

# Archived Information

## UNDERGROUND RAILROAD PROGRAM

**Goal: To promote the research, display, interpretation, and collection of artifacts relating to the history of the Underground Railroad and to make the interpretive efforts available to institutions of higher education.**

**Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives:** Supports Objective 3.2 by helping to ensure the high quality of educational programs through efforts to increase awareness of the history of the Underground Railroad.

FY 2000—\$1,750,000

FY 2001—\$1,750,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: ASSIST NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS IN BUILDING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND CREATING ENDOWMENT FUNDS TO SUPPORT MUSEUM OPERATIONS.

Indicator 1.1 Increased awareness: Ten Underground Railroad Web sites will be linked within the United States.				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Status:</b> New program; no performance data yet available.  <b>Explanation:</b> This is a new program. Early meetings of focus groups indicate interest in broadening understanding and increasing collaboration via the Web, but it is too early to determine if target will be met.	<b>Sources:</b> Program data. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> FY 2001.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by grantees. No formal verification procedure applied.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.
FY 1999:	No data available	No target set		
FY 2000:		No target set		
FY 2001:		10 linked sites		
Indicator 1.2 Fundraising initiatives: Private sector support will increase by 20 percent.				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Status:</b> New program; no performance data yet available.  <b>Explanation:</b> This is a new program.	<b>Sources:</b> Program data. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> FY 2001.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by grantees. No formal verification procedure applied.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.
FY 1999:	No data available	No target set		
FY 2000:		Baseline to be established		
FY 2001:		20% increase		

## **KEY STRATEGIES**

### Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, the City University of New York, and the Harriet Tubman Home will work together to target Underground Railroad (URR) stations to be linked in order to build a compatible electronic infrastructure. The Freedom Center, the City University of New York, and the Harriet Tubman Home also will work together to prepare publications and hold focus groups to broaden understanding of the Underground Railroad. This is a new program; this key strategy is just being implemented.

### New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ To increase awareness of the Underground Railroad, through planning, research, and architectural documentation, the Harriet Tubman Home will be restored.
- ❖ To ensure participation by qualifying partnerships, the Underground Railroad will be publicized through conferences, workshops, and seminars.

## **HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

- ❖ This program will work with the National Park Service to refine performance standards and strategies to improve museum operations of Underground Railroad stations within the United States.
- ❖ The Department of Education will seek expertise within the National Park Service to assist project directors of funded projects in networking with key individuals who are knowledgeable about Underground Railroad stations throughout the United States.

## **CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL**

- ❖ This is a new program. The technological infrastructures for this program are yet to be developed. The project directors will meet to discuss, explore, and hopefully resolve issues of platform compatibility across systems throughout the United States.
- ❖ Evaluation strategies need further refinement to determine exactly what will be assessed for measuring the success of this effort

## **INDICATOR CHANGES**

### **From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)**

Adjusted—Not applicable.

Dropped—Not applicable.

### **From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)**

Adjusted—Not applicable.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 1.2, which stated that "funds be provided in a timely manner," has been dropped because it does not adequately reflect a performance measure.

New

- ❖ Indicator 1.2 has been added to address fundraising initiatives.