project Results:

Based on the results of a telephone survey, a significant number reported that they would use the talking book service in the future. Of the 800 households surveyed, 462 responded to our 5-minute telephone survey.

Highlights include:

75% of users agreed that they found the information that met their needs.

85% of users agreed they would use the Center's services again.

65% of users agreed they would continue to use another library service.

- Number of individuals served: 5,728
- Number of institutions served: 822
- 1,575 public users registered for the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) service.
- By June 30, 1,576 patrons were using Braille and Audio Recording Download (BARD) with nearly 100,000 books and over 3,500 magazines downloaded.

	<b>Number of Libraries</b>
<b>Libraries by Type</b>	<b>No.</b>
School	215
Public	584
Hospitals/Nursing Homes	23

#### **11. Data Collection Methods**

Staff conducted a review of statistical reports provided by the National Library Service. An external evaluator conducted a telephone survey and will provide a final evaluation report by September 2014.

#### **12. Significant Lessons Learned**

A final evaluation report will be provided by September 2014.

#### **13. Other Observations**

The addition of BARD has increased the accessibility to a broader collection for those who have computers and access to a broadband Internet connection or have trusted friends or relatives who can do this for them. The State Library is currently assessing how to provide this particular service to those who cannot afford internet access at home.

#### **14. Keywords:** LBPH, talking books

#### **15. Project URL:** <http://gph.is/1N9t3ML>

#### **16. Actual Expenditures:**

	<b>LSTA</b>	<b>SLAA</b>	<b>Private</b>
<i>Salaries/Wages/Benefits</i>	95,700	50,000	
Description: LSTA Salaries (2 librarians @ part time; 1 employee @ full time). SLAA Salary (1 technician @ full time)			
<i>Consultant Fees</i>	40,000		
Description: 2 consultants contracted to conduct an evaluation of the program.			

<i>Travel</i>	15,000		
Description: Transport to and from public libraries, schools, and nursing homes/hospitals across the state.			
<i>Supplies/Materials</i>	5,000	5,000	
Description: Cost for printing of two sided 'mailing cards' used to ship the talking books			
<i>Equipment</i>			
Description:			
<i>Services</i>	100,000		
Description: Cost of recording and transcribing 572 books.			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>255,700</b>	<b>55,000</b>	

## 17. Project Activities

The Center for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulated and delivered 562,793 books in audio form to eligible readers by postage-free mail. About 572 cassette titles not available in digital format were identified, digitized, and cataloged.

Staff provided in-person and telephone reference services at the Center for Blind and Physically Handicapped. Approximately 750 reference interactions were recorded by June 30, 2014. Staff also visited 25 schools and 32 nursing homes in order to increase awareness of the Talking Book Service.

The Center's Digital Recording Studio supplements the State Library's audio book collection by producing materials about West Dakota/West Dakotan authors. The Studio makes copies of locally produced audio books for eligible West Dakota residents and the national network of libraries serving the blind and physically handicapped. In order to keep up with the increasing demand for digital books, the Studio is also responsible for duplicating additional copies of audio books produced by NLS.

Staff use a computerized digital recording system to set up new projects, mark up completed projects according to National Library Service (NLS) digital talking book (DTB) production standards, and convert in-process analog projects to digital files. A technician ensured that each project received the requisite number of quality control reviews and met all other NLS standards for the production of DTBs; ensured that each volunteer narrator/producer and reviewer received adequate training in the use of the digital recording software; and developed a PowerPoint presentation for the purpose of training Studio volunteers in the use of the digital recording system.

--end of Statewide Report 2--