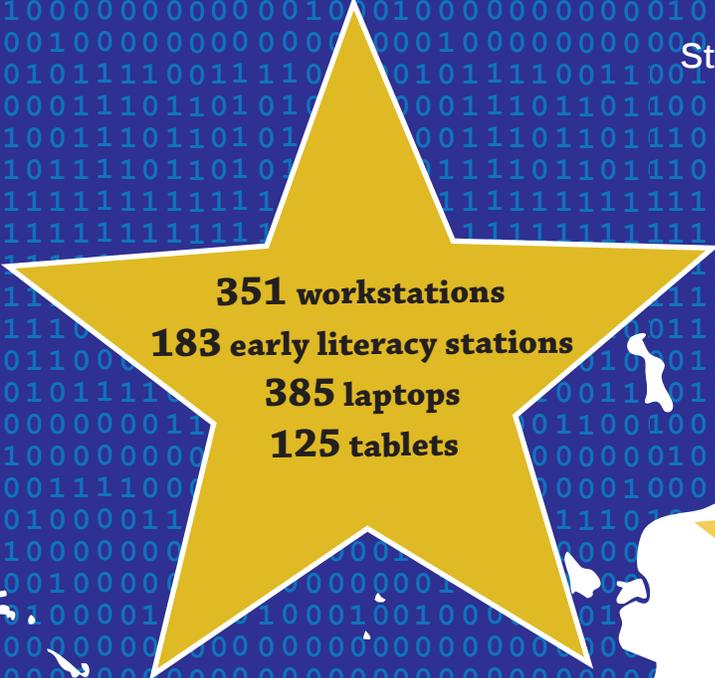




OWL Connects Alaskans

Alaska OWL (Online With Libraries) provides broadband support, equipment, training, and Internet technology assistance to Alaska public libraries.

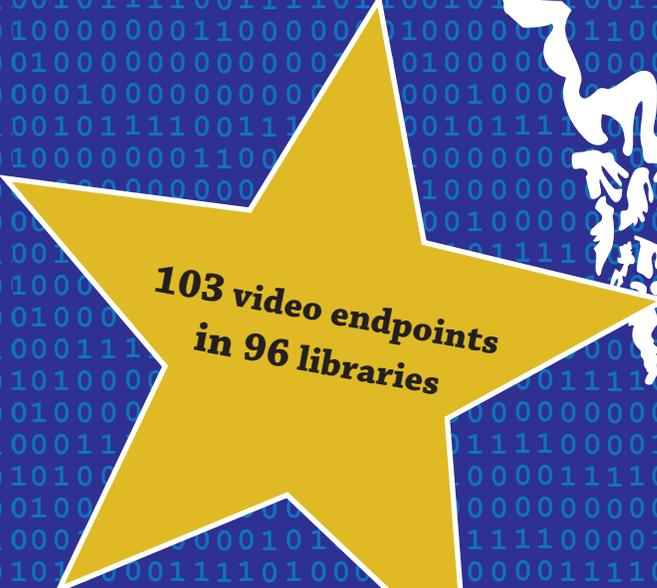
Grant Project **2011-2014**
State Program **2013** and beyond



