

A Celebration of The Rotary Foundation Centennial

The Rotary Club of Estes Park is requesting a District 5440 Matching Grant in support of a project to Improve Our Community.

Beginning this 2016 year, the Estes Valley Library is focusing on a new initiative, *“Welcome to the USA: Services for New Americans”* with the stated mission, *“New immigrants will have information on citizenship, English Language Learning (ELL), employment, public schooling, health and safety, available social services, and any other topics that they need to participate successfully in American life.”* As nearly 30% of elementary school aged children in the Estes Public Schools come from Spanish-speaking immigrant families (not including speakers of other languages), many of whom provide needed services that support our tourist industry, our Estes Valley community recognized the need for these particular services and asked that they be provided as part of our Estes Valley Library offerings.

Currently, the Estes Valley Library is engaged in the following:

- 1) One-on-One tutoring using the Interactive English program designed by Intercambio of Boulder. This program matches a tutor with a student who then meet at a time and place convenient to both. (See attached brochure.) Currently we have 23 tutors and 27 students (some tutors work with more than one student). These tutors spend about 3 hours weekly with students.
- 2) An English Conversation Café which gives English language learners the opportunity to converse. This is a less structured program that occurs one hour per week.

Beginning in January, 2017, the Estes Valley Library will also offer citizenship classes that will meet on a weekly basis through April. These classes will focus on important civics learning including the information needed to pass the Citizenship exam as well as on English language learning as one needs to have an adequate command of English to pass the exam and become a citizen. Therefore, we want to be certain that students taking this class also have the opportunity to participate in the One-on-One tutoring program for more thorough English language support. For these programs to succeed, we would like each student to have available to him/her:

- 1) **Voices of Freedom**, the textbook they will use in their citizenship class. **\$27.99**
- 2) **Interactive English**, the workbook they will use at their appropriate level (depending on results of a placement test).
 - a. **12 book series, average 3 per student at \$10 each.**
- 3) **Oxford Picture Dictionary** which will provide an excellent reference tool for their civics and English learning. **\$18.46**

Total cost per student: \$76.45

A resulting award of \$1,500 would provide funds for purchase of 19 sets of materials for participating adult students.

These requested monies, like all philanthropic support for the library, will be received and held by the Estes Valley Library Friends and Foundation, an IRC 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. The library will purchase the materials, and the Friends and Foundation will reimburse them from these funds.