



# Town of Huachuca City

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## Digital Literacy Center to Launch at Huachuca City Library

**June 18th, 2018 / Huachuca City, AZ –**

The Huachuca City Library has been awarded a \$32,500 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant for the start of new Digital Literacy Center. The Huachuca City Library was one of 49 libraries state-wide that will receive LSTA funding this year.

The goal of our Digital Literacy Center is to increase digital literacy skills through a series of learning opportunities provided to adults and teens in Huachuca City. This will include a series of workshops, drop-in sessions, and ongoing online support.

“We are thrilled by the opportunity to help community members gain important digital literacy skills and to assist them in terms of economic development, social connections, and civic participation,” according to Director of Library Services, Suzanne Harvey. The town council and residents are equally excited about the project.

Huachuca City Councilor Joy Banks says, "Computer classes were the #1 most-requested library programming request according to a survey of library patrons conducted by library staff. The library director, Suzanne Harvey, wasted no time in applying for grants to fulfill that need. Her efforts have paid off with this sizeable grant for state-of-the-art equipment including laptops, tablets, Kindles, and iPhones, plus the services of a computer educator who will design curriculum based on local needs and interests. Suzanne says the potential exists to reach 800 people with classes and one-on-one help. She expects the impact of the grant to carry far into the future, as staff will have the knowledge and experience to hold classes long after the grant ends."

At the start of the program, the community will be surveyed on which topics are of most interest to them. Topics may include using the Internet, email, social media, word processing, Google Docs, digital photo editing, making a web page, and searching for a job.

The program will offer learning opportunities on desktop and laptop computers, as well as mobile devices like cell phones and tablets. In addition to formal classes, participants will be given opportunities to practice what they have learned by applying it to their own real world projects with the support of experts.

The program will begin in the fall of 2018.

This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. In 2018 the Arizona State Library received about \$3.2 million under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Arizona libraries are set to receive \$800,000 awarded on a competitive basis. The remaining funds are used to support statewide services, including family literacy and reading programs, electronic databases, digital government initiatives, continuing education classes, and other programs.