

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

July-August

August 15, 2012

Library Budget Update: Implications for the Library's dip into reserves has generated quality conversations with County Administration staff to review existing budget revenues and expenditures and think creatively about solutions. The anticipated reduction in hours of service at the Winters Community Library may be postponed as discussions with Winters Joint Unified School District have developed into plans for the use of student interns to assist in some critical staffing needs. This would offer some career and job learning as well as fulfill the District's commitment to advancing as much support for public library service as possible.

In the meantime, reductions have been made in part-time hour allocations at most library branches and Central Services. PC replacements have rotated to a four year plan. The greatest continued stressor at this time is the considerable depletion of General Fund support impacting both the County Librarian position and support of County Archives.

Strategic Plan:

At the July 9 All Staff meeting, the entire staff engaged in a broad discussion about the Strategic Plan based on the identified priorities. The staff engaged in the following questions:

What existing services do we already provide in this area and who is our audience? Of these services, what do we do well? Any gaps? Finally, who are our existing and logical partners to support this service? Staff will now take on refining the considerable staff input and develop work teams to formalize concrete next steps.

The Strategic Planning process remains part of the Library's monthly leadership team focus. We hope to integrate this with the Library Advisory Board's organizational planning as well as the ongoing development of the various Friends groups.

The Inclusion Matters training for all staff was initiated in June and will continue in a half day on August 6 to provide the foundation for staff and community engagement. The complete booklet featured at the Inclusion training is available. Based on the conversation with staff guiding principles were crafted:

Guiding Principles as we implement the Strategic Plan

Working Together:

- **We will create a comfortable safe space to talk with our peers**
- **We will get there together by working together**
- **We will encourage success through innovation, risk taking and creativity**
- **We will engage in a learning environment**

Working with the Community:

- **Library work is community work**
- **Provide excellent service to current and new customers**
- **Increase access by reducing barriers**
- **Provide strategic library service throughout the entire County**

LSTA Funding – The State of CA provided \$4.2 million to honor the match needed by the California State Library to receive LSTA funding. As a result the Library received \$7700 in a one-time quarterly allocation for literacy services and anticipate another set of funds to cover adult literacy services for the remainder of 2012-2013. We also anticipate a small set aside to cover some dues payments for our participation as a NorthNet Library System member. We do not anticipate funding for transaction based reimbursement.

211 Services:

Analysis of current call volume indicates a stronger need for promotion and marketing and quality control regarding call center activity, call response time and follow up. Staff is continuing quality control conversations with 211 Sacramento. Library staff is also taking a stronger lead in participation at local, state and regional 211 development and networks.

Gibson House:

The Library is currently working on assisting Gibson House staff and volunteers with collection maintenance and preservation issues.

HR Update –

Librarian — We welcome Cole Johnson, most recently from San Antonio, Texas, to our Library! Cole began work August 6 and is in training and will provide adult services support at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library.

Library Associate – Mabeljoy (MJ) Doss is our new Technical Services lead for Acquisitions and began work on July 16. Her experience includes customer service at Yuba Community College and she has considerable experience in using a variety of databases and technologies.

Library Associate – Turner Community Library – recruitment not satisfactory; we will reissue.

Program Analyst – one position for 211 Yolo funded by DESS– will recruit within the month.

LAB Board Development – thanks to Holly Bishop, Andrea Jones and Rie Surad, the LAB will meet on September 29 from 10-1:30 p.m. at the Davis Branch Library for an organizational development retreat facilitated by CALTAC trainer Alan Smith. Smith also serves as a Library Commissioner for Contra Costa County.

LAB Photos and community engagement: We hope that LAB members will consider posting their photos and contact information to more fully engage with the community regarding library services and their advisory roles.

Yolo County Library in the News

- Congratulations to Rachel Wolf and Dana Christy for their selection as Eureka! Leadership Institute fellows for the 2012 cohort. Their selection means a total of \$10,000 in a community driven project crafted by the library. We hope the project will center around a Coalition of Nonprofit Service Providers who will generate a clearinghouse of ideas and resources and shared service models.