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Jesse White Awards More Than \$464,000 Project Next Generation Grants
Funds Provide Technology and Mentors to Help At-Risk Youth

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White awarded \$464,469 in FY20 Project Next Generation (PNG) grants to 29 public libraries statewide. PNG is a mentoring program administered through Illinois public libraries. Project mentors work with middle and high school students to use various technologies, achieve success through project based learning and gain life skills such as effective communication, goal-setting and conflict resolution.

“I am committed to improving the lives of at-risk youth in Illinois,” said White. “I established this innovative program when I first became Secretary of State to give students an opportunity to receive hands-on experience with the latest technological tools through their local libraries.”

PNG grant recipients include the following public libraries:

- Alpha Park Public Library District (Bartonville): \$18,520
- Beardstown Houston Memorial Public Library: \$16,205
- Brimfield Public Library District: \$21,590
- Carbondale Public Library: \$20,534
- Centralia Regional Library District: \$10,000
- Chicago Public Library: \$40,000
- Chicago Heights Free Public Library: \$11,767
- Chicago Ridge Public Library: \$7,642
- Robert R. Jones Public Library District (Coal Valley): \$11,950
- Mississippi Valley Library District (Collinsville): \$19,264
- Decatur Public Library: \$14,900
- Elmwood Park Public Library: \$12,500
- Geneseo Public Library District: \$26,000
- Six Mile Regional Library District (Granite City): \$9,854
- Harrisburg Public Library District: \$7,711
- Joliet Public Library: \$31,941
- Kankakee Public Library: \$17,000
- LaSalle Public Library: \$15,000
- Marion Carnegie Library: \$14,350
- Matteson Area Public Library District: \$18,400
- Moline Public Library: \$10,800
- North Riverside Public Library District: \$10,926
- Oglesby Public Library District: \$11,472
- Peoria Public Library: \$12,500
- Lillie M. Evans Library District (Princeville): \$13,345
- Richton Park Public Library District: \$10,340
- Schaumburg Township District Library: \$23,458
- Sparta Public Library: \$12,500
- Thornton Public Library: \$14,000

Projects were awarded grants from the Illinois State Library using federal Library Services and Technology Act funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. For more information, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/png.html>.

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