

# Four County Library System

## Youth Services Meeting

### 3 October 2016

Libraries represented: BC, NO (2), OX (2), VE, ONA, NI, SID (2), HART, WP, GR, EN (2), BCPL, FE (2), JC, SM

#### **Presentation from Achieve**

Two Family Support staff members from Achieve (a chapter of ARC) shared some thoughts about serving people with special needs in the library. They gave us some information about their organization, and they shared some ideas and answered questions. Here are some highlights:

- Many of the people with special needs who come into libraries might be part of a Community Habilitation program, in which staff work with individuals to set personal goals, or in Respite programs, in which staff take individuals on outings to allow family members a break from full-time care.
- People with special needs should be treated the same as you would treat anyone else. The presenters shared with us a handout that gives more details about supporting people with special needs, and if anyone would like a copy, please get in touch with Sarah.
- Barb (HART) shared that she had a library patron with special needs that was good at sign language, and she asked the individual to teach some signs during a storytime. She said that it was good way to ease any discomfort that parents might have felt.
- Anne (ONA) shared that she had been approached by a caregiver that wondered if an adult with special needs could participate in a children's storytime. Because Anne knew that the individual wouldn't be comfortable with the active group of children, she suggested that the caregiver recruit some others, and Anne is holding an adult storytime for them. The presenters recommended this approach.
- If anyone has further questions, please let Sarah know, and she can get you in touch with the Achieve staff.

#### **Last Copy Procedures**

- If you're nervous about removing something from your collection, but it hasn't gone out in a while and it's the last copy, please send it to us!
- Megan (4CLS Collection Services Manager) has instructions for dealing with last copies. If you would like those procedures, please let Sarah or Megan know.

#### **Performer information sharing**

- We had talked a while ago about the possibility of creating a list of performers, along with recommendations and cautionary tales of whether they should be hired. Sarah would like to create a SurveyMonkey to input data, and then she'll compile it into a spreadsheet that will be available on the 4CLS Intranet.

- The following were suggested as things we would want to know about a performer: Name, Performance, Contact Info, Price, Library Hosted, Date of Performance, Suggested Audience (age), Rating 1 to 5, Group Discounts

### **Eventkeeper Calendar**

- Funding for this calendar was originally provided through the Family Literacy Grant, and it wasn't written in this time. If people still want it, Steve said that we can probably find the money to continue subscribing.
- Is this still a useful resource? Or do libraries prefer to use their own online calendars?
- The subscription runs out in April, so I'll be looking for some feedback in the next couple of months.

### **Random Tidbits**

- 4CLS Day of Learning - October 26 in Sidney - Nothing is specifically geared for youth services, but "right-sizing your collection" and "managing volunteers" and "social media" could be helpful. Kenneth (EN) will be sharing about working with teen volunteers.
- Storytime Kits – Are being worked on. We've got 5 that have been updated (the four seasons and family), and they should be processed in the near future. If you have any other storytime topics that you'd like to have added, please let Sarah know.
- VHS – 4CLS has a bunch of book-related kids VHS tapes that we're ready to discard— does anyone want them for their collections? Also, if anyone needs a way to get rid of VHS tapes, Maryse (JC) knows of a place to send them.
- AWE Computer Stations – Sarah was contacted by a sales rep about doing a demonstration for the group, but the consensus was that we don't really want it. (If anyone wants an individual demo for their library, Sarah can get you in touch with the rep. Or if you'd like info about how it works in the library, some member libraries have the AWE Stations.)
- Blue Cloud Analytics training – If anyone would like training on this, Brian (4CLS Electronic Services Librarian) is available to do it. This will eventually replace Directors Station for things like creating weeding lists.
- Novelist Book Squad Emails – These are Readers Advisory emails that send you ideas of books to recommend on different topics. They have different audiences that they aim for, and most emails include printable bookmarks, signs, and/or handouts. Recent topics have been Fall Holidays, Miss Peregrine readalikes, and how to find "Grab and Go Book Lists" in Novelist." If you'd like to sign up, visit this link:  
<http://libraryaware.com/1628/Subscribers/Subscribe?optInPageId=a416de3f-370b-408c-8d73-8d65c0c4e549>