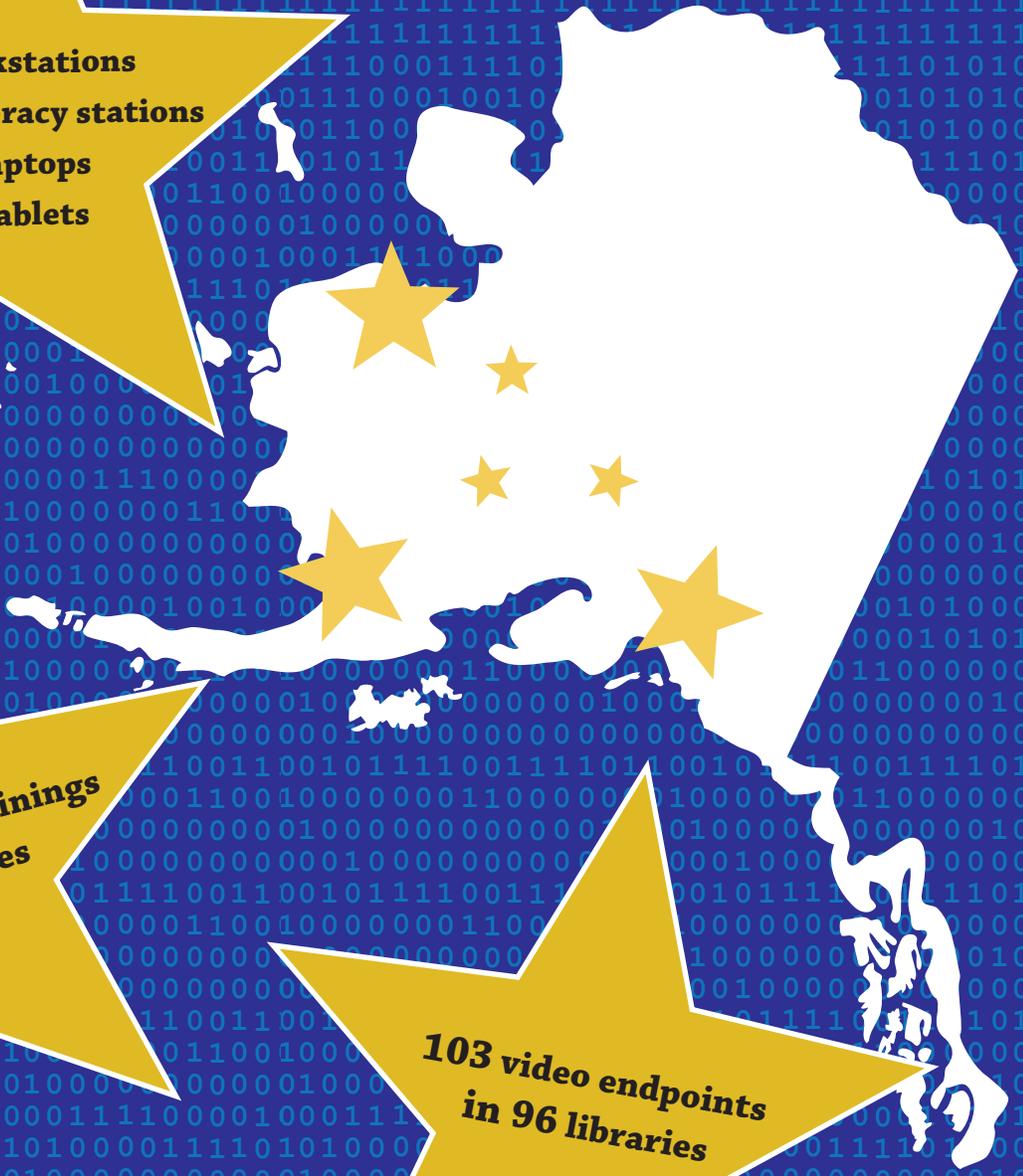
351 workstations
183 early literacy stations
385 laptops
125 tablets



74 library staff trainings
1,742 trainees



103 video endpoints
in 96 libraries





OWL Libraries

- Akiachak Community School Library
- Akiak Community School Library
- Alaska State Library (Anchorage and Juneau)
- Anaktuvuk Pass Community School Library
- Anchorage Public Library (5 branches)
- Anchor Point Public Library
- Aniak Public Library
- Anvik (Blackwell School Community Library)
- Atqasuk (Meade River School Community Library)
- Barrow (Tuzzy Consortium Library)
- Bethel (Kuskokwim Consortium Library)
- Big Lake Public Library
- Chiniak Public Library
- Coffman Cove Community Library
- Cold Bay Public Library
- Cooper Landing Community Library
- Cordova Public Library
- Craig Public Library
- Delta Junction (Delta Community Library)
- Dillingham Public/School Library
- Eagle Public Library
- Egegik Village Library
- Fairbanks Public Library (2 branches)
- Galena (Charles Evans School Community Library)
- Glennallen (Copper Valley Community Library)
- Grayling (David Lewis Memorial School Library)
- Gustavus Public Library
- Haines Borough Public Library
- Healy (Tri-Valley Community Library)
- Hollis Public Library
- Holy Cross School/Community Library
- Homer Public Library
- Hoonah (Ester Greenwald School Community Library)
- Hyder Public Library
- Igiugig Tribal Library
- Juneau Public Libraries (3 branches)
- Kaktovik (Harold Kaveolook School Community Library)
- Kasilof Public Library
- Kenai Community Library
- Kenny Lake Public Library

"I am enrolled in an academic program at UAF. The program is related to my field of work, but I am participating on my own time, at my own expense. OWL at the State Library has been instrumental in my being able to meet the challenge of continuing my education while working full-time as a state employee. Without OWL ... , I am not certain I could continue."

