



# News Release

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## JOSEPHINE COMMUNITY LIBRARIES RECEIVES FIRST MAJOR GRANT

Grants Pass, February 7, 2008—Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. (JCLI) has been awarded its first major grant, from Zonta Club of Grants Pass. Zonta has chosen Josephine Community Libraries as the sole beneficiary of its Xtreme Dream Raffle, the proceeds of which will be used to purchase ten public-access computers once the library is open.

"Zonta's mission is to improve the status of women through service and advocacy," notes Carol Dickson, President of Zonta Club, Grants Pass, "and by supporting the four libraries we will be able to help a large number of women and children (and men, too!) throughout the entire county."

The ten computers will provide access to the library collection and will be for general public use. This will benefit all library patrons, especially those who do not otherwise have access to computer technology and the Internet, which help with school work, job skills development, and job searches.

Specifically, the grant request was for \$10,000 to purchase 10 computers equipped with the hardware and software appropriate for library use by the public. Library patrons would be able to use these computers to not only search for library books and other materials, but also to write letters and school papers, research the Internet, send e-mail, and so on. The extent to which Zonta can fund these computers depends on the success of the raffle, which Josephine Community Libraries will also help promote. Zonta will sell raffle tickets between May and July.

Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in September 2007, the mission of Josephine Community Libraries is to provide Josephine County residents with a public library system lasting for generations. In order to accomplish this, Josephine Community Libraries forecasts that it will need between \$600,000 to \$1 million worth of in-kind donations and monetary support. To raise this money, Josephine Community Libraries proposes to solicit memberships along a public broadcasting model. Its goal is to reopen Josephine County libraries by the end of 2008.

For more information, visit [www.josephinelibrary.org](http://www.josephinelibrary.org). Donations can be made payable to "RCC Foundation/Josephine Community Libraries" and sent to PO Box 1684, Grants Pass, OR, 97526.

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