

Applicant: Oakland Public Library
125 Fourteenth Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Fiscal Agency: Same

Contact Person: Judith Yung, Librarian or Lelia White, Director of
Library Services

Telephone Number: (415) 451-5620

State Library

Contact Person: John Amend

Telephone Number: (916) 445-4730

Title of Project: Asian Community Library

LSCA Funding: \$50,000

Duration of Project: 1 year, July 1, 1977 - June 30, 1978

ID Number: 40-0029 (Continued Project)

The Asian Community Library, funded by a \$290,289 LSCA grant since July 1975, provides multilingual library services to the Chinese, Japanese, Philippino, Korean and Indo-Chinese populations in Oakland through its Asian-speaking staff, multilingual print and non-print collection, bookmobile service and library programs.

Despite the initial delay in hiring qualified Asian-speaking staff, the project in the past year has been able to build up a popular, multilingual collection of 10,000 books, 32 newspapers, 100 magazines, 50 films, 20 film-strips, 2 slide sets, 500 recordings, 200 cassettes and 10 videotapes; schedule 20 bookmobile stops a month in the Asian community, and provide weekly children's programs and monthly adult programs in the library. As a result, circulation at the branch where the Asian Community Library is located has doubled and the project has become recognized as a resource center for Asian Americans by patrons, who come as far as from San Jose, Oakland Public Library staff, teachers, and other libraries in California.

In the last two years, Oakland Public Library has contributed towards staff, materials, and operating costs. During the third year, Oakland Public Library will take over more of the project by funding the Librarian (director of the project) and a half-time Children's Librarian. Third year final funding will allow the project to meet its grant proposal's obligations and develop the services of the library to an optimal level.