Juneau

Many of our library patrons do not have Internet service at home and depend solely on the library for technical resources. Technology is so important in communities like ours where there is no cell phone service and communication is dependent on landlines.

Coffman Cove

"Just yesterday afternoon I got a call someone was meeting a foster child on today's flight. The arriving child has type 1 diabetes and they needed to be instructed on how to use ... an insulin pump. The technician needed to demonstrate to them how to use the pump. Amazingly, SEARHC hospital here in Sitka has been videoconferencing with outer lying clinics for years, but apparently, the system can't be used unless it's by a doc. So, they knew to call us and [OWL Video Services] worked its magic, contacting the technician and doctor, testing the equipment and then even extending it as they were not finished with the training. In this case, it was literally a lifesaver. Hooray for OWL."

Sitka

"The addition of this service to an area with no roads only makes sense as the price of air travel continues to increase. The foresight shown by the Alaska State Library in providing this program is to be applauded."

Barrow

Left: Sen. Begich in Wrangell storytime
Right: An OWL guest star at the Haines OWL Launch





Alaska OWL provided public libraries with office software suites, accessibility software, and other licensed software as well as switches, wireless routers, wiring, and furniture.

"... I was given the responsibility for obtaining a venue for the Alaska Humanities Forum board of directors meeting... We have board members from all over the state and the expense of bringing them all to one spot for a four-hour meeting would have been in excess of \$16,000. Fortunately I found out about the state library's video conferencing system. With non-profit budgets shrinking locally and nationally, services like these are extremely valuable, helping us shrink necessary administrative costs and directing more of our dollars to providing services."

Anchorage



Unalaska youth learn of career opportunities through a skilled trades apprenticeship.



- Ketchikan Public Library
- Klukwan Community School Library
- Kodiak Public Library
- Kotzebue (Chukchi Consortium Library)
- Koyuk Public Library
- Lake Minchumina Community School Library
- McGrath Community School Library
- Metlakatla Centennial Library
- Moose Pass Public Library
- Naknek (Martin Monsen Regional Library)
- Nenana Public Library
- Nikolai Community/School Library
- Ninilchik Community Library
- Nome (Kegoayah Kozga Public Library)
- Nuiqsut Trapper School Community Library
- Ouzinkie Tribal Media Center
- Palmer Public Library
- Pelican Public Library
- Petersburg Public Library
- Point Hope (Tikigaq Community School Library)
- Point Lay (Kali School/Community Library)
- Port Lions (Jesse Wakefield Memorial Library)
- Sand Point School/Community Library
- Scammon Bay Public Library
- Selawick School Community Library
- Seldovia Public Library
- Seward Community Library Museum
- Shageluk (Innokko River School Community Library)
- Sitka (Kattleson Memorial Library)
- Skagway Public Library
- Soldotna Public Library
- South Naknek Branch Library
- St. George (Island) School/Community Library
- St. Paul (Island) School/Community Library
- Sutton Public Library
- Talkeetna Public Library
- Tanana Community School Library
- Tenakee Springs (Dermott O'Toole Memorial Library)
- Thorne Bay Public Library
- Togiak Public Library
- Tok Community Library
- Trapper Creek Public Library
- Tuluksak School/Community Library
- Unalaska Public Library
- Valdez Consortium Library
- Wainwright (Alak Community School Library)
- Wasilla Public Library
- Whale Pass Community Library
- Willow Public Library
- Wrangell (Irene Ingle Public Library)

Some Topics and Tours via Videoconferencing

Local History
Country Music Hall of Fame
Early Childhood Library Practices
Royal Terrell Museum of Paleontology
Designer Drug Awareness
Student Government Meetings
Alaska Native Culture and History
Writers' Organizations Meetings
Library of Congress
High School Classes
Small Business Practices
Great Barrier Reef
Food Handler Training
Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
NASA Health Insurance Applications

Job Interviews
Statewide Shakespeare Readings
Internet Safety

Children's Programs
Genealogy
US and World History
Personal Finance
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Intragovernmental Meetings
Child Protective Services Consultations
Emergency Preparedness
University Classes
Nonprofit Board Meetings
Author Visits
Language Classes
Art History
Smithsonian
Water Safety

AMERICA'S BROADBAND PLAN

"Broadband is the great infrastructure challenge of the early 21st century."

