

To: MSL Commission  
From: Karen Strege  
Re: 2002 LSTA expenditures  
Date: January 29, 2002

At the December meeting, the Commission approved a preliminary budget for FY 2002 LSTA funds. That budget contained an unassigned \$100,775 and I advised you that the draft plan would guide our request for the allocation of this funding. The following is our proposal for these funds. The projects are listed underneath the corresponding issue from the Library Development Department's draft plan.

**Issue 4: Montana citizens do not know about the services offered by their community libraries.**

Information coordinator and campaign (explanation in attached memo) \$28,225

**Issue 1: Montana library staff and public library trustees have ongoing and continuous needs for training.**

Trustee training \$15,000

We plan to hire a trainer and to offer a workshop on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning in three cities during this fall. Costs include hiring a trainer and travel expenses.

**Issue 2: Some Montana citizens have inadequate library services because of declining or stagnant tax revenues.**

This project intends to encourage the development of county or district libraries. We believe that seeing successful libraries will influence librarians and trustees to promote changes in their communities. Our neighboring libraries, which serve similar communities, can offer us important information about different ways of structuring public libraries.

MSL will offer public librarians, trustees, and local officials the opportunity to visit successful county and district libraries in Idaho and Wyoming in May. Participants will travel either Missoula to board a bus to visit the Kootenai-Shoshone Area Libraries in Idaho, a successful district library or travel to Billings to board a bus to visit a county library in Northern Wyoming.

Costs \$12,000

Total request \$55,225

Remainder \$45,550

We recommend leaving the remainder unallocated until federal fiscal year 2003. In that year, we will have additional expenses, including funding the summer institute, which the Gates foundation is funding this year. We believe that it is wise to save this money for projects in the next year. The funds are in no danger of reversion.