

**Four County Library System  
Outreach Advisory Council Meeting  
21 October 2016**

Attending the meeting:

Mary Bonczek (Otsego County), Brenda Brown (Broome County – via GoToMeeting), Noelle Holmes (4CLS Outreach Specialist), Sarah Reid (4CLS Outreach and Youth Services Manager)

1. Bookmobile Update

The new bookmobile was ordered in August, and payments have been made. Oneonta Medical Coaches is currently waiting for the chassis to be delivered before they can begin work on the bookmobile portion of the vehicle.

Several funding applications have been sent out. Two of them have been declined, and we're still waiting to hear on at least one more. Mary suggested re-contacting the Clark Foundation, since we have not yet heard from them about the possibility of submitting a formal proposal. The next step is an online fundraising push, and Sarah is working with Steve (4CLS Executive Director) to figure out the best platform and approach for this.

2. BOOKS Program Grant

State Senator Fred Akshar has taken on Senator Libous's practice of offering programming grants to libraries through his BOOKS Program, and the Cybermobile program is included as part of his senate district. The past few years, 4CLS has collaborated with the Discovery Center of the Southern Tier to present a BookFest in the fall, and this will be the use of the BOOKS Program money again. The event will take place at the Discovery Center on Saturday, November 19, and the grant money will be used to hire author/illustrator David Hyde Costello to give two presentations to children and families. He will focus on his book *I Can Help*, a story about animal friends who help each other solve their problems.

The flyer for the event will be sent out to the OAC participants. Brenda suggested that for next year's event, we should consider the possibility of using a location in downtown Binghamton that would make it easier for families without transportation to attend.

3. Recruiting Participants for the OAC

Since we are on the low end of the required number of participants in the OAC (we should have between 5 and 11 participants), we talked about where to look for people who might be willing to join us and share their input. The following were suggested: Rural Health Network, Literacy Volunteers, homeschool families, and private schools. We need to make sure to include participants from Chenango and Delaware Counties,

as they are currently the least represented on the OAC. Brenda shared that she was very glad to be able to attend the meeting via GoToMeeting and that this technology could make it convenient for others to participate, as well.

#### 4. Priorities for 4CLS Outreach

After looking through the notes from Starr's meetings with OAC participants and looking at the results of the outreach survey that was sent to member libraries, the following were selected as things that we want to work on in the coming months:

- 4CLS Outreach
  - Look at possibilities for taking the bookmobile to community events.
  - With the bookmobile, focus on serving institutions like nursing homes, child care facilities, Head Starts, schools, etc.
  - Investigate establishing and maintaining bookshelves in areas where people have downtime, such as waiting rooms at the jails and at family court.
- Support for member libraries
  - Create (or help to create) materials that member libraries can take on outreach visits.
  - Facilitate partnerships and/or contacts with community agencies.
  - Offer ideas about what to present at a school or community group visit.

#### 5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in March or April. The Afton Free Library was suggested as a venue.