ALASKA'S BROADBAND TASK FORCE PLAN

"As broadband becomes a part of the basic infrastructure of modern life, it is crucial that Alaska's libraries have access to affordable and high speed Internet connections. Libraries are key institutions in the efforts to erase the digital divide and ensure that all Alaskans experience the benefits of broadband connectivity."

"Public libraries are often the only provider of free Internet access in a community. According to a recent study 41% of urban areas and 70 percent of rural areas in the U.S. are dependent on such access."

"I want to say thank you to OWL for broadband as 180 BLM firefighters and personnel were in our community and about 10 used our library computers plus their own [for 3 weeks] round the clock, printing out maps, etc. [They] saved our community from burning up in the Beaver Log Lake forest fire. The Lake Minchumina Library was the hub of communication and has the only broadband available in a geographic area the size of the state of Ohio."

Lake Minchumina

"Our attendance in the library has skyrocketed since OWL has been providing us with expanded computing capabilities. There's no more waiting to fill out job applications, or tax forms, or to do employment searches. Our library is very small and in a very small community. We know everyone that comes to the library. So when someone comes in to fill out a job application, we know them and know their situation. When they get a job using one of the library computers, it's very exciting and validates what we do here."

Kotzebue

Alaska OWL Motto:

To each community, its own solution



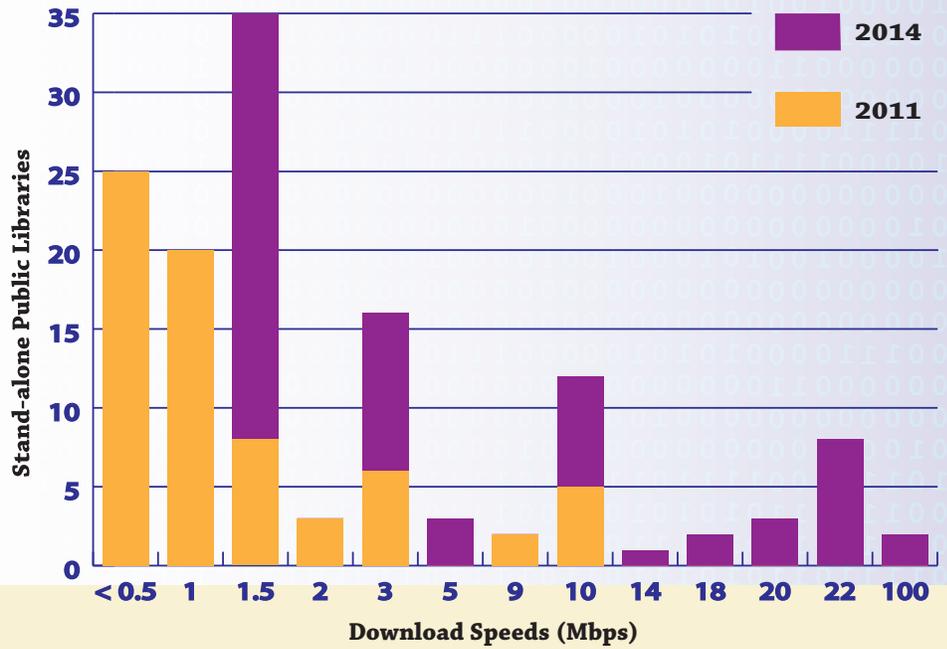
Kegoayah Kozga Library
(Nome) welcomes OWL





