

CENTRAL LIBRARY REPORT

April – December 2013

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District's Adriance Memorial Library is the Central Library for the Mid-Hudson Library System. As such, the Library's staff provides a variety of supplemental reference and training services to the member libraries and the correctional facilities. This is a summary of 2013/2 - 4Q Central Library activity, which is coordinated with the current five-year Central Library Plan of Service.

Element 1 – Digital Collection Development

1. Goal Statement: A system-wide digital collection will be developed in response to member library needs.
2. Intended Result(s):
 - The Central Library will collaborate with member libraries and MHLS to review and select appropriate non-fiction adult system-wide digital collections that are affordable and cost effective.
3. Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - Use of digital collections (ebooks) continues to grow at a pace that is disproportionate to available funding. Central Library Development Aid (CLDA) and Central Book Aid (CBA) funds are used to support the purchase of the support platform (roughly \$17,000) and popular non-fiction titles (roughly \$5,000). However, the surge in use is in popular fiction titles, which are ineligible by regulation for CLDA or CBA support. Of the 3,320 ebook titles currently available, only 624 (19%) of them are non-fiction. The average wait time for any ebook is running 14 days. Clearly, this is an area ripe for continued growth but the Central Library funding can only support so much, given the current regulations governing the categorical aid.

Element 2 – Public Service Staff Training and Education

1. Goal Statement: Member library services in targeted areas of collection development and reference services will reflect best practices.
2. Intended Result(s):
 - Member library staff will have the skills and understanding to provide effective reference service to patrons.
 - Member libraries will employ best practices in developing their collections.
3. Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - Developed information and referral strategies for libraries in preparation for the launching of the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA).
 - Published 29 Tuesday's Tips for member library staff.
 - Worked with the Central Library & Collection Development Committee on alternate training methods, including desktop training using PowerPoint and Adobe (for narration). These trainings are designed to be 5 – 7 minutes long and will be accessible through the Central Library page on the MHLS web site.
 - A series of readers' advisory workshops was conducted over the late Spring in the counties with a total attendance of 71. Similarly, workshops on workforce development resources was run in the Fall with a total attendance of 67. These workshops are organized under the auspices of the Central Library & Collection Development Advisory Committee and implemented by Central Library staff. User feedback is solicited at the workshop and forwarded to the Central Library for use in future workshop improvements.

Element 3 – Collection Management and Use Analysis

1. Goal Statement: Member libraries will have access to training and tools for collection analysis.
2. Intended Result(s): Member libraries will be provided:
 - Opportunities to learn about managing reference and non-fiction collections.
 - Evaluation and analysis.
3. Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - Originally planned for 2013 but now scheduled for 2014, the Central Library will work with MHLS on providing a series of collection development workshops focusing on best practices, coordinated collection development, and user-driven collection development.

Element 4 – Reference Services

1. Goal Statement: Member libraries will have supplemental reference support.
2. Intended Result(s): Member libraries will have expanded resources and services to assist their patrons.
3. Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - There is \$91,463 in direct support of online, commercially licensed databases from CLDA funds. These databases are used by member library staff and patrons in support of information needs both in the library and from outside the library.
 - Central Library staff provide reference service in person, via email, fax or on the telephone to anyone who presents themselves, regardless of geographic location. This service is fully funded by the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. There is no additional support from CLDA.
 - Central Library staff processed approximately 30 subject searches from inmates incarcerated in prisons.

Element 5 – Delivery and Interlibrary Loan

1. Goal Statement: Member libraries will have access to regional and national collections.
2. Intended Result(s):
 - Member libraries will provide their patrons affordable access to materials outside of their libraries.
3. Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - Interlibrary loan service for all libraries is implemented by staff at MHLS and funded by MHLS with an \$8,584 subsidy from CLDA funds.
 - There is \$47,755 in direct support from CLDA funds for the MHLS delivery service.

Element 6: Supplemental Adult Non-Fiction Collections

- Goal Statement: Member libraries will have access to adult non-fiction materials that supplement their collections.
- Intended Result(s):
 - Central Library Book Aid (CBA) funds will be used to purchase circulating non-fiction materials in high-demand and targeted subject areas.
- Observed Result(s) through 2013/2 -4Q:
 - For all of 2013 (as of this report), 1,854 items funded by CBA or CLDA were added to the collection at the Central Library. The total amount expended was \$48,390 for an average cost of \$26.10.