State Superintendent's Report on Intertype Library Cooperation and Resource Sharing

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2021-2023

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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Developed by

Library Services Team

Division for Libraries and Technology
September 2023

Introduction

The State Superintendent of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is required by Wis. Stats. 43.03(3)(d) to,

> "submit to the council on library and network development a biennial report which describes the programs and policies to promote cooperation and resource sharing among public libraries, school libraries, other types of libraries and related agencies and to plan, coordinate, evaluate and set statewide priorities for the development of networks to enable library cooperation and resource sharing within this state and between this state and resource providers in other states carried out in the preceding biennium and the programs and policies to be carried out in the succeeding biennium."

The Intertype Library Cooperation biennial report describes the DPI's programs and policies that promote cooperation and resource sharing among all types of libraries. This report covers current and future activities of the following Wisconsin organizations, committees, programs, and projects and their work with the DPI and its Division for Libraries and Technology.

Organizations and Committees:

Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC)
South Central Library System Delivery Service
University of Wisconsin (UW) System integrated library system
Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA)
Wisconsin Library Services (WiLS)
Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC)
Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium (WSDLC)
Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL)

Programs and Projects:

Adult and community services
BadgerLink
Digital Public Library of America and Digitization of Historical Materials
Interlibrary Loan Services (ILL) and WISCAT
Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)
The Library Workforce Connection (LWC)
Public Library System Partnership
School Library and Public Youth Services Collaboration
Wisconsin Document Depository and Wisconsin Digital Archives

WISELearn
Youth and Inclusive Services

2021-2023 Biennial Budget

The 2021-23 State Superintendent's biennial budget request sought an increase of $2,500,000 in FY22 and $4,000,000 in FY23 for the appropriation for aid to public library systems to support the operations and maintenance of public library services in Wisconsin. The budget proposal also requested an increase of $12,900 in FY22 and $25,300 in FY 23, coming from the Universal Services Fund, to fully fund the statewide library services contracts. No request was made to increase funding for BadgerLink and Newsline for the Blind, as the current appropriation is sufficient to cover projected costs of operation for the next biennium. The budget requests $150,000 in FY22 and $300,000 in FY23 from GPR to provide a dedicated source of funding for Recollection Wisconsin. The Department requested a reduction to the WISELearn digital learning portal and a reduction in the appropriate for Pupil Assessments to offset the cost of this request.

2023-2025 Biennial Budget

On July 5, 2023, Governor Evers signed SB-70, the 2023-25 State Biennial Budget, into law as [2023 Act 19 (with partial vetoes).](#) The 2023-2025 State Biennial Budget increases Public Library System Aid funding by $2 M in FY24 and by $4 M in FY25 (the ongoing increase after FY25 is $4 M). Recollection Wisconsin will receive a dedicated source of funding of $150,000 in FY24 and $300,000 in FY25 (the ongoing funding after FY25 is $300,000). BadgerLink & Newsline for the Blind will see an increase in funding by $104,000 in FY24 & $203,000 in FY25 to maintain current service levels. Library Service Contracts funding will increase by $29,800 in FY25 to maintain current service levels.

Activities of Statewide Library Organizations

Numerous library organizations around Wisconsin make intertype library cooperation and resource sharing a reality. Working with the DPI, these organizations plan and implement programs to address local and state needs and compliment important national initiatives.

The Cooperative Children's Book Center

The [Cooperative Children's Book Center](#) (CCBC) staff of two full-time and two part-time professional librarians (3.62 FTE) work closely with the University of

Wisconsin, libraries of all types, and schools across the state to provide a wide range of information services about children's and young adult literature. The Division for Libraries and Technology pays for a portion of the CCBC operations through a contract with the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2021-2023 Activities

- Hired new director following retirement of KT Horning in June 2021.
- Enhanced the publication of CCBC Choices, the annual best-of-the-year list of the CCBC, from print to digital. The newly designed, digital publication provides full bibliographic citations, annotations, age recommendations, and cover images for all the books recommended in CCBC Choices 2023, as well as a link to each book's entry in the CCBC-Recommended Book Search database, where custom lists can be created.
- Exceeded pre-pandemic levels of presentations held at the CCBC, across the state, and online. Intellectual freedom education and training were the most sought-after workshops.
- Presentations on new and recent books and hands-on book examination opportunities reached over 1,000 pre-service and practicing librarians and teachers across Wisconsin and international scholars from Australia, Canada, and South Korea.
- Added "Copy Link to Clipboard" and "Send Link Via Email" features to CCBC-Recommended Book Search database. Exponential increase in CCBC Intellectual Freedom Services: 600% increase in number of book titles; 300% increase in number of calls requesting assistance in the past two years.
- Three to four thousand books were received and analyzed annually for CCBC Diversity Statistics, which are regularly accessed and cited in research and national media, including CNN, The New York Times, The New Yorker, Publishers Weekly, and others.
- The CCBC staff assisted students and professionals, including the media, with specific queries and analysis support related to the Diversity Statistics on average 1-2 times per week.
- Book reviews and subject headings for 273 titles were added to the "CCBC-Recommended Books" searchable database from CCBC Choices 2022.
- Installed a permanent display highlighting *The Westing Game* manuscript and other works of Wisconsin author/artist Ellen Raskin.
- Held an open house for state and campus partners to celebrate artwork on display throughout the reading room that offers insights into the story of the CCBC, and the authors and artists with whom the CCBC has connected.

