



PLUMAS COUNTY LIBRARY RECEIVES NATIONAL GRANT FOR SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES

\$3,000 Grant Will Help the Library Work with Inmates and Families on Literacy Skills

[QUINCY, CA] –Plumas County Library has been selected as one of six libraries in California and one of 300 nationwide to participate in Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries, an initiative that helps library workers better serve their small and rural communities.

The competitive award comes with a \$3,000 grant that will help the library keep inmates of the county jail connected with their children by reading to them over recorded video through the program Families Read Together. Each family will receive five chosen books and a video of the guardian reading to their child, fostering both literacy and familial connection.

“We are so proud to be chosen for this amazing opportunity,” County Librarian Lindsay Fuchs said. “We want to bridge two of our existing goals with this program – literacy for inmate populations and early childhood literacy. We’re hopeful for what this program can do and become.”

As part of the grant, Plumas County Library staff will host a conversation with involved departments and community members about Families Read Together. Through this conversation, staff intends to make the library more accessible to inmates and families by discussing books, family, and the future of the family beyond jail.

In 2008, Plumas County Literacy launched Second Chance, a program designed to provide education services to adults incarcerated in the Plumas County Jail. Ultimately, the Library aims to expand current services to inmates and their families to improve educational opportunities for parents and guardians. These goals are informed by the understanding of the impact family involvement and early literacy skills can have in improving a child’s future.

If you are interested in becoming involved or taking part in the conversation, please contact Sharon McKay at (530) 283-6413 or quincyliteracy@countyofplumas.com for more information.

Since 2014, ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities Initiative has reimagined the role libraries play supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead the community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics’ and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

“Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).”