

Where we are

- COUNTY STATUS**
- ☐ CONTRACTING
 - ☐ TAXING
- LIBRARY TYPES**
- ▲ AFFILIATE
 - ✚ BRANCH-MINI
 - OUTLET
 - ◆ GATEWAY
 - ▲ LINKING
 - ✕ SERVICE CENTER I
 - SERVICE CENTER II
 - ▼ MAJOR SERVICE CENTER I
 - ◀ MAJOR SERVICE CENTER II
 - ★ SYSTEM CENTER

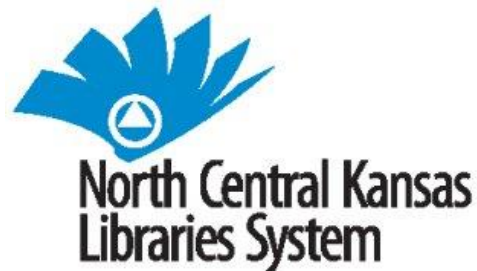


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2019 Annual Report



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 2019, 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.

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.

Program activities include:

1. Bi-monthly directors' meetings during which librarians share information and provide feedback to NCKLS staff.

Two online meetings and 4 face-to-face meetings were held.

2. Development and implementation of an annual survey and/or additional measures of impact to assess service needs on a routine basis.

3. Maintaining and delivering information about available system services and topics of interest in print and electronic formats, including a bi-monthly newsletter and the NCKLS website.

The NCKLS website had a make-over, and six editions of the newsletter were published.

4. Maintaining a collection of professional materials available for loan.

NCKLS added 26 new items to the professional collection in 2019.



GOAL 6:

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

Program activities include:

1. Public libraries in taxing counties receive extended service grants to supplement collections.

Libraries received \$125,500 for purchasing materials.

2. Public libraries in taxing counties may apply for and receive technology grants to upgrade, improve or enhance technology in their libraries.

25 of the 33 eligible libraries received technology grants totaling \$21,912.

3. Public libraries in taxing counties may apply for and receive service improvement grants to make improvements in their libraries that create a comfortable, welcoming place.

21 of the 33 eligible libraries received \$18,636 for service improvement.

4. Public libraries in taxing counties may apply for and receive programming grants for activities and programs in their libraries.

Eleven libraries received "Good Idea" grants for summer reading.



GOAL 5:

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

Program activities include:

1. Support for 22 public libraries participating in the NorCat regional catalog, including administrative and technical support, as well as catalog enhancements for consortium members.

2. Coordinated purchasing, processing and cataloging services to facilitate the acquisition of library materials and supplies for optimum discounts and support.

NCKLS helped system libraries purchase and process 13,649 items.

3. Funding to eligible public libraries for courier services via the Kansas Library Express or interlibrary loan costs to encourage resource sharing. **Twenty-three libraries received a total of \$7,738 to participate in ILL lending.**

4. Assistance with interlibrary loan for borrowing and lending materials as needed.

Seven non-KICnet libraries borrowed 119 items with the help of the system.

5. Assistance with collection management including weeding. **Staff assisted with 3 weeding projects in 2019.**

6. Subscription to OCLC's CatME for system-wide use.

7. Funding for shared eBook and electronic resources.

NCKLS contributed \$25,417 to the state downloadable eBook and audiobook programs.

8. Rotating book collection to participating libraries.

82,105 books were rotated throughout the system in 2019.

9. Rotating collection of large print books to long-term care institutions through local libraries.

1,880 large print books were rotated to 16 long-term care facilities.

GOAL 2:

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

Program activities include:

1. Support to libraries to encourage and plan for regularly scheduled programs for children and/or teens. This includes training, regional workshops and programming kits for all ages.

