

## Emily Deach

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**Subject:** Accessible Libraries Grant Award  
**Attachments:** Award Letter.pdf

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**From:** Rachel Dewan <R.Dewan@skagway.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023 4:40 PM  
**To:** Emily Deach <e.deach@skagway.org>; Brad Ryan <manager@skagway.org>  
**Cc:** Heather Rodig <h.rodig@skagway.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Accessible Libraries Grant Award

Hi Emily,

Thanks so much! For sure – attached is the award letter for this grant, entitled “Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities.” The grant (\$10,000 or \$20,000) is offered by the American Library Association (ALA) in partnership with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) in order to provide small and rural libraries with opportunities to increase the accessibility of facilities, services, and programs to better serve people with disabilities. I submitted an application for this grant in February 2023 with the hope that it might help to fund the installation of an automatic door at the front of the library. Currently, the heavy front door is difficult for visitors with physical disabilities, those who use mobility aids, caretakers with strollers, those with mobility challenges, and those entering with multiple small children. Today, April 19<sup>th</sup>, the ALA sent out the award notifications and informed the Skagway Public Library that our proposal was accepted and that we have been awarded a \$20,000 grant for this project!

Prior to the implementation of the project, grantees are required to first conduct community sessions where input can be gathered to ensure that the funded project aligns with local needs and to facilitate a community conversation about the improvement of the library’s accessibility. I hope to conduct such a session at the end of summer/early fall. Grant winners are then expected to use the funds to improve their libraries based on the needs of the community before May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, so I hope to have work on the door begin through the winter of 2023/2024.

When I was writing the application for this grant, Tyson Ames estimated that the cost for the automatic door materials and shipping them to Skagway would come to around \$15,000. Labor costs for Public Works staff was estimated at \$6,500, so although approximately \$5,000 of this would be covered by the remainder of the grant, about \$1,500 would need to be covered by a different funding source, which I could potentially work into the FY24 library budget.

I think that’s everything for now, but please let me know if you need anything else! I have lots of information from the application if you need any further details.

Many thanks,  
Rachel

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**Dr. Rachel Dewan**  
she/her/hers  
Library Director  
Skagway Public Library  
907-983-BOOK (2665)

*I acknowledge, with deep respect and gratitude, that I currently live on the traditional lands of the Tlingit peoples in Shgagwei, Alaska, and was born on the traditional lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples in Tkaronto, Canada. I thank these peoples for their stewardship of the land, and for the opportunity to live, work, and play alongside the many diverse peoples who call it home.*

## Rachel Dewan

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**From:** American Library Association <administrator@grantinterface.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023 9:47 AM  
**To:** Rachel Dewan  
**Subject:** [External Email] Grant Notification-- LTC Accessible Small and Rural Communities

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### [ATTENTION: This Email was received from outside the Municipality]

Dear Rachel:

Congratulations! The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office is pleased to inform you that Skagway Public Library has been selected to receive a *Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Accessible Small and Rural Communities* grant in the amount of \$20,000.00.

This was a very competitive process. We received many excellent proposals. You should be very proud of this accomplishment!

Below are a few important steps to get started.

#### **1. Fill Out the Grant Acceptance Form**

As a recipient of the LTC grant, you must complete and submit a Grant Acceptance Form by **May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, to confirm your library's participation. This is a short form that asks you to verify your acceptance and your address – we encourage you to complete it as soon as possible!

To access your Grant Acceptance Form, log in to [ALA's grant system](#) using the same email address and password you used to complete your application.

#### **2. Add Important Dates to Your Calendar**

A schedule of upcoming project dates is below.

- By May 5<sup>th</sup>: complete and submit your Grant Acceptance Form
- June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024:  
Grant implementation term
- By May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024: Spend grant funds
- June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Final report due

#### **3. Keep the News Quiet for Now, Please!**

We ask that you do not share news about your grant until after you receive notification of ALA's official announcement. At that time, ALA staff will email you with the "green light" to announce your grant. The [project website](#) will also be updated with:

- Materials that you may find helpful for sharing the news about your grant, such as a press release template, letter to your elected officials, and sample social media posts
- A link to the Facilitation Training e-course and access instructions
- A list of participating LTC: Accessible Small and Rural Communities
- A link to access the LTC: Accessible Small and Rural Communities discussion forum on ALA Connect
- Information about upcoming webinars for grantees

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kaileen McGourty ([kmcgourty@ala.org](mailto:kmcgourty@ala.org)).

Congratulations again on your successful application! We are very excited about the work you have planned for your library and community and look forward to collaborating with you in the days ahead.

Best,  
Samantha Oakley  
Deputy Director  
American Library Association, Public Programs Office