2023-2025 Goals

- Host author Angeline Boulley for the 2023 Charlotte Zolotow Lecture.
- Enhance the CCBC's Diversity Statistics annual report and media kit.
- Begin planning 40th anniversary of the CCBC Diversity Statistics in 2025.
- Expand training related to complex intellectual freedom issues and role of administrators.
- Complete weeding of CCBC Basic Collections and transfers to Historical Collection.

South Central Library System Delivery System

The statewide delivery service relies heavily on the delivery network operated by the South-Central Library System (SCLS). This backbone service connects to inter-system delivery operations managed by public library systems and is operated in conjunction with SCLS's contract with the University of Wisconsin System. The SCLS Wisconsin delivery system connects with libraries in Minnesota and the Dakotas using specialized courier services. The LSTA grant provides key support for inter-system delivery by applying the grant toward operational costs associated with vehicle-related expenses.

The SCLS Wisconsin delivery service website http://www.scls.info/delivery/ contains information on the delivery networks, times, volume statistics, and service information.

2021-2023 Activities

- Lead and facilitate statewide delivery service model evolution, operational standards, and contract processes as statewide delivery coordinator.
- Convene with statewide delivery managers and couriers to communicate problems, innovations, and activities.
- Evaluate service needs and efficiency as indicated by volume changes and frequency demands.
- Facilitate new local delivery hubs statewide and seek efficiencies with partner systems and local couriers by managing Public Library System Redesign hub model implementation.
- Continue to explore the implementation of northern delivery hub in central Wisconsin and provide linking opportunities to the statewide network that streamlines the current model.

2023-2025 Goals

- Actively collaborate with partner systems and vendors to implement hub model permanence.
- Evaluate quality and efficiency of pilot model development.

- Facilitate recommendations for service governance and operational standards metrics.

University of Wisconsin (UW) System Integrated Library System

The Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL) provides a forum for library and information technology planning within the University of Wisconsin System. CUWL reports to the UW System Associate Vice President of Learning and Information Technology Services.

The Council's purposes include:

- Advocating within the UW System regarding library programs, systems, and funding including computing, telecommunications, resource sharing, and information resource structures.
- Planning, developing, and implementing policies, procedures, and strategic directions regarding system-wide library resources and programs.
- Informing local institutional administrators of UW System library initiatives.
- Participating in state-wide library planning and advocacy.

2021-2023 Activities

- Execute a new delivery services agreement to facilitate resource sharing with SCLS.
- Expand support for interlibrary loan, document delivery, curbside pick-up, and return anywhere services to minimize the impact of the pandemic on UW communities.
- Monitor activities related to document delivery, electronic serials management, and cross-database searching to support streamlined and expanded services.

2023-2025 Goals

- Participate in the statewide delivery service sharing physical library resources.
- Fulfill interlibrary loan resource sharing requests made by Wisconsin libraries.
- Offer community borrower cards to residents at UW campuses.
- Individual campus partnerships with public, school libraries, and communities such as hosting high school researchers, History Day, and Big Reads.

- UW campuses are the Area Research Centers in their communities, providing access to local historical and genealogical documents.
- Instructional content created by UW library staff made freely available in WISELearn.
- Digital collections made freely available via Minds@UW.

Wisconsin Educational Media and Technical Association

The Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA) is composed of 433 school librarians, school technology leaders, and others with a passion for empowering educators to provide learning experiences that prepare students to flourish in an information-rich world.

As an expert source on matters of digital learning and information literacy, WEMTA conducts the following: fosters leadership at all levels, provides professional development opportunities to advance the skills of all educators, advocates for matters important to advance our mission, informs the greater educator community, and grows partnerships that enhance the ability of all to carry out our mission.

2021-2023 Activities

- Held annual conferences: 2021 Virtual, 2022 Hybrid, and 2023 in-person conference with pre-pandemic level attendance.
- Served on Governor's Task Force on Broadband Access.
- Formed DPI partnership to enhance our communication/representation on AASL Coordinated efforts with the DPI/Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to move Common School Fund Adjustment earlier in the school year allowing more time for districts and librarians to plan fund expenditures.
- Served on the Connecting Wisconsin Libraries team.
- Reestablished the Intellectual Freedom Committee providing forums were offered for members.
- Grew our social media presence.
- Established a strong connection between WEMTA and PBS.

2023-2025 Goals

- Increase membership by 25% year over year.
- Improve communication to membership by providing videoclips of quarterly DPI and PBS reports.
- Grow connections with partner organizations (WLA, CoSN) to offer joint conference opportunities.
- Grow connections with legislators to increase support of BCPL and strengthen WEMTA/BCPL partnership.

Wisconsin Library Services

[Wisconsin Library Services](#) (WiLS) is a non-profit membership organization that facilitates collaborative projects and services to save its members time and money and advances library service, primarily in the state of Wisconsin.

WiLS members are primarily libraries, but the organization also works with cultural institutions, government agencies, and other non-profits to develop partnerships and projects. General membership is free. There is a membership fee to participate in the cooperative purchasing service and for other services.

