

Memo

To: Darlene Staffeldt, Montana State Librarian

From: Christie Briggs, Supervisor, Montana Talking Book Library
Bob Cooper, Director, Statewide Statewide Library Resources

Date: September 18, 2009

Re: 2009 Trust Expenditure Requests

As the Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) and the National Library Service (NLS) prepare to move into a new and exciting digital service for our nearly 3,000 Montana patrons, there are several items identified for Trust expenditures. Budgetary constraints at both the state and federal levels play a prominent role in the need for these expenditures.

1) Supplement to NLS Digital Program Cost: up to \$25,000

The NLS is rationing the amount of digital players and the number of digital book copies on flash memory cartridges they produce during the first two to five years of digital implementation. This places a greater burden on our Talking Book Library to purchase supplemental digital materials to fill the shortage. In addition, a new cartridge duplication system is required at our expense.

2) NLS approved and accessible third party digital players Cost: up to \$1,900

MTBL staff will need to assist our patrons in the use of the new direct digital service: the NLS BARD program (Braille and Audio Recording Download). All MTBL employees require training in the operation of NLS approved and accessible third party digital players.

3) Volunteer Recognition Event Cost: up to \$2,500

MTBL is committed to its 100 volunteers who assist staff in making it possible for our library service to operate smoothly. Our Volunteer Program significantly enhances our ability to serve our patrons. As with any successful volunteer program, volunteer recognition is crucial to maintaining and recruiting volunteers. MTBL will use this

funding to host our Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon and provide our volunteers appropriate acknowledgement from MSL and MTBL of their tremendous contributions.

4) "Montana" print books for MTBL Recording Program Cost: up to \$1,000

Montana print books for the MTBL Recording Program are essential to an ongoing local digital recording program. We have not purchased print books since 2007 due to other priorities. We can no longer rely on volunteers to donate books to the recording program.

Total Requests:

Cost: Up to \$30,400