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Catholic, Collaborative, and Crowdfunded: A Unique Approach to Newspapers Digitization

The Project

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Catholic Research
Resources Alliance

Building the Catholic News Archive

A project of the CRRA Catholic Newspapers Program to
*provide enduring access to extant Catholic newspapers in
North America*

About CRRA

- Mission to provide enduring global access to Catholic research resources
- Nonprofit membership organization
- Primary projects: the Catholic Portal and the Catholic Newspapers Program
- Highly collaborative organization, with just 2 FT staff
- Open access, collaboration, and service are core values



Building the Catholic News Archive

1. Digitize 1.5 million pages from [priority papers](#) (\$2.6M)

(9 diocesan papers from major US cities, 2 national, making possible comparative analyses)

2. Aggregate content in the Veridian platform

3. Preserve content in MetaArchive, a dark archive

Reality (costs) and ideology (open access) are reconciled through a *path* to open access (crowdfunding model) and identifying project *phases*



Pilots and Phases

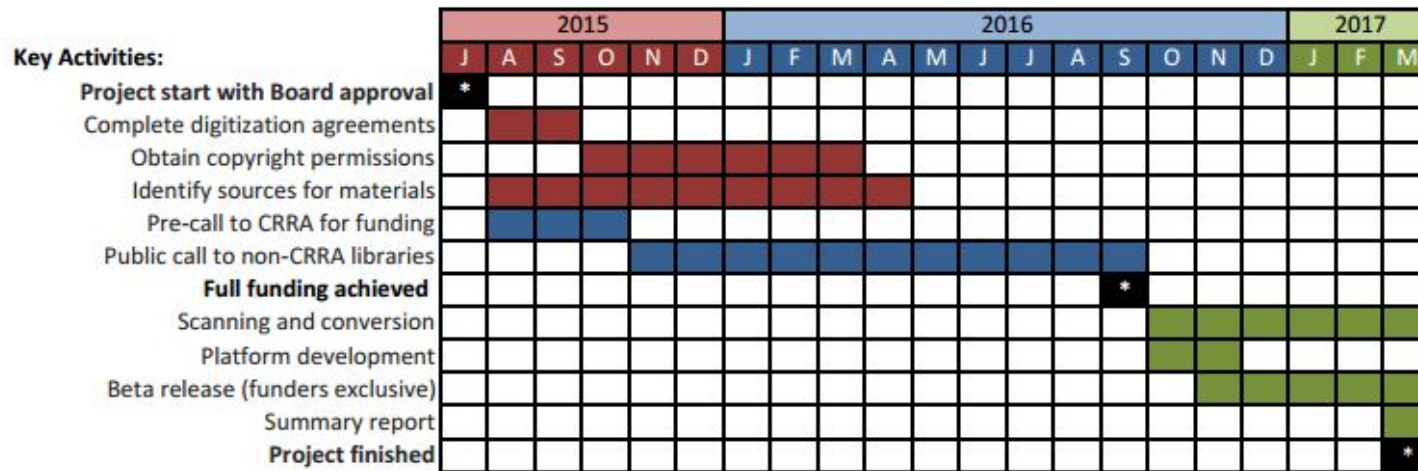
Samples, a slice of, the larger project, involving multiple institutions holding a mix of source material in print and microfilm.

- Civil War years
- European Immigration (1880-1919)
- Pre-1924
- Vatican II years (1958-1972)



