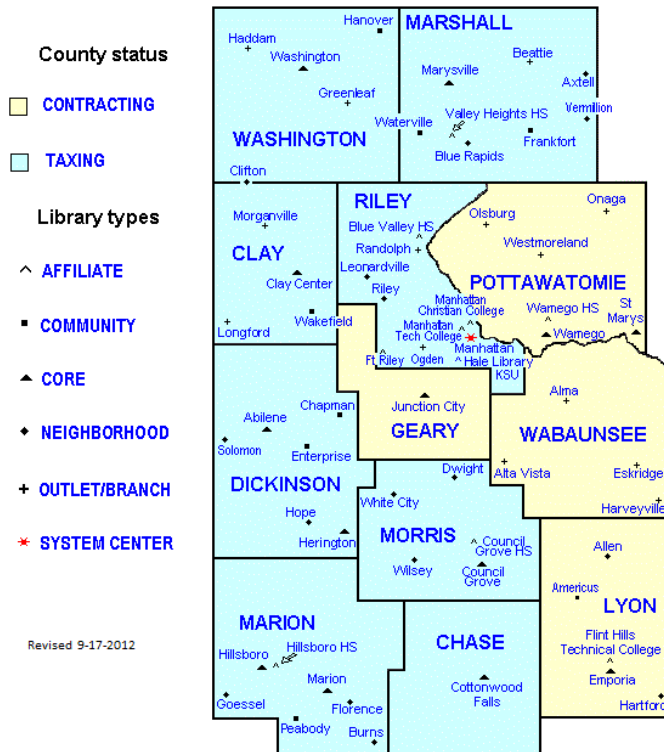
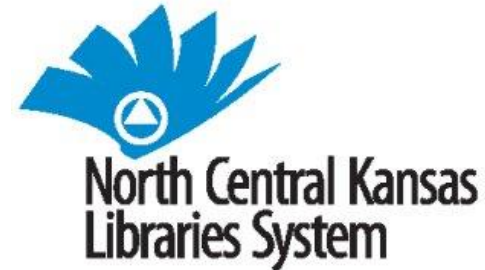


Where we are



2017 Annual Report



The North Central Kansas Libraries System helps member libraries provide quality library services to each of the communities they serve.

This report illustrates the activities that supported goals for 2017, as well as NCKLS's commitment to providing resources and services to each of the 40 participating libraries in a 12-county region. Grants, consulting services, continuing education opportunities and shared collections are integral parts of the system's efforts to bring that service to the entire region.

NCKLS will continue to work with member libraries to ensure that all citizens have equitable access to a variety of library resources from early childhood through senior years. Library services are vital to Kansas citizens, providing more opportunities for life-long learning than ever before through books, online resources, and program activities that help bring citizens together and build strong communities.

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GOAL 1:

All libraries in the NCKLS region will have access to the information and resources they need to manage library operations with consulting services, and timely, accurate, up-to-date communication.

Objectives:

1. By December 2017, librarians for 100% of public libraries in the NCKLS region will say they are familiar with the wide range of NCKLS services.

In the fall of 2017, NCKLS conducted an online survey of system librarians and trustees. The 46 responses are being analyzed.

By December 2017, school district libraries in the NCKLS region will receive information about available system services.

In February 2017, NCKLS co-hosted the KASL District 4 meeting during which we presented a session on maker kits.



GOAL 6:

NCKLS libraries in taxing counties will benefit from financial grants to support basic services and encourage innovation.

Objectives:

1. All eligible public libraries will receive ESG grants to supplement collections.

The 32 legally established libraries in taxing counties received \$124,250 in extended service grants. Funds were used for books, videos, e-books, librarians' salaries, and for matching other grant amounts.

2. At least 80% of eligible libraries will apply for and receive technology grants to improve access, productivity, availability.

26 (81%) libraries received technology grants totaling \$21,689. This averages \$834 per library.

3. At least 90% of eligible libraries will apply for and receive service improvement grants to make changes in their libraries, large or small, that create a comfortable, welcoming place.

18 (56%) libraries received service improvement grants totaling \$16,580. This averages \$921 per library.

In addition, ten libraries received \$50 "Good Idea" grants to use for summer reading programs.