WiLS offers services and activities in these primary areas:

Cooperative Purchasing and Projects: WiLS Cooperative Purchasing Services manages the complete life cycle for electronic content purchases and other vendor direct product discounts.

Consulting: WiLS consults with libraries to identify goals, develop projects, and turn their ideas into action. WiLS provides planning, research, and data services, and connects libraries with expertise within the library community and beyond.

Consortia Management: WiLS manages several consortia, including the [Wisconsin Public Library Consortium](#), the Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium, WISPALS (a consortium of technical college libraries), the Horticulture Library Consortium, and Recollection Wisconsin, a statewide digital cultural heritage portal in partnership with the [Digital Public Library of America.](#) WiLS provides services to these consortia based on their needs, including fiscal agency, process and project management, and communication and meeting facilitation.

Learning Opportunities: WiLS provides educational and professional development opportunities via its free and virtual WiLSWorld Shorts series throughout the year on various topics of interest to members.

Digital Projects: WiLS coordinates digital preservation training for cultural heritage practitioners across the state through various grant-supported projects. Recent projects have included supporting tribal libraries in digitizing collections and language preservation efforts and creating digital readiness communities of practice to support affiliates' capacity to create, manage, and share digitized historical resources.

2021-2023 Activities

- Improved the member experience through a redesigned MyWiLS portal and WiLS website.
- Redesigned the cooperative purchasing fee model for our academic members.
- Led an engagement hub for the American Library Association (ALA) Transforming Communities program.
- Developed the City Library Collective to bring mid-size city libraries across the state together to address common issues and use collective knowledge to improve their organizations and services to their communities.
- Partnered with two Wisconsin Native Nations on digital preservation of culturally significant collections including resources for language revitalization and preservation.
- Served as the mentor organization for an IMLS community memory cohort program working with small, rural, and tribal libraries from across the county.
- Developed a robust Digital Readiness Toolkit designed to support the needs of small cultural heritage organizations.
- Celebrated the organization's 50th anniversary.
- Assisted the DPI in developing the state's five-year LSTA plan.
- Managed and documented the Public Library Annual Report collection process.
- Facilitated the successful merger of Arrowhead Library System and Lakeshores Library System to form the Prairie Lakes Library System.
- Partnered with libraries on strategic planning, data collection and analysis, staff development, and other custom projects.
- Awarded 18 Ideas to Actions grants to member organizations in 2021 and 2022.
- Developed the organization's five-year strategic plan.

2023-2025 Goals

The goals for WiLS are taken from its Strategic Plan for 2022-2027, which includes three primary goals:

Strengthening and Building Community: WiLS supports its members by creating engaging opportunities that strengthen collaborations and strategic partnerships that are viewed by its community as vital and essential.

Fueling Innovation: WiLS helps its members, its profession, and its own organization continuously seek out new ideas and ways of doing things more efficiently and cost-effectively.

Supporting Organizational Health and Sustainability: WiLS is invested in the long-term health and sustainability of its member community and organization. WiLS designs services to strengthen staff and boards, build capacity, and ensure continuity of operations.

The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium

The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC), managed by WiLS, provides Wisconsin's Digital Library (WDL) of eBooks, digital audiobooks, and more. OverDrive is the current vendor providing the content for the project. The Consortium is governed by the WPLC Board, which includes representation from all public library systems in Wisconsin. Wisconsin's Digital Library is governed by the Digital Library Steering Committee and supported by the Selection Committee and the Collection Development Committee.

As of June 2023, WDL has supported over two million users and has a collection of almost 120,000 titles. In 2022, the library circulated 7.6 million items to Wisconsin library users. In addition to WDL, the WPLC fosters collaboration throughout the public library systems in Wisconsin. In 2020, two new technology-focused committees were added to the consortium - the Technology Collaborations Operations Committee and the Technology Collaborations Steering Committee. Both committees have been working to foster and develop shared technology projects.

At the end of 2021, the WPLC Board also voted to establish the creation of two additional technology-related steering committees - the Technology Backup Collaboration Steering Committee and the Digital Archives Collaboration Steering Committee. These two bodies provide governance, expertise, and direction for the public library system shared backup projects.

2021-2023 Activities

- Engaged in in-depth diversity and collection analysis and identified areas for development in the juvenile and young adult collection.
- Reallocated collection budget to increase the amount spent on juvenile and young adult materials.
- Prioritized reducing hold times for youth materials.
- Identified quality, key resources, and tools related to a diverse and inclusive collection to use in selector training.
- Conducted a diversity audit for adult materials.
- Developed a timeline and process for weeding the collection more frequently.

- Monitored and researched current options for video through Overdrive and other potential streaming services on a statewide level. WiLS facilitated cooperative purchasing with Kanopy for interested systems.
- Worked with OverDrive to identify and develop new tools to aid in deselection, making work more efficient.
- Increased Wisconsin's Digital Library Buying Pool by approximately 5% each year.
- Implemented the Technology Collaborative Backup and Digital Archives Collaborative Backup Steering Committees.
- The Backup Committees worked to develop a 5-year plan for the backup projects that outlines the project, its goals, and budget.
- The Technology Collaborative investigated and worked on developing potential shared technology-related projects. The group continues to work on a potential cooperative purchase of an authentication tool and the development of a data dashboard.