Vatican II Timeline

CRRA Vatican II Project Timeline



Open access begins 10/1/2017

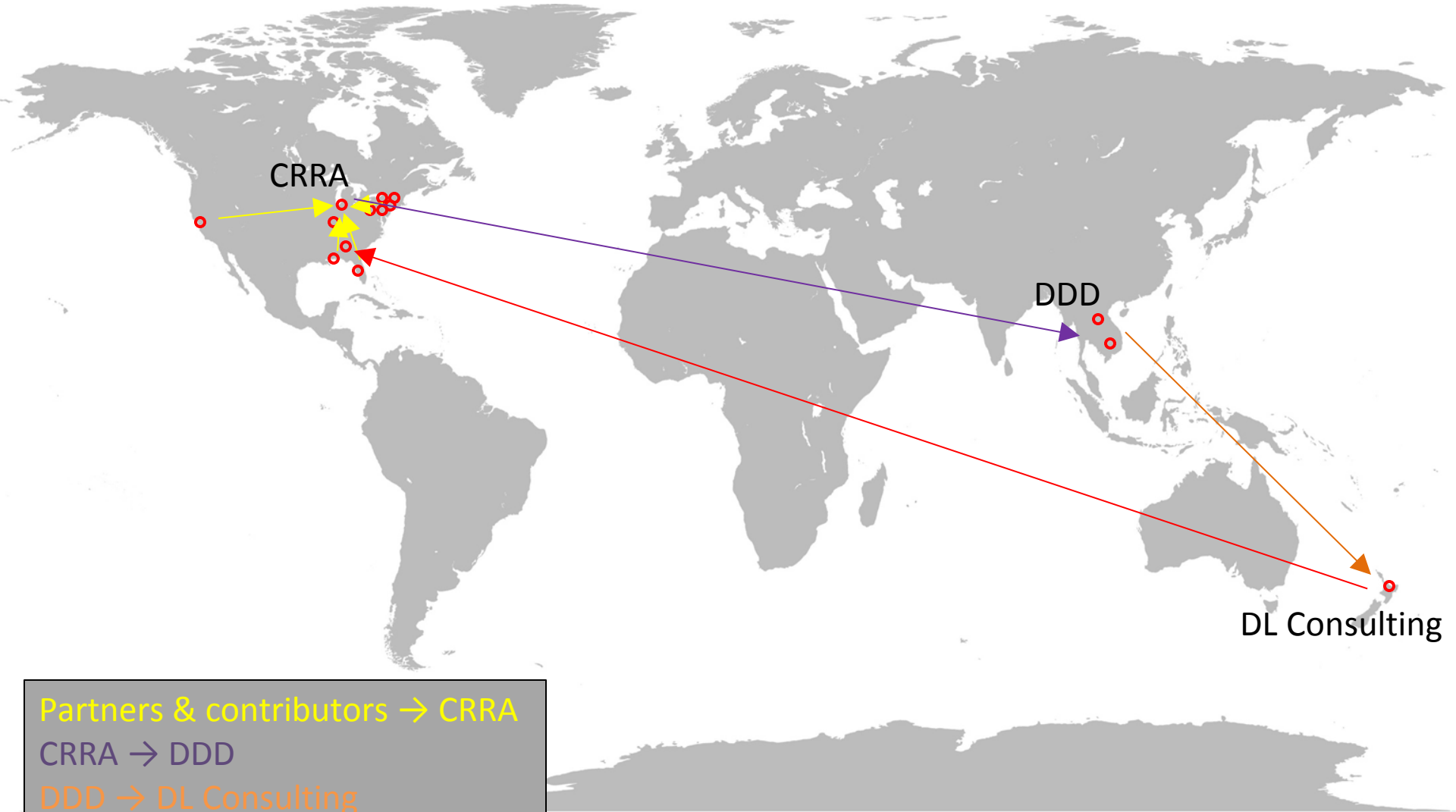


CRRA Technical Specifications

- Foundation is Library of Congress National Digital Newspaper Program as a foundation
- Influenced by Beyond NDNP Working Group
- Article layout influenced by National Library of Australia's Trove newspapers and Boston University digital newspaper collection
- CRRA specifications will be made public

CRRA Workflow

1. Use rights collected by CRRA
2. Newspapers or microfilm dispatched by CRRA from source repository to scanning service bureau
3. TIFF images sent on hard drives to Digital Divide Data's SE Asia production offices
4. Output data – METS/ALTO XML, TIFF and JPEG2000 images, PDF files – sent from SE Asia to DL Consulting (Hamilton, New Zealand)
5. DL Consulting ingests output data into Amazon AWS and EC2 based Veridian
6. After ingest, output data forwarded to CRRA for deposit in dark archive (MetaArchive)



Partners & contributors → CRRA
CRRA → DDD
DDD → DL Consulting
DL Consulting → Archive

Collaboration

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Collaboration

African proverb:
If you want to go
fast, *go alone.*

If you want
to go far, *go
together.*

CRRRA Groups

The CRRRA is a distributed and collaborative organization comprised of individuals from member institutions working together in a variety of ways to support and advance the vision, mission, and activities of the CRRRA.



Leadership Groups

- [CRRRA Board of Directors](#)
- [The Leadership Council](#)
- [The Liaisons Council](#)
- [Official Representatives Council](#)

Committees

- [Catholic Newspapers Committee](#)
 - [CRRRA Digitizing Partners](#)
 - Digitizing Agreement Group (work completed)
 - Newspapers Digitization Specifications Working Group (work completed)
 - Newspaper Directory Group (work completed)
 - Repository Group (work completed)
- [Collections Committee](#)
 - Subject Guide Subcommittee
- [Digital Access Committee](#)
 - Metadata Subcommittee
- [Membership Committee](#)
- [Scholars Advisory Committee](#)
- [Five Year Strategic Planning Committee](#) (completed)



Where is the source material and how much will the project cost?

30 “Digitizing Partners” provide essential support in identifying where the *source material* lives, counting pages to determine *cost estimates*, and serving as *liaisons to copyright holders*.



