

# Individual Project Report

## El Cenizo Public Library Project

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### Project Description

1. Describe the project. What was done, when, and where did the project activities take place?

The El Cenizo Public Library Project was a project geared towards Basic Education and Literacy as well as Economic and Community Development as it served to assist the city of El Cenizo, Texas by purchasing or providing needed books, shelves, tables, computers and other related library items in the establishment of a library for the citizens and community of El Cenizo, Texas. The goal of providing these items in collaboration with the assistance of other Rotary Clubs, LULAC and the City of El Cenizo, Texas and other Webb County authorities in the remodeling of the building into a Library was to foster lifelong learning among the members of the El Cenizo, Texas community and surrounding areas. The books contributed serve children starting to learn and appreciate books to those seeking to improve their reading to even more experienced readers looking to expand their knowledge and learning experiences.

As part of this project, soon after receiving confirmation of the grant funds from the District, Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak notified the Mayor of El Cenizo, Texas, who ensured that the project would remain on schedule to complete by our grant Final Report deadline. We then participated in the ground breaking ceremony in August 2016, communicated continuously with the Mayor of El Cenizo, Texas as well as the contractor (SUMMUM Contractors, Inc.) on the progress. In February 2017, we visited the site to see how the project was coming also to coordinate when we would be able to deliver the books, shelves, tables and computers intended to be part of the Grant project. Our communications and meetings with the City of El Cenizo and the contractor continued through April 2017 when a date for the Grand Opening was determined by Mayor Raul Reyes of El Cenizo, Texas to be May 11, 2017.

The Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak proceeded to secure and purchase 387 books and book sets through Amazon.com in April and May. On May 8, 2017 all the books were labeled (at the office of the President of Laredo Daybreak) as being donated as part of the project. On May 10, 2017 the books were delivered to the El Cenizo Public Library site (with a few additional books delivered soon after and before the project deadline). On May 11, 2017, we participated in the Grand Opening in El Cenizo, Texas and 3 members of the Laredo Daybreak Rotary spoke about the Grant Project and importance of the El Cenizo Public Library to the community. On May 11, 2017, Univision Laredo (Spanish Television) and Pro8News (KGNS television) ran media stories. The Mayor of El Cenizo, Texas also posted a very lengthy Facebook post thanking all that participated.

The main objective of this project was to change and impact as many lives in our community for years to come. An education is not only gained within the walls of our schools but also in Libraries where you will find a vast array of books and educational tools to further educations. Our hope was to help the El Cenizo Public Library with the hope that we have contributed in some way to changing and impacting the lives of its citizens. Our hope goes beyond the physical books, shelves and other items contributed but is centered on providing more opportunities to expand learning and education, to allow for the gaining of more knowledge, to fulfill more dreams and to help foster more achievement and success in the future.

Overall we believe that through this project we as Rotarians have Flown High with Rotary and have Served Humanity.

**2. How many people benefited from this project?**

The approximately 3,307 residents of the city of El Cenizo, Texas, which lies 16 miles south of Laredo, Texas, in Webb County, Texas benefited from this project. Approximately 40% of the population of El Cenizo, Texas is below the age of 18 and providing them with the tools to expand their learning and education, to gain more knowledge, to fulfill more of their dreams and to achieve even greater success in the future is a very rewarding feeling and experience. Yet, while there presently are approximately 3,307 residents at this time, the number of people to benefit from this project is truly unmeasurable as our hope is that there is an exponential number that branch out from the 3,307 residents as the books donated range from the youngest of readers to the most experienced.

**3. Who were the beneficiaries, how were they impacted by this project, and what humanitarian need was met?**

The beneficiaries of this project were the approximate 3,307 residents of the city of El Cenizo, Texas, and hopefully an exponential number that branches out from them into many future years. The goal and mission of this project was to provide the needed support in order for the El Cenizo Public Library to change the lives of the children and citizens of El Cenizo, Texas. The books, furniture and computers provided will serve to enrich the lives of the residents of El Cenizo by fostering lifelong learning and will serve to ensure that every member of the community has access to a vast array of books, ideas and information. Our contributions toward this endeavor will help the children and citizens fulfill and achieve more in their personal gaining of knowledge and expanding their potential as contributing members of the community. We truly believe that this project and our contribution towards it will further the education and literacy of the community of El Cenizo and that of their economy and community develops and further prospers. The Mayor of El Cenizo expressed how our (Rotary) contribution made a difference in helping make the Library a reality. We met the Basic Education and Literacy as well as the Economic and Community Development needs of the residents of El Cenizo, Texas and in turn the surrounding community of Rio Bravo, Texas and further the Laredo Community where some of the residents attend school and where we will be able to see these residents become greater contributing members of the community.

**4. How many Rotarians participated in this project?**

Over the course of the entire project, approximately 16-25 members (some multiple times) of the Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak participated in different aspects of the project, including the grant writing, communications with the Mayor of El Cenizo, Texas, the ground breaking ceremony, monitoring the progress of the City of El Cenizo, Texas in their completion of the Library building remodeling, the book purchase on Amazon.com, the sorting of the books into categories by subjects and types, the labeling of the books as donations of the Laredo Daybreak Rotary Club project, the delivery of the books, the communications and purchase of tables and shelves through SUMMUM Contractors Inc., the follow up on the delivery of shelves and tables, communications with LULAC on the delivery of computers, and the Grand Opening of the El Cenizo Public Library. In addition, there were additional Rotarians that helped from the other local Laredo area clubs, including Laredo Rotary, Laredo Gateway Rotary, Laredo Next-Generation, Laredo Seven Flags, and also the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi, without whom we would not have been able to contribute as much as we did and been able to secure the grant funds from District 5930.

