



FINDING GRANTS AND DONATIONS: A REALISTIC GUIDE

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 **IFLS**
INSPIRING AND
FACILITATING
LIBRARY
SUCCESS

OUR AGENDA TODAY

- What to consider before looking for a grant
- A few quick tips on the grant-writing process
- Suggestions for resources for looking for grants
- Non-grant funding options
- Questions and ideas from you



Time and money are both scarce!

POLL

THE REALITY



FOR GRANTS: FOCUS

STEP ONE:

Focus on **community needs** and how the library is best positioned to meet them

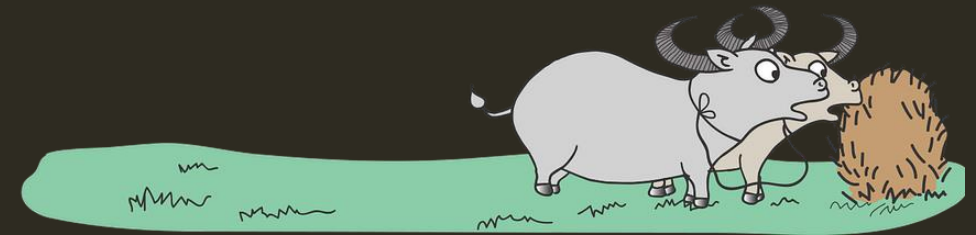
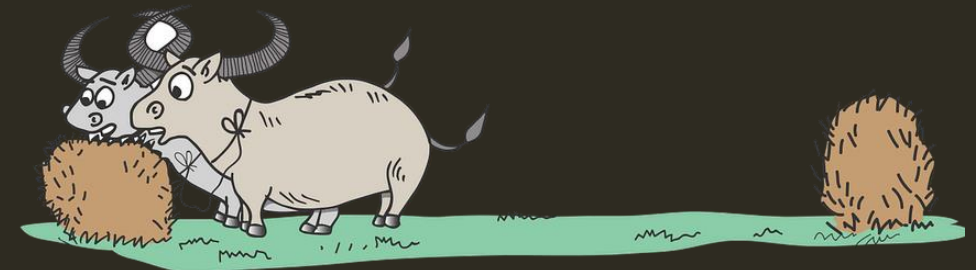
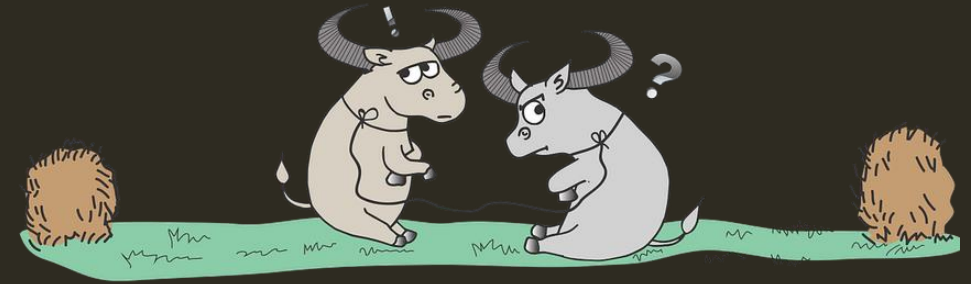
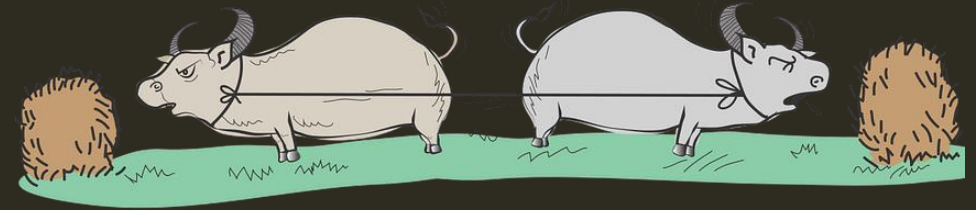
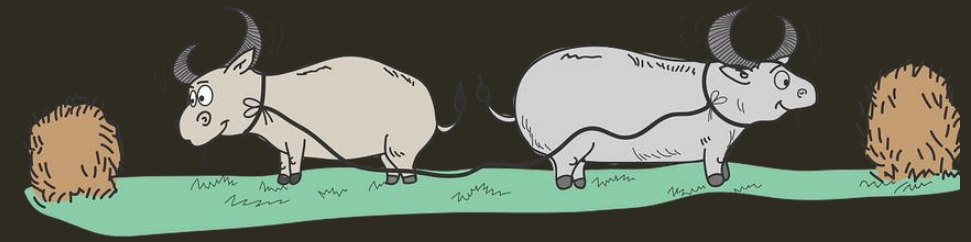
CONSIDER: WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?



