



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

Duke Doblick, Director of Fundraising
610-833-6411

DoblickD@literacyaccessfund.org

www.literacyaccessfund.org

**LITERACY ACCESS FUND ANNOUNCES 2019 GRANT AWARD
TO THE BURLINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM FOUNDATION**

CHESTER, PA - Literacy Access Fund, a 501(c)(3), public charity, announces a grant award of \$7,500 to the Burlington County Library System Foundation (BCLSF) in Westampton, Burlington County, New Jersey. Literacy Access Fund secures funding from corporate, foundation, and individual partners in order to provide financial support to underfunded public libraries through a competitive granting process. The goal of the organization is to help libraries provide equal access to quality resources for young learners, regardless of economic factors.

The award was made possible through partnership funding from Republic Bank, headquartered in Philadelphia, PA. The grant will help fund the acquisition of state-of-the-art technology for young children and other library resources.

BCLSF President Jessica Siragusa expressed the Foundation's gratitude to Literacy Access Fund. "We're thrilled to accept this award that will be used to enhance the library system's technology offerings to children," she said. "Thanks to the generosity of Literacy Access Fund, we will be able to purchase a new AWE Platinum computer designed for 21st century digital learning as well as a suite of coding robots that offer hands-on digital literacy learning programs."

Burlington County Library System Director Ranjna Das noted the funding will help BCLS continue to provide library programs and services to meet state and federal STEAM curriculums for pre-K and elementary school students. "We appreciate the support that will help BCLS meet its goals of expanding technology and STEAM offerings to a diverse population of young learners," she said.

Deborah B. Sorgi, Ed.D., Chair, Director & President of Literacy Access Fund, shared her thoughts. "Literacy Access Fund is pleased to support the Burlington County Library System Foundation's efforts on behalf of the libraries in Burlington County. Helping add new technology designed for 21st century digital learning in the libraries will allow families to have free access to technology that they might not otherwise have." Dr. Sorgi also noted, "We continue to identify and support deserving public libraries to help their littlest members read and succeed in school and life."

For more information about Literacy Access Fund, visit <http://www.literacyaccessfund.org/> or call 610-833-6411.

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About the Burlington County Library System Foundation

The mission of the Burlington County Library System Foundation (BCLSF) is to seek private financial support to shape libraries as a fundamental community resource for now and future generations. The BCLSF is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that supports the libraries within the Burlington County Library System (BCLS), which is comprised of 15 locations and enriches lives by providing opportunities for learning, growth, and personal development.

About Literacy Access Fund

The mission of Literacy Access Fund is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community. The organization supports the public library as a community learning hub and a vital extension of the classroom and awards grants to underfunded public libraries to increase equal access to early literacy skills for young learners. Literacy Access Fund is headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, with the ability to support public libraries across the United States.

LITERACY ACCESS FUND®



Pictured, left to right: Ranjna Das, Director, Burlington County Library System; Pedro Figueroa, Assistant Vice President, Store Manager, Republic Bank, Lumberton, NJ; Leslie DiLuigi, Senior Vice President, Retail Market Manager, Republic Bank; Jessica Siragusa, President, Burlington County Library System Foundation; Duke Doblick, CFRE, Director of Fundraising, Literacy Access Fund.