

Memo

To: Network Advisory Council

From: Tracy Cook, Amelea Kim, Colet Bartow, Pam Henley, and Suzanne Reymer

Date: April 12, 2022

Re: Explanations for budget requests from Consulting and Learning Arm

In addition to the normal operating and personal expenditures we have requested in the past, the statewide consultants, lifelong learning librarian, and continuing education coordinator are requesting the following items:

- \$15,000 to host a face-to-face Ready2Read Rendezvous in Lewistown in the Fall
- \$9,000 for a statewide subscription to United for Libraries
- \$5300 for access to OCLC's Webjunction

Description of the project with desired outcomes for Ready2Read Rendezvous

The Ready 2 Read Rendezvous is MSL's early-literacy focused conference that brings Montana librarians from all over the state together for a weekend of intensive, high-quality training with leading experts in the field. The Rendezvous seeks to:

- Provide high quality workshops and training for librarians who work with children and families across the state
- Increase librarian confidence in providing early childhood and early literacy focused training to their patrons
- Create opportunities for librarians to connect with their peers and share knowledge with each other in the library world

As a result of this training, participating librarians will:

- Apply the knowledge they learn with a self-designed project at their library
- Gain confidence in their knowledge of current early literacy/early childhood research, and how to share that knowledge with their patrons
- Look at their current work with a renewed lens of intentionality and purpose

Description of the project with desired outcomes for United for Libraries and Webjunction

United for Libraries and Webjunction provide access to quality online learning materials for library directors, staff, and boards. Both products have on demand webinars and live webinars focused on topics of interest to boards and library staff.

Library directors have indicated that United for Libraries is particularly valued by their board members. It is focused on the needs of library boards, friends, and foundations.

Webjunction has continued to see increased usage by library staff and directors. The course completion average per month for the last 8 months was 31. The most popular topics are collection development and technical services – an area where it can be challenging to earn continuing education credits for Montana State Library Certification.

As a result of having access to United for Libraries and Webjunction, participating librarians and board members will:

- Apply what they have learned to improve administration and delivery of library services
- Be able to meet the new public library standard of boards receiving at least 3 hours of training every year
- Be able to earn the credits they need for certification