**5. What did they do? Please give at least two examples, not including financial support provided to the project.**

The Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak wrote the grant and sought the assistance of the fellow Rotary Clubs in Laredo as well as the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi. Then upon securing the grant, the Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak maintained communications with the Mayor of El Cenizo, Texas, participated in the ground breaking ceremony, monitored the progress of the City of El Cenizo, Texas in their completion of the Library building remodeling, and purchased the books on Amazon.com. Thereafter, upon receipt of the books, Laredo Daybreak sorted the books into categories by subjects and types, labeled the books as donations of the Laredo Daybreak

Rotary Club project, and delivered the books to the Library. We also communicated with and purchased tables and shelves through SUMMUM Contractors Inc. so that the style sought for the design could be met and followed up with the delivery of the shelves and tables purchased with the Grant and project funds. Also, we communicated with the LULAC President (who is also a Laredo Next Generation Rotarian) on the delivery of computers. Finally the Laredo Daybreak and other Laredo Rotary Rotarians attended the Grand Opening of the El Cenizo Public Library. Again, with the assistance of the other local Laredo area clubs, including Laredo Rotary, Laredo Gateway Rotary, Laredo Next-Generation, Laredo Seven Flags, and also the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi, we would not have been able to contribute as much as we did and been able to secure the grant funds from District 5930.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

The City of El Cenizo, Texas was the cooperating organization involved. They helped provide information vital to the grant writing process and vital to ensuring we provided them with the books, shelves and tables to help make the El Cenizo Public Library better and more complete. The City of El Cenizo, Texas was also instrumental in helping to keep the contractor of the remodeling project on schedule to ensure we could complete our project by the May 2017 deadline. The City of El Cenizo, Texas, as owners of the books, shelves and tables as well as the computers (contributed by LULAC as a cooperating organization) will secure the books and items as well as the proper use and care of the items. The City of El Cenizo has advised that they along with the Friends of the El Cenizo Library, Inc. (a non-profit organization) shall undertake the responsibility to ensure the safeguarding of the books donated by the Rotary Club of Laredo Daybreak by following small municipal library operational codes and will participate in the Small Library Management Program. Books will be checked out of the library to authorized library members and users. They will follow their protocol for maintaining the shelves, tables and donated computers as well.

Note on Invoices:

Attached are the Invoices (in Documents Tab) that list the items donated to the El Cenizo Public Library. The first 9 invoices are for the Amazon.com purchases of approximately 387 books and sets of books. There was a reimbursement to Person, Whitworth, Borchers & Morales, LLP who assisted on purchasing the books on Amazon.com through a credit card to then have a reimbursement check written. The other is the Invoice and payments to Summum Contractors, Inc. for the tables and shelves purchased.

Note on Pictures:

Attached is a file with the pictures of the ground breaking, monitoring of the building preparation and remodeling, the book labeling and sorting, the book delivery and shelve and table delivery monitoring and the Grand Opening of the El Cenizo Public Library.

## Financial Report

Date	Description	Funding Source	Amount	%
Jul 22, 2016	Grant Awarded	District Grant	\$4,000.00	46.32 %
May 09, 2017	Person Whitworth Borchers Morales LLP	Club/Other	\$132.37	1.53 %
Jun 30, 2016	Marisela Rangel, President Laredo Daybreak	Club/Other	\$250.00	2.90 %
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$8,635.07</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>%</b>
Jun 30, 2016	Laredo Seven Flags Rotary	Club/Other	\$250.00	2.90 %
Jun 30, 2016	Rotary Club of Corpus Christi	Club/Other	\$500.00	5.79 %
Jun 30, 2016	Laredo Gateway Rotary	Club/Other	\$500.00	5.79 %
Jun 30, 2016	The Laredo Rotary	Club/Other	\$500.00	5.79 %
Jun 30, 2016	Laredo Next Generation Rotary	Club/Other	\$500.00	5.79 %
Jun 30, 2016	Laredo Daybreak Rotary	Club/Other	\$2,002.70	23.19 %
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$8,635.07</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>

  

<b>Description</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Local Amount</b>	<b>Currency</b>	<b>Tax</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Amount</b>
3 Wood Shelves (different sizes)	Summum Contractors Inc.	\$2,483.00	USD	\$0.00	\$2,483.00	\$2,483.00
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$964.74	USD	\$72.99	\$1,037.73	\$1,037.73
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$697.79	USD	\$55.40	\$753.19	\$753.19
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$695.07	USD	\$55.44	\$750.51	\$750.51
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$690.24	USD	\$54.40	\$744.64	\$744.64
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$638.69	USD	\$46.98	\$685.67	\$685.67
50 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$563.05	USD	\$46.46	\$609.51	\$609.51
49 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$546.59	USD	\$42.67	\$589.26	\$589.26
3 Piece Work Table	Summum Contractors Inc.	\$428.00	USD	\$0.00	\$428.00	\$428.00
3 Piece Computer Table	Summum Contractors Inc.	\$335.00	USD	\$0.00	\$335.00	\$335.00
7 Book set	Amazon.com	\$122.28	USD	\$10.09	\$132.37	\$132.37
6 Books or sets	Amazon.com	\$79.62	USD	\$6.57	\$86.19	\$86.19
<b>Total:</b>					<b>\$8,635.07</b>	