2023-2025 Goals

- Explore the addition of statewide electronic newspaper collections with local title availability.
- Research available music streaming services, focusing on services that provide entire albums rather than just individual tracks.
- Provide robust training and support for WDL selectors around spending, purchasing, holds management, and de-selection.
- Research and review Peer Activity Reports from other consortia to understand their approach to collection management.
- Create a communication plan that includes:
    - promoting young adult and juvenile collections to both staff and patrons.
    - helping patrons access and use WDL with Libby. (Utilizing in-app messaging to share with app users.)
    - creating a promotion and awareness campaign incorporating WPLC Social Media Committee.
    - a monthly email to WPLC committee members with highlights and updates from OverDrive and spotlighting "Did You Knows" to build awareness and communication between the various committees.
- Expand the breadth of Lucky Day title selection, with a focus on audio format, and promote the collection to digital library browsers, as well as create a process for adding and removing titles from Lucky Day for both the shared collection and Advantage accounts.
- Explore expanding offerings of simultaneous-use titles for audio.

- Hold a WPLC Visioning session to set goals and discuss future growth for the consortium.
- Continue exploration of statewide technology-related collaboration projects.
- In partnership with the DPI, hold a data summit to discuss statewide data needs and the development of a statewide data dashboard.

The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library

The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL), located in the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) Central building, is a part of a national network that cooperates with the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS). WTBBL provides audiobooks and Braille materials to people in Wisconsin who cannot read or use regular print materials due to visual or physical limitations or reading disabilities, whether temporary or permanent.

Recorded and online books and magazines, braille materials, Overdrive, BadgerLink, and National Federation of the Blind (NFB)-NEWSLINE service, as well as audio-described DVDs, are available to WTBBL patrons. WTBBL patrons can enjoy free postage when receiving and returning library materials via the U.S. Postal Service. Additionally, WTBBL works with the Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement (ABLE), also located within MPL, to circulate audiobooks and Braille materials related to Wisconsin or authored by Wisconsin residents. Each book recorded by ABLE is assigned a DBC number for the NLS BARD (National Library Service Braille and Audio Reading Download) site. The Division for Libraries and Technology hosts the WTBBL website at dpi.wi.gov/talkingbooks.

The Division for Libraries and Technology and WTBBL also provide access to the NFB-NEWSLINE service to persons who cannot read conventional newsprint. The NFB-NEWSLINE service is an audible newspaper service that provides independent access to over 300 publications (including 16 Wisconsin newspapers), magazines, and TV listings anytime and anywhere, accessible by telephone, web, or mobile app. The service is offered to users at no direct cost. Universal service funds, appropriated through the biennial budget process, pay for the service. There were 1,555 registered Wisconsin users of the NFB-NEWSLINE service in May 2023.

2021-2023 Activities

- Migration to NLS Gutenberg Duplication on Demand (DOD) system. The new system enables the downloading of multiple titles on a cartridge.

- Returned physical collection of digital audiobooks to NLS. Opened space left by the removal of shelving units taken up by the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) Education and Outreach Services (EOS).
- NLS Humanware braille eReaders distributed to braille patrons (beginning May 2022).
- Hudson Star Observer (16th Wisconsin publication) added to NFB-NEWSLINE.
- Staff participated in numerous virtual NLS conferences and training.
- Between WTBBL FY 2021-2023, 102 DBCs have been added to the NLS Voyager catalog and available for downloading through NLS BARD.
- Updated the WTBBL brochure in 2022.
- Offered BARD training to patrons.
- Restarted volunteer student program after a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

2023-2025 Goals

- Increase staff participation in professional development through MPL and NLS and attendance in conferences, including the NLS Biennial National Conference in 2024 and the annual NLS regional conference.
- Working with MPL in reconfiguring and renovating the WTBBL workspace.
- Collaboration with Jim Denham, Wisconsin Council for the Blind and Visually Impaired (WCBVI) Access Technology Specialist, to offer eReader training for patrons.
- NLS eReader training for WTBBL staff, enabling us to offer eReader technical support.

Projects and Services Managed by the DPI

The DPI's Library Services Team, which is part of the Division for Libraries and Technology, manages the following programs and services delivered in conjunction with the Wisconsin library community.

Adult and Community Services

The DPI invests in the belief strong libraries are an integral part of strong communities. As such, adults in the community must find value in their local library, and libraries must work within the community to learn its aspirations and provide the services that best help people attain their goals.

2021-2023 Activities

The Play Make Learn 2023 Conference: The DPI has been a long-term supporter and sponsor of the Play Make Learn conference held each year in Madison, Wisconsin (financial support made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services).

- The Play Make Learn Conference promotes high-quality learning opportunities for educators, researchers, developers, designers, foundation leaders, policy makers, museum and library professionals, and school leaders who are dedicated to promoting making, gaming, and playful learning. The conference aims to engage their audience in cutting-edge learning science ideas and experiences; communicate state-of-the-art design, education, and research; demonstrate new and upcoming games and technology; and network to spark new projects in the following themes: playful learning, games for learning and positive social impact, making and makerspaces, STEAM education, arts integration in formal and informal spaces, research/practitioner partnerships, and more.