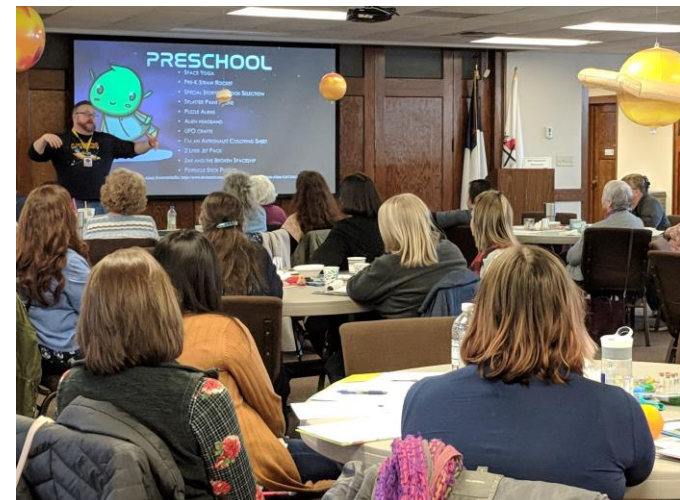
NCKLS checked out 68 kits to member libraries.

2. Distribution of summer reading materials and hosting an annual workshop in cooperation with other regional library systems.

Forty-three librarians attended the summer reading workshop on March 1; in addition, 26 people attended the craft workshops.

3. Partnering with area school districts to host programs or activities of interest.

NCKLS cohosted the KASL Districts 1 & 4 workshop in Emporia on March 30, 2019.



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.

Program activities include:

1. An annual schedule of programs and training opportunities based on feedback from libraries.

Nineteen sessions on various topics were held with 436 people attending.

2. Support for every new public library director through participation in the state-wide ApPLE program.

The one student enrolled in the 2018-2019 class did not complete.



Seven students enrolled in the 2019-2020 class

3. Funding for continuing education grants and travel reimbursement for librarians and trustees to help support workshop costs, travel, registration and attendance at library or library-related conferences and workshops.

Libraries received \$7,235 in continuing education funds to send staff to KLA, ApPLE and other conferences.

4. Developing and/or curating online content for continuing education.

Four video sessions were added to the NCKLS Niche Academy Staff Site. Six sessions of trustee training were offered online.

5. NCKLS staff created a policy wiki connected to the website to encourage all member libraries to share their board policies.

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.

Technology support is a priority for system services. Technology support includes computer and telecommunication systems for library productivity and public services.

Program activities include:

1. Assistance in the development of a written technology plan to guide planning and purchasing to meet the goals of each library.

32 of 33 (97%) of libraries in taxing counties have current technology plans. These plans are used annually to aid in budgeting and purchasing technology.

Assistance in maintaining wireless Internet connectivity and assistance in gathering statistics for the state report.

All legally established libraries within NCKLS provide free wireless Internet to their patrons. NCKLS maintains these networks and provides annual connection statistics for 36 system libraries. In 2019, these libraries connected patrons to their wireless networks 247,209 times.

3. Technology training for library staff on a variety of library and productivity applications.

LaDonna conducted 43 sessions with 107 attendees.

4. Maintaining a server and providing training for WordPress for individual public library websites.

LaDonna presented 23 WordPress workshops with 50 attendees.

5. Funding and support for annual e-rate applications to public libraries in taxing counties.

NCKLS helped 33 libraries file and receive e-rate discounts for Internet and networking services in the amount of \$36,484.73.

6. Support for purchasing and installing technology equipment, antivirus and security software.

NCKLS helped 37 libraries in the purchase and setup of over 120 devices in 2019. NCKLS continues to provide antivirus software on all staff computers, while DeepFreeze System Restore Software is maintained on all patron computers.

7. Troubleshooting support via phone, email, remote access, and in person.

An estimated 2355 contacts were made by the NCKLS technology team in 2019. Of these, 244 were onsite visits and 1624 were remote sessions using ConnectWise.

8. Maintaining Internet filtering for public libraries.

NCKLS continues to maintain 2 DNS servers providing content filtering to 44 libraries. The servers received updated software in 2019.