Tiny owl at OWL Launch, Kettleson Memorial Library, Sitka, Alaska

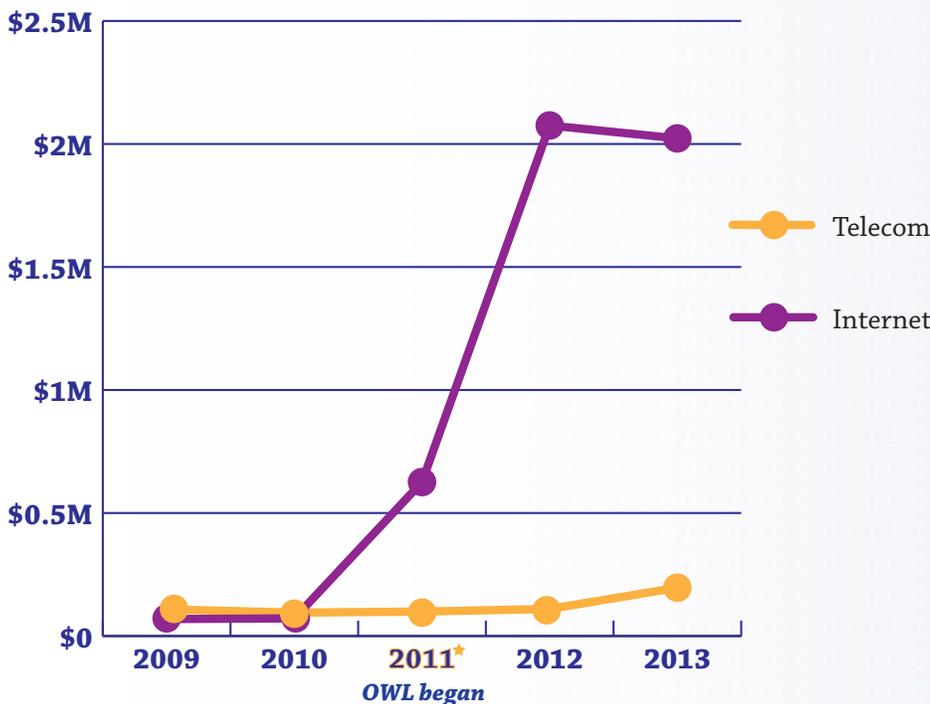
Increased Alaska Public Library Bandwidth



BANDWIDTH SUPPORT

Before the Alaska OWL Project, 67 of 97 participating public libraries did not have sufficient bandwidth to offer interactive Internet connection levels. Because of the high cost of bandwidth in Alaska’s smaller communities and despite a 60-90% subsidy by the federal E-Rate program for schools and public libraries, these libraries could not afford their 10-40% share of the monthly bandwidth costs. The federal E-Rate and the state OWL subsidies, along with local contributions, allow all participating libraries to offer a minimum of 1.5 Megabits per second up and down. For the first time in many communities, citizens can now participate in videoconferences, webinars, fill out web forms, and conduct other 21st century tasks that are commonplace elsewhere.

OWL Leverages More Federal E-Rate Funds for Broadband to Public Libraries



OWL laptops debut with Haines seniors



Alaska OWL continues to fly with funding from the Alaska State Legislature.

It supports:

- ★ Broadband subsidies for Alaska's small and remote public libraries
- ★ A videoconferencing network for all Alaskans
- ★ Continuing education for Alaskans and their librarians

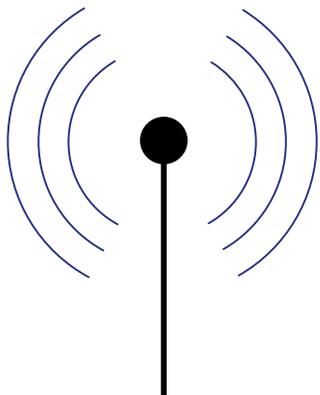
Adult Protective Services
 Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children
 Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 Alaska Department of Health & Social Services
 Alaska Department of Labor
 Alaska Herpetological Society
 Alaska Humanities Forum
 Alaska Library Association
 Alaska Sea Life Center
 Alaska Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators
 Alaska State Library
 Alaska Zoo
 Alzheimer's Resources of Alaska
 Doyon Limited
 Alaska Department of Labor
 Cooperative Extension Service



NETWORK USERS

Denali National Park
 Federal Communication Commission
 Foraker Group
 Governor's Council on Handicaps and Disabilities
 Ilisagvik College
 Inupiat Cultural Center
 Matanuska Susitna Borough
 Office of Children's Services, State of Alaska
 Perseverance Theatre
 Providence Hospital
 Raven Correspondence Studies Students
 US Coast Guard
 U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski
 U.S. Senator Mark Begich
 YWCA Personal Finance Program
 49 Writers

VIDEOCONFERENCE



FOUNDING OWL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Heather Fett, Aniak
 Bill Galbraith, Fairbanks
 Jonas Lamb, Juneau
 Amy Marshall, Craig
 Dan Masoni, Unalaska

Contact Alaska OWL Program

OWL
library.alaska.gov/dev/owl.html

Alaska KnowLEDge Center
library.alaska.gov/dev/knowledge.html



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FUNDERS:



U.S. Department of Commerce

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