# **Project Final Report**

| Project Name    | Community Stories Increase Engagement  |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Description     | The library as a catalyst and repository for sharing unique community knowledge. The project will merge our ongoing branch conversations with adult programming that promotes storytelling, to find the "community treasures" and provide platforms for expression. Planned programs include thematic discussions, based around local history, featuring farms and the military. |  |  |
| Project Sponsor | Ranjna Das, Director, Burlington County Library  |  |  |
| Author(s)       | Michelle Martin, Community Engagement Manager  |  |  |
| Date            | 11.21.17   |  |  |

# **Project Successes**

List and describe the highlights and key success factors of the project.

| Name               | Description   |  |  |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| New customer       | Local experts and interactive programs brought different interest |  |  |
| engagement         | groups to the library for the first time                          |  |  |
| High attendance,   | We had four community story presentations for a total of 223      |  |  |
| repeat attendance  | attendees and (4) additional community events – additional 165,   |  |  |
|                    | with some multiple attendees                                      |  |  |
| Variety of program | Speaker presentation with facilitated Q&A, hands on workshops,    |  |  |
| formats            | viewing and voting, presentation and adjacent exhibit             |  |  |

### **Unexpected Events/Risks**

List and describe any unexpected events that occurred during the project (including approved change requests), the impact that those events may have had on the project and the action(s) taken to address them.

| Description  | Impact  | Actions Taken  |
|--|---|--|
| Marketing materials got out late for our last few events | Reduced the messaging opportunity, resulting in some lower attendance | Lessons learned meeting with marketing dept to discuss improvements in workflow and communications |
| Additional unanticipated program commitments             | Workload increased  | Used organizational skills and tools to stay on top of (basecamp,google calendar)                  |

#### **Lessons Learned**

List and describe any lessons learned from this project and provide recommendations that can be used to

improve the delivery of future information systems projects.

| Description                               | Recommendation                            |  |
|---|---|--|
| The auditorium space can be too large for | Furniture placed on stage, attendees on   |  |
| some of the gatherings                    | stage for smaller groups creates a ready  |  |
|   | intimacy and space for sharing            |  |
| Lighting needs improvement – too dark for | Bring in professional lighting crew to    |  |
| pictures, too light for powerpoint        | reconfigure                               |  |
| Most speakers do not use microphone       | Purchase headsets to provide clear audio, |  |
| effectively and audience can't hear       | instead of relying on the speaker to      |  |
| everything                                | remember to hold the microphone up        |  |

### **Project Performance**

Provide details on the performance of the project under the three variables of On Time, On Budget and Meeting Customer Expectations.

| On Schedule            |                       |                       |             |                      |                    |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Planned Finish<br>Date | Actual Finish<br>Date | Variance<br>(in days) | On Schedule | Ahead of<br>Schedule | Behind<br>Schedule |
| 11-12-17               | 11-8-17               | 4                     |             | $\boxtimes$          |                    |

| On Budget          |              |                     |              |              |             |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Approved<br>Budget | Spent Budget | Variance<br>(in \$) | On<br>Budget | Under Budget | Over Budget |
| \$                 | \$           | (\$                 |              | $\boxtimes$  |             |

| Meeting Customer Expectations      |              |                             |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Success Criteria                   | Criteria Met | Comments                    |  |  |
| Increase variety and type of adult | $\boxtimes$  | Different offerings, more   |  |  |
| programming                        |              | interactive                 |  |  |
| Demographic change in attendees    | $\boxtimes$  | We tapped into cultural and |  |  |
|                                    | _            | creative needs of           |  |  |
|                                    |              | community                   |  |  |
| Increase in e-newsletter signup    | $\boxtimes$  | Used opportunities to       |  |  |
|                                    |              | continue engagement         |  |  |