Instructions

InternetNZ is proud to support your initiative. The questions below are to help us understand the triumphs and challenges you have faced to date.

We want to celebrate your successes and understand the obstacles you have encountered so far. This will help us all to learn what we could do better in the future.

This report form will be placed on our website for transparency.

Please complete and submit this form no later than the date stipulated in your funding agreement. Should you be unable to meet the deadline, contact us to arrange an alternative date, by emailing funding@internetnz.net.nz. You may not be eligible to apply for further grants from InternetNZ if this is not submitted. The completion of this form should be overseen by someone with an intimate knowledge of the funded initiative.

Mid-project report

* indicates a required field

For your convenience, you will find some information for this section has prepopulated from previous forms you have completed. Please amend any details as needed to ensure we have the most accurate information.

Initiative title *
Improved data analytics for library

Amount granted by InternetNZ? *
$50,000.00
Must be a dollar amount.

Provide a short summary of the work that has been completed so far as part of this initiative. *
The goal of this project is to improve the data collection of the Blind Low Vision NZ library and use those more accurate datasets to improve the user experience on the Alexa and Dolphin Easy reader platforms. As of November our in house developers have fully implanted improved data collection tools. Data points such as Newspapers read and number of times books have been recommended are now captured on both platforms. The digital team has also added Allied Press newspapers to the selection, providing more variety for regional news sources.
Describe the "who, what, where, when and why" of your initiative.

When do you anticipate that your initiative will be completed? *
30/04/2022
Must be a date.
If you are uncertain, please provide an estimate.

What are the outcomes of this initiative so far? *
Being able to track not just which books are loaned out but also which books are finished

will enable us to make more informed choices about the content we provide to readers. This contrast of statistics will also play a big role in helping to design our recommendation algorithm in the coming months.

The addition of Allied Press newspapers has already had positive outcomes as the Otago Daily Times sits in the top 5 most viewed papers since becoming available. This shows that those who live within the regions want to read their local papers and by expanding our content we are able to cater to that demand. This greater representation of regional news allows our library users to be both informed and feel more connected with their community.

The addition which enables us to track the number of times an individual book is recommended will also become more valuable as time goes on. Tracking recommendations is a new feature which currently means it is too early to make decisions based on the data collected. However over the coming months, as we look at how accurate and representative the data is, we will be able to put this data to better use. For example, mystery/thriller is the most popular genre (1354 loans in October alone), if a book has a high readership but little to no recommendations we can surmise it isn't well-received whereas if a book has a high ratio of recommendations to loans we can purchase similar titles or more work by the same author.

Consider the changes resulting from your initiative or describe major achievements in terms of benefits for participants and/or others.

Share any supporting documents you feel appropriate, that will help us to further understand the progress you have made.

For example your evaluation plan, theory of change, survey results or feedback, annual report, summary to the board or any visual or audio representations of your work.

Upload files:

Filename: key indicators graph.PNG
File size: 26.8 kB

Upload files:
No files have been uploaded

Upload files:
No files have been uploaded

Provide additional details:

Let us know if anything you have shared is confidential or can be used to promote this work. Remember this report form will be placed on our website for transparency.

What have you learnt so far? *

Trends in the data show that there is a general increase in the number of books being borrowed over 2021 from 8140 total in Q4 2020 to 13634 in Q3 of 2021. This is in part due to the Alexa rollout taking place in the first 6 months of the year, however, given it has continued to rise since July indicates that users are responding positively to the Alexa experience.

The data also shows that we have a fairly stable unique number of weekly users, 559, with 1305 unique users in Q3 (after the end of the Alexa rollout). With over 3500 Alexa devices distributed in the last 18 months, this shows we have more work to do in engaging those users who have dropped off from using the Blind Low Vision NZ library skill. Those who have dropped off may still be using the Alexa for other purposes but we do not collect that

information.

A positive takeaway is that those who do use it for the library are highly engaged. In October each unique user averaged 5.4 book loans indicating a high level of usage and hopefully satisfaction.
Describe what made this initiative work well and/or what was challenging, thinking about what would be useful to others working towards similar goals.

What (if anything) have you changed in your approach and practices? Explain why this was necessary?
So far there have been no significant changes to the implementation. Over the research phase for the recommendation algorithm, however, as we get deeper into the project there are likely to be changes as we find the one that best suits our needs.
Describe any changes from the original proposal and the reason the change was required. We may use this information to help others doing similar work.

Which population group/s were affected by this project or program? *
Health > People with disabilities > People with vision impairments
Please choose only the group/s that were at the very core of this initiative.

Financial report

* indicates a required field

Project income and expenditure

Please provide details of any project income (funds received) and project expenditure (funds spent) to date.

Use the 'Notes' column to provide any additional information you think we should be aware of.

Income description	Income type	Confirmed funding?	Income amount ($)	Notes
			Must be a dollar amount.	
50,000	Philanthropic grants	Confirmed *	$50,000.00	Internet NZ fund-ing

Expenditure

Expenditure description	Expenditure type	Expenditure amount ($)	Notes
Software develop-ment	Salaries and wages	$15,000.00	In-house develop-ment.

Library and Digital department heads su pervision/support	Salaries and wages	$7,000.00	
Research and in-sights manger	Salaries and wages	$2,000.00	

Income and expenditure totals

Total income amount

$50,000.00

This number/amount is calculat-ed.

Total expenditure amount

$24,000.00

This number/amount is calculat-ed.

Income - expenditure

$26,000.00

This number/amount is calculat-ed.

Have you experienced any issues with your intended project budget to date? If so, please explain reasons for any major variances or for providing incomplete information:
So far there have been no issues with the project or budget.

Feedback

You are almost at the end of our midterm reporting process. Before submitting your midterm report, please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the acquittal process:
◉ Very easy   ○ Easy   ○ Neutral   ○ Difficult   ○ Very Difficult

How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this form?

Estimate in minutes (i.e. 1 hour = 60 minutes)

Provide us with any feedback you have from learning about evaluation.
We'd love to hear how you found the input provided by Standard of Proof ie. whether the evaluation toolkit was useful, how this learning impacted your organisation/initiative delivery.

Provide us with your feedback about any improvements to this grant process that we might consider.

InternetNZ is a membership organisation. Would you be interested in hearing more about becoming a member?
○ Yes please   ○ No thanks   ◉ I am already a member