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Press Release

Jasper Public Library Awarded CAP Grant from Texas State Library

Jasper Public Librarian, Denise Milton, is proud to announce an award of \$9,933 to Jasper Public Library from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's Community Advancement Packages (CAP) Grant Program.

Community Advancement Packages (CAP) are designed to help libraries respond directly to identified community needs through the purchase of items that will support and advance community development through library programming and services. Each \$5,000 Community Advancement Package is designed to include eligible items that will assist libraries as they expand community services in specifically targeted areas.

Denise Milton chose to apply for the Inclusive Library Collection Package for \$4,932.62. This package included print and audio-visual resources that provide access to information on topics of accessibility, equity, diversity, inclusion, social justice, anti-racism, and environmental sustainability. African American biographies were selected for children when it came to light that Jasper Public Library only held 47 titles out 143 titles listed for a fourth-grade project assigned from Jasper Independent School District. The materials selected will meet the needs of underrepresented community members, promote healthy and inclusive communities and spaces, and bring awareness to minoritized groups. Titles from the Texas Library Association's 2022 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List were also included and cover a diverse age from Kindergarten to adults with a focus on books about women. Finally, titles were drawn from Texas Library Association's Lariat List which include outstanding fiction titles for adults.

The second \$4,999.91 grant was for the Collection Development Supplies Package. Items included in this package are general library cataloging supplies, carts and rolling displays, book trucks, hand trucks, carts, and dollies. These items will be used to highlight and promote the 236 authoritative titles from the Library Collection package. These supplies will enhance the capability of processing these materials quickly and make them available for use in a timely fashion to our end user, Jasper Public Library's finest patrons!