- Take Your Child to the Library Day – February 4, 2017. If you want to participate, information is here:  
[https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS\\_Document&DocID=1221&MenuKey=advocacy](https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=1221&MenuKey=advocacy)
- Advance Review Copies – 4CLS gets more than we need. If anyone wants to receive them on a regular basis, let Sarah know. These can NOT be added to your collection, but they can be used as giveaways.
- 2017 Summer Reading Program – Catalogs are in, and I'll send them out in November. The SRP curriculum is going to be online this year instead of in print—if this turns out to be a problem for you, we can figure out a way to make it work.
- Read for the Record – October 27 – If you'd like to participate, information can be found here: <https://www.jstart.org/campaigns/read-for-the-record>
- Next Meeting – Ready to Read at NYS Libraries training
- Sharing
  - Maryse (JC) shared about a book walk that she created using this year's Family Literacy funds. She and JC's maintenance worker made stands for the book pages using buckets, cement, PVC pipe, and picture frames. The story was changed several times throughout the summer, and many patrons enjoyed strolling down the sidewalk and reading the story!
  - Kim and Angela (NO) shared that they had an exercise program for SRP participants this summer, and they worked with an organization called Hunger Solutions to offer a free lunch program for kids during the summer.
  - Annette (BC) shared about a Farm Feast fundraiser that the Bovina Library held, where local food was served to raise money for library programs.
  - Jess (OX) made a connection with the local school's summer program, which helped make the SRP especially successful this year. She did a children's garden with middle schoolers, and she coordinated an end-of-summer carnival with help from community members. She's working now on an afterschool program. Nancy (OX) added that Oxford is going solar!
  - Lindsay (VE) talked about a Pokemon Scavenger Hunt that she made for kids to find things in the library. She made a Harry Potter version for older kids and also a Willy Wonka version.
  - Anne (ONA) used local people instead of hiring performers this summer, e.g. yoga and Zumba instructors. She also held a Minecraft Camp and a Pokemon Go Safari.
  - Michelle (NI) shared that her SRP focused on fitness, with visits from Ballwinkle, the BU women's basketball team, Fred Akshar, and quad racers. She said that it

worked well to separate the kids into two different age groups during the programs this year.

- Linda and Erin (SID) held a teen program and a craft program each week, and they alternated professional performers with library programs each week. SRP participants counted minutes instead of books this year. The school's summer program conflicted with the library's SRP.
- Barb (HART) said that the local school's program also conflicted with her library's SRP. She had a soccer player that led activities, and the kids really enjoyed it. She also received a donation of Chobani yogurt, although she said she had to call several times and be very persistent in order to get it.
- Stephanie (WP) mentioned that she did programs with Legos, movies, and games with hula hoops and balls and jump ropes. She also held a walking challenge for SRP participants and hosted a fencing class that was very well received.
- Stacey (GR) held an American Girl book club, teen crafts, and a teen book club. Her adult book club participants ended up helping with the American Girl book club. She worked with local photographers to create chalk scenes that children could insert themselves into and be photographed—this program was popular. She also has a set of giant outdoor versions of board games that she is willing to lend.
- Sara-Jo (EN) said that they hired fewer performers and did more in-house programming. They did life-sized board games, as well, and a Teen Mystery Night. She said she was considering having SRP participants log minutes instead of books in the future.
- Kenneth (EN) held teen programs like Quidditch, a Clue Party, and a trivia night. He also shared about Project Enable, an initiative that he worked on through Syracuse University, which provides information and training to librarians about increasing inclusion and accessibility. More information can be found here: <http://projectenable.syr.edu/>
- Kelsey (BCPL) shared that the tween programs like Goofy Olympics and Lego Club were especially popular this summer. She also had great turnouts for performers like the Bubbleman.
- Korin and Debi (FE) shared that they coordinated a 5K as a fundraiser for the library—it was a lot of work, but it was a huge success. They held Monday evening programs with community members leading sports. They raffled bikes and had a library store, and they ended with a carnival that included a dunk tank (which they do not recommend!).
- Clara (SM) hosted a painting event for kids this summer, along with a dance class and a trip to Rogers Environmental Education Center. She has also recently started a storytime, and she will be hosting a program with a community member portraying Mother Goose on October 15.