- The Play Make Learn conference keeps growing; demographics of audience attendees continues to expand, both in the fields they represent and how far they travel. Attendees and presenters have joined Play Make Learn from across the United States and five other countries, including Canada, Germany, Taiwan, Kingdom of Bahrain, and India; available attendance was increased from 250 to 300 in 2023, and the registration cap was met.

- Multiple Library Services Team staff members attended and participated in Play Make Learn 2023, whose activities included being on the conference organizing committee, emceeing the event, offering remarks during plenary sessions, moderating a panel presentation, and offering a panel presentation, and more.

PolarVR Library Fellowship and NSF Grant Project: Beginning in 2022, a collection of 12-16 librarians from diverse regions throughout the state of Wisconsin were engaged in a collaborative partner project titled "Virtual Reality Expeditions in your Library", colloquially referred to as "PolarVR." This National Science Foundation grant-funded research/practitioner partner project includes collaborators from multiple agencies and subject matter specialties, including Wisconsin librarians, a liaison from the Library Services Team at the DPI, Field Day Learning Games, WID Virtual Environments Group, Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, PolarTREC, the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (UW-Madison), the Institute for Learning Innovation, and more.

- The project's focus is on utilizing libraries as informal education spaces to offer newly developed Polar research-inspired virtual reality experiences to better reach rural and Latine Wisconsin community members.

- Three brand new virtual reality experiences are being developed between 2023-2026 to be offered in libraries.

- Advisement and consultation from Latine bicultural/bilingual experts are included in the project to help librarians with Latine outreach in their communities. Polar research experts are also available to help design resources surrounding the research that can be included in library programming.

- Each Fellowship librarian is invited to attend the annual Play Make Learn workshop (travel, lodging, and registration paid for), and receives a free Oculus Quest 2 virtual reality headset to use in their library.

- The DPI Liaison serves as an implementation specialist to help libraries offer programs to their communities.

2023-2025 Goals

- Further solidify the DPI/Library Services Team's role with Play Make Learn conference planning and support; the DPI is uniquely positioned as a state agency to bring together stakeholders across multiple intersectional networks that are invested in the innovative learning space. Continuing to partner with Play Make Learn aligns with agency goals.
- Explore new pathways for including Wisconsin librarians and educators in the conference; enhance promotion of conference, presentation opportunities, and conference registration to integrate more DPI stakeholders into the experience.
- Continue supporting PolarVR Fellowship librarians in implementation of VR experiences withing their communities; focus on broader impact growth via enhanced Latine/rural outreach and innovative technology (VR) representation.
- Onboard Fellowship librarians and support implementation of newly developed 2023/2024 PolarVR experience ("Weather Station") once it is released.
- Forge strengthened relationship with the Wisconsin Science Festival via the PolarVR Project

BadgerLink

From personal interest to educational research, BadgerLink is Wisconsin's online library, providing Wisconsin residents with licensed trustworthy resources. The resources are designed to provide a foundational collection serving all Wisconsin residents, augmenting those available through K-12 schools, public libraries, public and private universities and technical colleges, medical and health-care facilities and practitioners, and state agencies. The DPI Library Services Team provides leadership, consultation, technical assistance, and training to the Wisconsin library community on best practices and effective use of the resources. BadgerLink celebrates 25 years in 2023.

2021-2023 Activities

- Completed the Request for Proposal process for the three newspaper collections. Two collections were awarded and contracted, including the ProQuest product U.S. Newsstream (U.S. and Wisconsin large populations daily and weekly newspapers) and the Wisconsin Newspaper Association's product Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers (Wisconsin small populations daily and weekly newspapers). The U.S. historic newspapers collection was awarded, but no contract was finalized.
- Finalized authentication improvements with Auto-Graphics, adding Google geolocation to enhance the user experience.
- Completed a comprehensive Training Needs community survey and used results to develop grade level and subject area resource guides.
- Held website user testing sessions with Advisory Group members. Reviewed past meeting successes and areas for improvement and planned for future work.
- Added a new For Library Staff website page to house tools and helpful resources. Also redesigned areas of the homepage.
- Collaborated with vendors to revise and update promotional materials.
- Used the Statewide Database Inventory & Needs Assessment report and current usage data to inform updates to procurement collections.
- Worked with a limited term employee to assist with account data cleanup.

2023-2025 Goals

- Complete resource procurement of remaining collections for July 2024 contracts, configure new resources for access, and develop training materials.
- Implement a flipped classroom training approach to improve engagement with Wisconsin library staff.

- Work with the BadgerLink Advisory Group and library staff statewide to promote updated BadgerLink materials to diverse audiences.
- Continue collaboration with DPI's Library Services Team members to innovate engagement efforts.

Digital Public Library of America and Digitization of Historical Materials

Recollection Wisconsin is Wisconsin's Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Recollection Wisconsin is a statewide, multitype consortium managed by WiLS and governed by six core partners: the DPI, the Wisconsin Historical Society, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Public Library, and Marquette University. The DPI Library Services Team is represented on the Recollection Wisconsin Governing Board, Steering Committee, and the Education Advisory Committee. Recollection Wisconsin is considered a "Service Hub" within the DPLA structure. That role involves cataloging and adding metadata to local collections to make them accessible through DPLA.

