

Appendix H

PROGRESS REPORT TO NEBRASKA STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES AND NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

March 7, 2002



Devra Dragos (NLC) with Battle Creek Public Library staff
LSTA grant provides only public access computers in community

How have LSTA grants made a difference in Nebraska libraries and communities?

- leveraging of local funds and other support
- IT initiation and development
 - public access computers
 - automated systems
 - Internet access for staff
 - Internet access for public
 - Networked computers
 - Computer labs (stationary and mobile networks)
 - Web site hosting (for library and community)
- expanded knowledge and skills for local library staff, local library customers, Regional Library System staff, and NLC staff
 - accessing information through databases, Internet, etc.
 - use of email and listservs for communication and reference
 - web site development

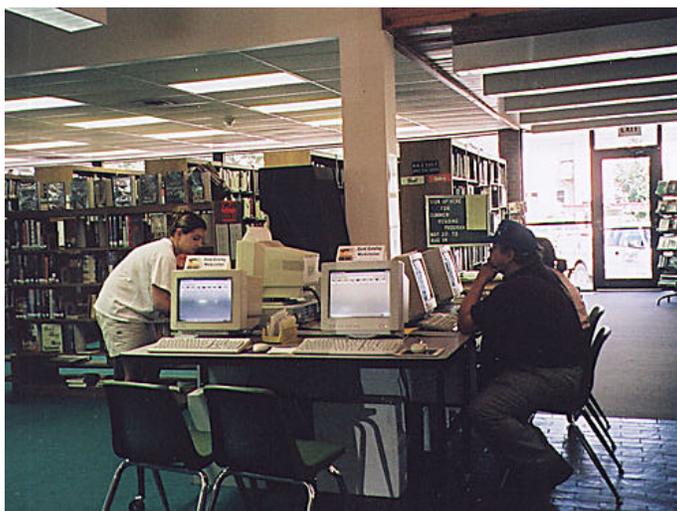
- online applications: E-rate, LSTA, NITC and other grants, Bibliostat™
- word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software
- ability to negotiate with ISP's and other vendors for IT products and services
- new or expanded leadership role for local library staff
- intra-local and inter-local collaborations among libraries and other entities
- narrowing of 'digital divide'
- increased use of libraries and new types of users

What are some of the issues relating to technology use in libraries?

- inadequate facilities – lack of space, poor wiring, need for better use of existing space
- difficulty in recruiting and retaining staff with IT knowledge and experience
- need for ongoing technology training
- need to build in ongoing funding for IT replacement as well as new technologies

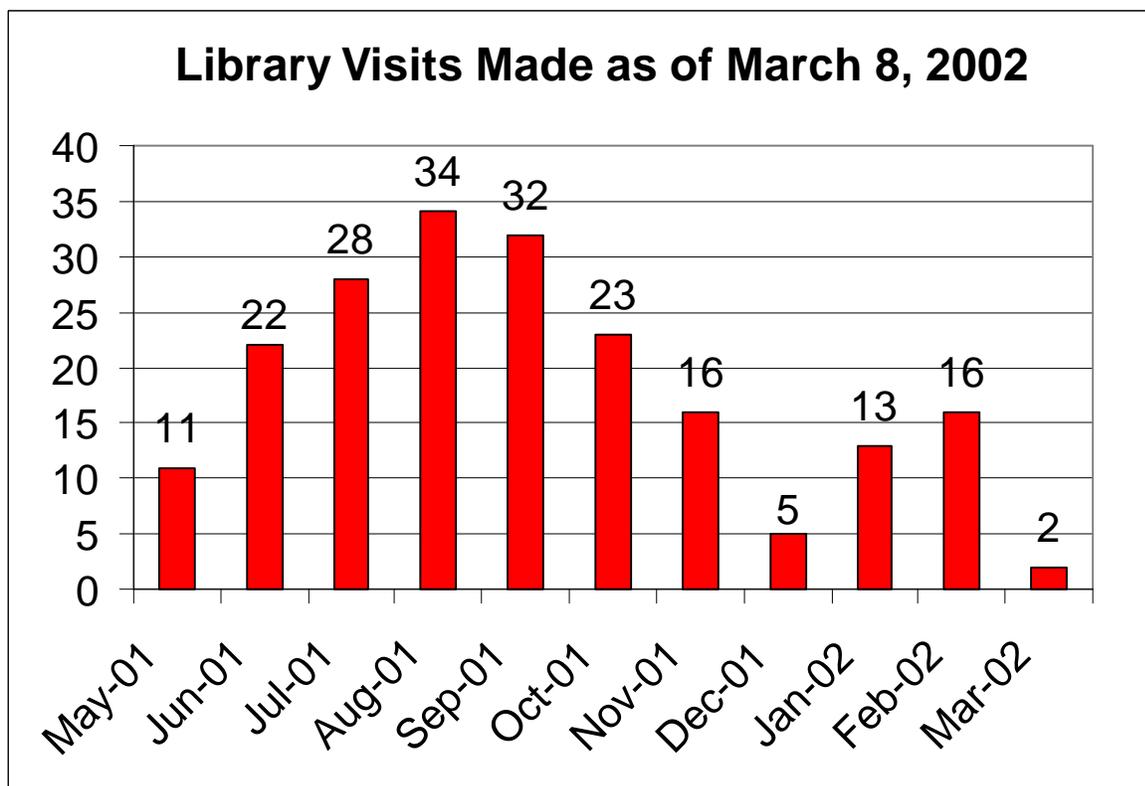
Next Steps:

- Complete library visits
- Analyze data from
 - 54 LSTA grant communities
 - 6 Regional Library Systems
 - Collaborative projects
 - One-Nebraska
 - Health and Human Services
- LSTA 5-year (1998-2002) Evaluation Report due April 30, 2002
- LSTA New 5-year (2003-2007) Long Range Plan due July 31, 2002



Blair Public Library – LSTA grant helps with Internet upgrade

Making a Difference @ your library™



Total Nebraska Public Libraries	273
Total accredited libraries (as of March 2002)	167
Visits completed as of March 8, 2002	202 (74%)
Remaining libraries to be visited	71
Visits scheduled March 11 through April 2002	5 (2%)
Visits to be scheduled	66 (24%)
Total LSTA communities to be visited	54
Completed LSTA visits	51

Making a Difference @ your library™ Web page:
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/mission/makingadifference.html>