GOAL 5:

NCKLS will provide services to extend resource sharing and provide efficiencies through technical services, processing support and shared collections.

Objectives:

1. NCKLS will continue to support 22 public libraries participating in the NorCat regional catalog, through administrative support, technical support and catalog enhancements for consortium members. Additional participation will be encouraged.

2. 100% of public libraries will benefit from shared support for purchasing, processing and cataloging of materials through reduced costs.

3. 90% of eligible public libraries will receive funding for courier services or interlibrary loan costs to encourage resource sharing.

18 libraries (56%) received \$7209 in courier and postage reimbursement grants.

4. NCKLS will provide funding to encourage and support shared e-resources collections.

NCKLS funds totaling \$6002 were used to purchase e-books and downloadable audiobooks for the state library One-Click and CloudLibrary services.

The rotating book van circulated 82,159 books to 44 library buildings in 2017. In addition, 1,635 large print books were circulated to 18 long-term care homes in our region.

GOAL 2:

NCKLS will provide librarians with the tools and assistance to create young readers from birth through teen years.

Objectives:

1. 80% of public libraries in the NCKLS region will provide regularly scheduled programs for children and/or teens.

27 system libraries (69%) have regularly scheduled children's and/or teen programs throughout the year.

2. Public libraries in the NCKLS area will participate in summer reading activities.

92% of NCKLS libraries participated in summer reading activities.

3. Staff from 80% of public libraries will participate in the summer reading workshop.

51 library staff members from 35 libraries attended the summer reading training (92% of libraries).

4. 75% of public libraries will participate in a fall event related to children's service.

*68% of NCKLS libraries participated in the Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Program in November. NCKLS provided story time "big books" of *The Napping House* for the event.*



GOAL 3:

Librarians and trustees in the NCKLS region will receive educational support and training to meet their needs and interests and to help them be successful in their jobs.

Objectives:

1. Every public library will receive current information on library governance.

Libraries received one or more copies of the Kansas Library Trustee Manual.

2. A training calendar for activities for 2017 calendar year was developed based on feedback from libraries.

3. NCKLS will provide support for every new public library director by encouraging enrollment in the state-wide APPLE program.

Four librarians graduated from the 2016-2017 Apple Course. This year, four more librarians are enrolled in the course.

4. NCKLS will continue bi-monthly directors' meetings with time dedicated to discussion of policy development. A minimum of four policies will be reviewed and updated.

Four face-to-face and two online directors' meetings were held. Among the topics discussed were: harassment training, Niche Academy, purging patron rolls, hiring and orienting new staff.



GOAL 4:

All NCKLS libraries will receive support and assistance with technology to provide access to online resources and services that meet the needs of residents in each community.

Objectives:

1. By December 2017, 60 % of libraries will develop a written technology plan to guide planning and purchasing to meet the goals of each library.

28 of 35 libraries (80%) have tech plans that have been reviewed, developed or approved by their board within the last 4 years (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017). Four libraries (Manhattan Public, Dorothy Bramlage, PWRL and Emporia Public) are excluded, as they manage their technology plans with little assistance from NCKLS.

2. 100% of public libraries will continue to maintain wireless Internet connectivity.

All legally established libraries within NCKLS provide free wireless Internet to their patrons. NCKLS maintains these networks and provides monthly and annual connection statistics for all libraries with the exception of Manhattan Public, Dorothy Bramlage and Emporia Public.

3. 100% of public libraries will have assistance to acquire adequate high speed connections to meet the needs of patrons and library functions.

NCKLS helps 100% of its libraries obtain and maintain the best Internet connection possible. The largest obstacle we face is the amount of bandwidth available from individual Internet providers. 62% of our libraries (30) have between 20m and 1000m of bandwidth. 38% of our libraries (18) are below 20m. Of these 18, only 3 of them are by choice. 15 of these libraries are either getting Internet at no cost or are at the highest bandwidth possible for their community.

4. NCKLS will provide technology training sessions for staff in 50% of all libraries in the region on a variety of library and productivity applications.

Librarians from 22 libraries attended 28 technology training sessions in 2017. In addition, training sessions were held for 2 school libraries.