

GREAT FUTURES START HERE!

Setting up libraries for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Thurston County

The Need:

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County provide safe places for youth to learn and grow. For various reasons, many members at the Club do not have access to the public libraries in their area.



The Solution:

Set up small branch libraries in two of the club branches to complement local libraries in the area, with the club members as stakeholders.



The Process: Club members as stakeholders

- Facilitate club members in deciding what THEY would want in a library
- Setup of library catalog and Integrated library system (ILS)
- Acquire Books and Library materials through donations from the club and partnerships
- Train staff and club members use of the ILS and the running of the library



As stakeholders, the club members select books and other materials, design the library space, and run the library.

Local librarians volunteer their time and expertise to support the library.



The Impact:



-Having a library that provides access to books that club members have a direct involvement in selecting promotes literacy

-Working in the library builds social and job skills, teaches responsibility, and supports the Boys and Girls Clubs mission of inspiring and enabling youth to realize their greatness.

The Future...

-Continue to find additional funding for different kinds of non-book library materials such as games, videos, etc.

-Establish libraries in other branches and explore the feasibility of a nation wide program