As of June 2023, 249 Wisconsin institutions, some representing multiple contributors such as library systems, have provided 657,260 metadata records that are searchable in DPLA's nationwide collection. Recollection Wisconsin's growth in overall views of individual collection items continues to steadily increase: 13% in 2021 and 16% in 2022. For more information on Wisconsin's participation in DPLA, see https://recollectionwisconsin.org/dpla.

2021 - 2023 Activities:

- Added 21 new content partners in 2021 and 2022.
- Continued to work with the Education Advisory Committee to help connect K-12 teachers and students with digitized historical resources.
- Designed and launched a refreshed page for educators teaching state and local history in K12 classrooms with the aim of making the many primary sources available in Recollection Wisconsin more easily and quickly accessible.
- Began using insights learned in the gap analysis to begin to fill gaps and create a more representative and inclusive collection.
- Hosted virtual digital fairs to connect local history practitioners with the growing Digital Readiness Community of Practice, supported by a National Historic Publications and Resources Commission (NHPRC) Archives Collaboratives grant.
- Continued to facilitate metadata harvests to contribute new records to the DPLA and Recollection Wisconsin search portals.

- Offered individual coaching to support content partners' implementation of standardized rights statements for digital content.
- Advocated for and secured state funding to support Recollection Wisconsin's work.
- Wrote and published the [Digital Readiness Toolkit](#) to provide easy-to-understand guidelines for digitization work so that digitizing local and community history is achievable for under-resourced cultural heritage organizations, thus increasing representation in the digital collections.
- Recollection Wisconsin, in partnership with the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, began offering [audiovisual lending kits](#) for use in cultural heritage organizations. The kits include film inspection equipment for 8mm and 16 mm film and a film digitization machine for 8 mm film.
- Continued to engage with the DPLA Hubs Network nationwide through participation in the DPLA Network Council, Advisory Council, working groups, and member meetings.

2023-2025 Goals

- Work with Governing Board, Steering Committee, and community of practice to pursue growth and stability strategies to sustain Recollection Wisconsin's services well into the future.
- Publish updated Digital Readiness Toolkit with expanded guidance on tending and curating audiovisual collections.
- Grow content partnerships throughout the state to increase representation in collections.
- Work with local and community cultural heritage organizations to surface underrepresented voices and populations in collections.
- Partner with WiLS' Native Nations Digital Stewardship Collective to address Indigenous materials in Recollection Wisconsin collections.
- Continue to facilitate quarterly metadata harvests to contribute new records to the DPLA and Recollection Wisconsin search portals.
- Continue to offer coaching to support content partners' implementation of standardized rights statements for digital content.

Interlibrary Loan Services and WISCAT

Wisconsin libraries rely on interlibrary loan (ILL) to obtain materials their patrons need that are not available from their own collections. ILL is a core service provided by most Wisconsin libraries and is necessary to provide all Wisconsin residents equitable access to library materials.

WISCAT software combines a statewide bibliographic database, a virtual catalog of library holdings, and an interlibrary loan management system used by nearly 500

Wisconsin libraries of all types. The Division for Libraries and Technology negotiates and manages the contract for the WISCAT software and provides training and technical support to WISCAT users. This software is also leveraged by BadgerLink to provide authentication to licensed resources.

In addition to resource sharing within the WISCAT software platform, the Division for Libraries and Technology contracts with the Milwaukee Public Library and the University of Wisconsin-Madison to give WISCAT libraries access to materials in the rich collections of these institutions.

The Division also maintains a contract with the nonprofit global library organization, OCLC, to search and request items from other academic and out-of-state libraries on behalf of WISCAT libraries. This helps ensure all Wisconsin residents have access to the largest possible pool of materials no matter where they are in the state.

2021-2023 Activities

- Expanded the WISCAT training program by providing more asynchronous training materials for participating libraries.
- Updated the Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan guidelines with the help of system ILL coordinators, and with approval of the Council on Library and Network Development.
- Worked with a UW-Madison iSchool practicum student on WISCAT-related projects of their interest, which included the creation of new training videos and documentation.
- Optimized workflow for referring ILL requests virtually at the statewide clearinghouse.
- Eliminated WISCAT licensing fees to remove barriers to libraries' participation in Interlibrary Loan.

2023-2025 Goals

- Provide compelling data on the value of WISCAT to participants and the library community.
- Expand library ILL expertise through ILL coordinators throughout the state.
- Research technological tools and protocols for improving efficiencies in WISCAT, at the statewide, library system, and library level.
- Investigate ways resource sharing and interlibrary loan can allow for greater library discovery for Wisconsin residents.

The Library Workforce Connection

While the Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) project officially "ended" in December of 2022, librarians and workforce development specialists involved in the collaboration collectively identified the immense value of an ongoing statewide partnership. Beginning in January of 2023, LAWDS participants agreed to continue meeting monthly under the rebranded moniker, The Library Workforce Connection (LWC).

The LWC is a workforce development workgroup consisting of library system directors, regional library consultants, workforce development specialists, and more. The group aims to showcase successful workforce development and service-related initiatives, which could be utilized in libraries throughout the state and troubleshoot evolving workforce development challenges. The LWC is an excellent way for librarians and other specialists throughout the state to collaborate and stay in-the-know about workforce development opportunities in the field.