Vatican II Collaborators

11 “Sourcing Partners”

11 Copyright holders

4 Vendors

- Digital Divide Data (conversion and specs)
- DL Consulting (Veridian platform)
- Master Enterprises, Inc. (image capture)
- Reveal Digital (cost recovery and project support)



Digitization agreements

1. CRRA as a primary agent in fostering digitization, dissemination, and discoverability of digitized content
2. The copyright owners
3. The institutions providing the content to be digitized (Sourcing Partners)



Crowd funding and cost recovery

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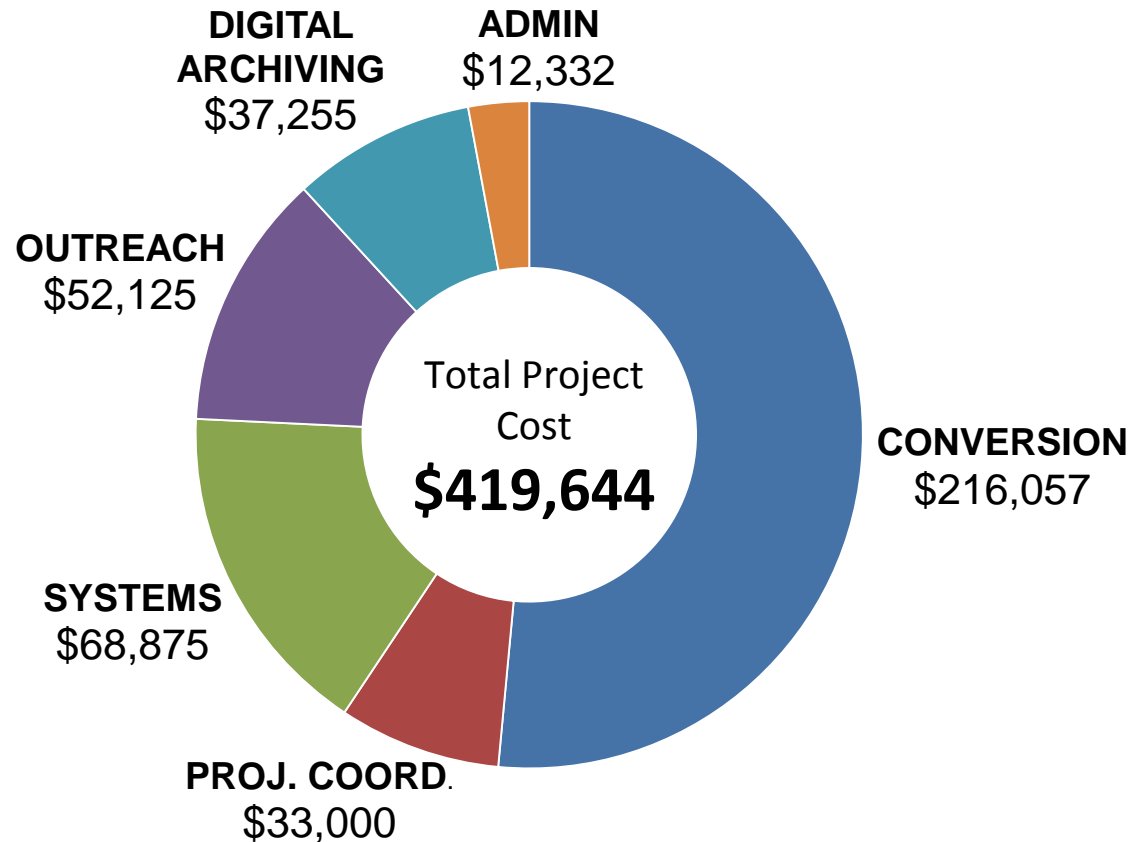


Library Crowdfunding

1. Working with Reveal Digital's unique cost recovery = open access funding model
2. Based on the assumption that libraries will invest in open access projects
3. Reveal Digital's initial project, *Independent Voices*, has raised over \$1.2M from 78 libraries toward building an open access collection of alternative press periodicals



Step 1: Define Project Costs



Step 2: Set Funding Levels

Institution Type	Target Count of Funding Libraries	One-time Commitment Level	Target Funding Raised
Diocesan/Religious	10	\$200	\$2,000
Theological / Special	23	\$500	\$11,500
Bachelors	26	\$3,400	\$88,400
Masters	27	\$4,250	\$114,750
Doctorate	13	\$5,100	\$66,300
ARL	12	\$8,500	\$102,000
Large Publics	8	\$4,250	\$34,000
TOTAL	119		\$418,950

Provides development funding for conversion, platform development plus three years of hosting, and archiving



Step 3: Library Outreach

1. Initial funding call to CRRA members
 - 20 funding libraries / \$56,000 raised
2. Next funding call will target non-CRRA Catholic Institutions and other religious libraries
3. Final funding call will be made to remaining academic and large public libraries
4. Will work with consortia and other library member organizations on the funding calls



Benefits to investing institutions

1. Early access to the collection while it is being built and for a 6-month grace period
2. Free title-level MARC records for local loading and for sharing with discovery services
3. Support for mass downloading of text for patron use
4. Ensuring that Catholic newspapers become an accessible archive for all



Long term strategy for access

- Access and archiving costs included for 3 years in the initial cost model
- Explore hosting, access /delivery and archiving/preservation requirements and options
- Understand stakeholder interests
- Explore opportunities with potential partners
- Identify funding strategies and models
- Develop a sustainability plan



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Questions?