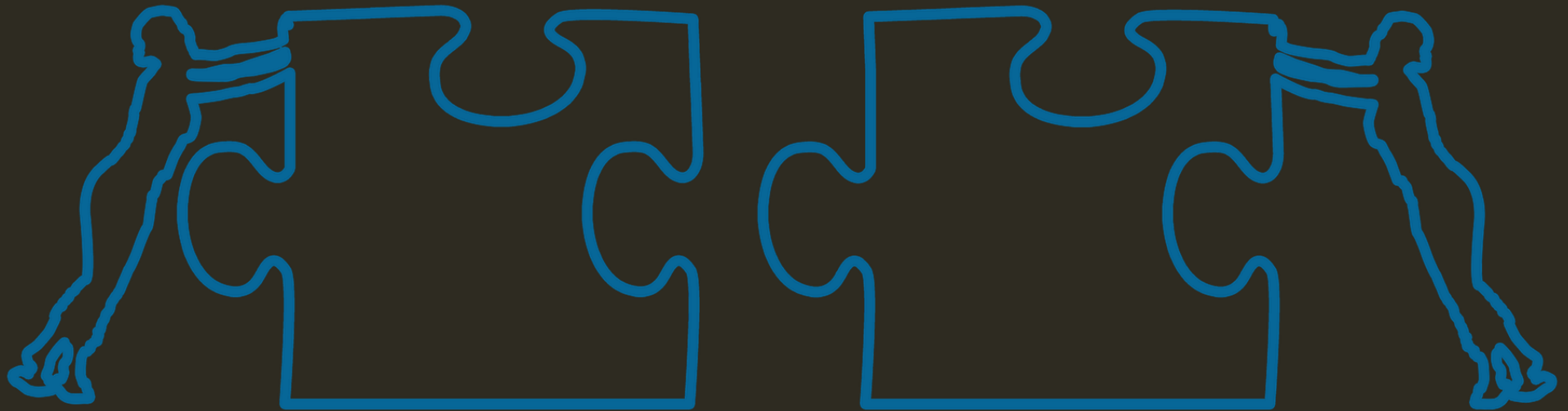
Think of your project FIRST

A WORD ON PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

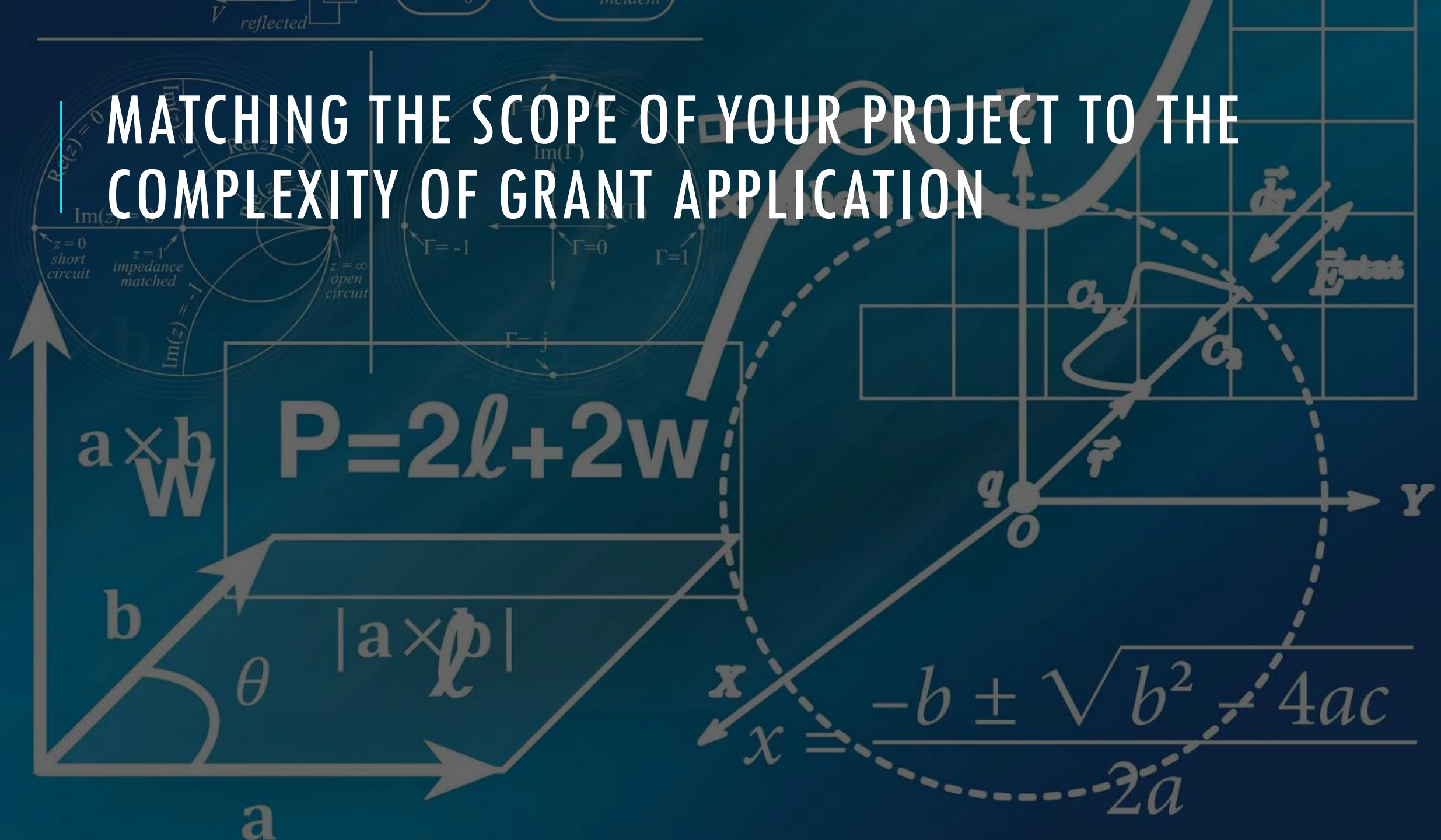
Partners can widen impact and collaboration is a requirement of many grants



LOOK FOR THE RIGHT MATCH



MATCHING THE SCOPE OF YOUR PROJECT TO THE COMPLEXITY OF GRANT APPLICATION



MATCHING YOUR PROJECT GOALS WITH THE MISSION OF GRANTORS



A GOOD MATCH
IS MUTUALLY
REWARDING



WRITING AND EDITING AND MATH ARE IMPORTANT, TOO

Ask for help with these steps if technical writing and budgeting is not your skill!



THEN YOU HAVE TO DIG IN AND DO THE THING.



WHERE TO LOOK FOR GRANTS

Library Grants Blog: <http://librarygrants.blogspot.com/>

Foundations in Wisconsin (available to IFLS Libraries for in-library use):
<http://www.wifoundations.org/>

Visualizing Funding For Libraries [Resource from the Foundation Center](#)

NATIONAL RESOURCES AT L.E. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY IN EAU CLAIRE

Candid (Foundation Center and GuideStar combined) databases to use in the library:

<https://www.ecpubliclibrary.info/search-grants/>

Reference Assistance from Michaela Weggen!

ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Webjunction course: <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/grantseeking-for-libraries.html>

Free training from Candid: <https://grantspace.org/training/search/format/on-demand/>



OTHER OPTIONS FOR FUNDING: SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS

Especially consider for:

Smaller projects

HUGE projects that need lots
of funding streams

To supplement a grant-
funded project

LOCAL SERVICE CLUBS

The Friends of the Library or Library Foundation

<https://iflsweb.org/home/friends-groups/>

Rotary Club

Kiwanis Club

Jaycees

Optimists

Elks

Lions

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking in a firm grip. The hand on the left is lighter-skinned, and the hand on the right is darker-skinned. The hand on the right is wearing a gold ring on the ring finger and a blue leather watch on the wrist. The background is a solid, muted brown color.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Build relationships!

Also: who advertises? When and how?



**GET CREATIVE, BUT HAVE A
POLICY**

Grocery store sponsoring cookbook collection

- Sign by collection
- Sign at the store
- Co-sponsoring nutrition programs

DON'T FORGET ABOUT INDIVIDUALS



TO CONCLUDE, PLEASE REMEMBER:

Look to your community's needs and desires

Pay attention to your own library's mission and goals

Find a grant in the sweet spot

Find the match!

Develop relationships, be creative, and be prepared

QUESTIONS? IDEAS? COMMENTS?