2021-2023 Activities

- Offer two in-person Workforce Development Collaboration Workshops in different, diverse regions of the state (Central Wisconsin and Northern Wisconsin, respectively); the workshops focus on bringing together intersectional stakeholders by hosting both librarians and local workforce assistance specialists, sharing useful resources, and showcasing opportunities for collaboration.
- Host unique speakers each month at the LWC workgroup meetings; these speakers include both workforce-activated librarians and other workforce assistance specialists from diverse regions throughout the state, allowing the workgroup to collectively benefit by learning about local programs, resources, and initiatives.
- Updated the Library Staff Resources to Assist Wisconsin's Workforce to reflect the workgroup's rebranding. Also updated the related Training Webinars and Guides page to include new "Upcoming Workforce-Related Webinars & Workshops" section, and "Past Employment-Related Resources & Recordings" to offer a one-stop shop pathway for interested stakeholders to learn about upcoming opportunities and refer to past recordings and resources. This new digital pipeline allows easier and more focused promotion of regional and statewide workforce development Continuing Education opportunities, webinars, and workshops.

2023-2025 Goals

- Host at least two more in-person Workforce Development Collaboration workshops in new regions of Wisconsin; continue to bring in new local partners for workshops.

- Continue to host new regional speakers at our monthly workgroup meetings (goal: to have hosted at least one speaker from each Wisconsin library system between LWC meetings spanning January 2023-December 2024).
- Forge a stronger connection between Wisconsin's statewide workforce development work and national initiatives; seek out interstate and national collaboration opportunities.
- Promote the Wisconsin Internet Discount finder and other internet discount opportunities, so that everyone in Wisconsin can have internet service at home to support job searches and the development of job skills.
- Continue to enhance and refine the Library Services Team's workforce development web presence on the DPI website.

Library and Technology Services Act

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) is the federal grant program supporting libraries in Wisconsin. The Library Services Team implements the LSTA's Grants to States program on behalf of public libraries in Wisconsin. The LSTA program is administered at the federal level by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

2021-2023 Activities

Most programs and services managed by the DPI Library Services Team are supported by LSTA funds, including many of the staff positions on the team. Beyond the larger program and service areas already being covered in this report, the following are a few of the other projects that were supported by 2021 and 2022 LSTA funds:
- Funds were provided to all 15 systems to support their ability to increase their technology tools and resources capacity to support libraries.
- A subscription to an online reading engagement tool, Beanstack, for school libraries and summer reading programs.
- Professional learning grants to systems to use for statewide trainings and supporting library staff professional development, including conference attendance.
- The Internet Discount Finder tool, through the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, where residents can find a variety of discounted internet service options based on their eligibility.
- The competitive Improved Discovery Solutions grant category provided startup cost support for libraries that are migrating from their individual library Integrated Library System (ILS) to their library system's shared ILS. This grant also supported multi-system collaborations to improve access to platforms and resources for all Wisconsin residents.

- The following statewide studies: Wisconsin Public Library Facility Analysis and Needs Assessment, Library Staff Compensation Study, and Data Landscape Study.

2023-2025 Goals

The following goals are from the 2023-2027 Wisconsin LSTA 5-year Plan.
- Wisconsin residents have easy access to information, tools, resources, people, and spaces to make learning, exploration, and discovery possible for all individuals and communities statewide.
- Wisconsin library staff are equipped with tools and support to serve the needs of their communities.
- Wisconsin libraries cultivate connections and collaborations with other libraries, organizations, and stakeholder groups to engage community members, address equity challenges, maximize strengths, and implement impactful, scalable ideas.

Public Library System Partnership

On March 17, 2020, DPI Library Services Team staff convened a 2-hour meeting at 10:00 a.m. with all the public library system directors in the state to discuss and coordinate responses at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This DPI-System Directors weekly Tuesday has been on the calendar at the same time ever since this first meeting. It has become a foundation for how collaboration happens across the state between the DPI and systems and has been where efforts related to the goals and recommendations of Public Library System Redesign have been moved forward, now as part of ongoing LSTA supported projects.

These DPI-System partnership meetings allow for thoughtful discussion and intentional coordination about a wide range of the activities being led by the Library Services Team staff, occurring within systems, and happening among various partnerships of library stakeholders throughout the state. The following are a few examples of what is covered at these meetings.
- Common issues are explored.
- Best practices are shared.
- System administrative and service standards are discussed.
- Feedback is provided to guide and advise various Library Services Team efforts.
- Ideas and collaborations are formed.

2021-2023 Activities

- Established regular meeting schedule with DPI staff and public library system directors
- Included System staff members as appropriate to discuss more nuanced topics such as technology, circulation, and professional learning.
- Supported the mental health of public library system directors.

2023-2025 Goals

- Discuss and increase collaboration in service delivery between library systems.
- Investigate Public Library System Standards
- Further strengthen the relationship and responsiveness between the DPI and Wisconsin's public library systems.

School Library and Public Library Youth Services Collaboration

The School Library Education Consultant and the Public Library Consultants on the Library Services Team actively collaborate on activities that support and model collaboration between school and public libraries.

2021-2023 Activities

- Funding and professional learning for implementation of an online reading engagement tool, Beanstack, for public and school libraries.
- (Part of 2023-2025 Activities) Hosted and facilitated the "School and Public Libraries: What You Need to Know" workshop for 80 attendees in August 2023. The workshop provided an introduction to essential skills, resources, and strategies for working in school and public libraries. On Day One, school and public staff worked separately, focusing on their role in each institution. In the evening the groups joined together to begin networking and building relationships for future collaborations. On Day Two, guest presenters from the CCBC, PBS Education, and Beanstack addressed the full group.
- Connecting Wisconsin libraries in partnership with Wisconsin Library Association and WEMTA.

2023-2025 Goals

- Provide learning opportunities for new public and school library staff promoting collaboration.

Wisconsin Document Depository and Wisconsin Digital Archives

The DPI Library Services Team is responsible for coordinating the Wisconsin Document Depository Program, which collects, distributes, and preserves state documents as defined by Wis. Stat. § 35.81(3) with the goal of documenting the activities of Wisconsin State Government. Under sections 35.81-35.84 of the Wisconsin Statutes, as amended by 1991 Wisconsin Act 285, state agencies are required to participate in the Wisconsin Document Depository Program by providing either print or electronic state documents to the program. Print documents are distributed to designated depository libraries throughout the state. Electronic documents are digitally archived for long-term preservation and made accessible through the Wisconsin Digital Archives. Designated depository libraries have the responsibility to promote awareness and provide access to state documents regardless of format to their patrons seeking assistance with informational inquiries and research.

For nearly 120 years, Wisconsin libraries have been providing access to Wisconsin state documents distributed by the Wisconsin Document Depository Program giving historical perspective on the activities of Wisconsin state government.

2021-2023 Activities

- Finalized an updated collection development policy for the Wisconsin Document Depository Program.
- Updated collaborative partner roles and responsibilities.
- Updated program workflows, processes, and procedures documentation.

2023-2025 Goals

- Engage with the designated depository library community to get input and feedback on how to improve the program to better meet library needs.
- Improve searchability of online state document collections with cross collection search functionality.
- Develop an online exhibit highlighting various state document collections that researchers can use.
- Engage state agencies to improve the electronic state document submission process for archiving.

WISELearn

The WISELearn Resources Library is a repository of high-quality, standards-aligned educational resources and professional learning materials representing the diversity of our global community. Many of the resources are authored, recommended, or submitted by Wisconsin teachers, administrators, librarians, and DPI consultants.

2021-2023 Activities

- Streamlined WISELearn as a repository, while ensuring alignment with [state statute](#).
- Expanded collaboration with higher education and public libraries on Open Education Resources (OER). Attending quarterly state-wide meetings.
- Held training session on WISELearn for all DPI staff to increase knowledge and usage.

2023-2025 Goals

- Continue to grow collaborative efforts with higher education and public library sectors around the state on OER and the use of the WISELearn repository.
- Increase the content of high-quality, standards-aligned educational resources and usage of the platform.
- Increase awareness of WISELearn to external partners.

Youth and Inclusive Services

The Division of Libraries and Technology interprets [Wis. Stat. sec. 43.24(2)(k)](#), "Promotion and facilitation of library service to users with special needs," to encompass inclusive services. Inclusive library services are holistic, spanning library policies, collections, space, and services. Inclusive services reflect equity and accessibility for all members of the community. The Public Library Consultant on the Library Services Team provides professional learning, consultation, and resource development on inclusive services topics.

2021-2023 Activities

- Developed videos featuring scenarios and discussion prompts to assist libraries and communities with conversations about inclusive services (IS).
- Work collectively with Inclusive Services system consultants to identify 2023-2024 IS-related priorities; cooperatively agreed to focus on gathering, organizing, and sharing IS-related resources and training opportunities focused on "New Director Consultations", with an aim to better build Inclusive Services within Wisconsin libraries' administrative culture, and allow system consultants to navigate IS-related requests more easily from member libraries.
- Recalibrate the WisLibIdea/Wisconsin Libraries Talk about Race project and team (the "IDEA Team") to expand group membership, bring in new

voices, and utilize 2022 Advisory Committee feedback for more focused 2023-2024 LSTA spending.
- Worked with system consultants and created space on the DPI Inclusive Services website for the Wisconsin Libraries Talk About Race project.
- Based on the Public Library Association's Inclusive Internship Initiative, developed a Teen Internship Pilot Program to fund library internships for local high school juniors or seniors. Five participating public libraries received LSTA grant funding to offer a six-week paid, mentored internships to students from diverse backgrounds, allowing them to experience the work of librarianship firsthand and to explore their talents and perspectives to impact their communities.

2023-2025 Goals

- Continue to develop, collect, vet, and organize Inclusive Services resources related to New Director IS Consultations; explore how said collection of resources might help evolve the Inclusive Services Assessment & Guide from 2019.
- Expand participation in the IDEA Team project to include new membership/voices.
- Spend appropriated 2023-2024 IDEA Team budget on new Continuing Education initiatives for Wisconsin library stakeholders; begin planning 2024 BIPOC Summit as 2024-2025 IDEA team spending initiative.
- Expand the Teen Internship program from 6 weeks to 12 weeks and for up to 10 public libraries.
- Explore statewide translation services.