



## 2023 Library Visit Interview Form

**Library Name:** Black Earth Public Library

**Certification Grade:** 3

**Date of visit:** August 29, 2023

**Library staff present at the visit:** Bailey Anderson

**SCLS staff present:** Tracie Miller

**Amount of time spent at visit:** 1.75 hours (10-11:45)

**[Please limit this section to the answers to the specific questions, and include as much detail as possible. Report other information or observations in the “other information” section below.]**

1. What's new and/or innovative at your library?  
*Black Earth is in the beginning stages of looking to expand. There is discussion about the purchase of an old church (that is currently for sale) and completing some renovation to accommodate meeting rooms and staff areas while keeping the sanctuary of the church preserved for the collection. This is still in early stages of discussion.*
2. What are the next projects (big or small) on your library's to-do list in the coming year?  
*Black Earth will be hosting its second local author fair in October.  
When summer reading ended, the library rolled right into the Driftless Passport program which encourages families to get out and visit the area nature parks.*
3. What challenges or concerns is your library facing now and in the near future?  
*Beside the expansion project (see above), the other concern Bailey has is about Intellectual Freedom (IF), specifically about constitutional Law and legal resources.*
4. How might SCLS help your library or staff with your challenges, concerns, or projects?  
*Bailey will be looking for ideas for fundraising towards the new library. Also she will be updating the strategic plan for the library and will be looking for assistance.*
5. What would you like to see SCLS focus on or prioritize in the coming year?  
*Bailey would like to see more Tech CEs offered. More discussion about legal resources available to libraries and librarians as it relates to IF challenges.*
6. Is there anything else you'd like to share or discuss?  
*Bailey is looking to change the public computer area and install a computer just for the catalog. She will be reaching out for solutions.*

**Other information gathered at the visit (interesting tidbits, general impressions of the library, or alternative topics):** *Bailey gave me a quick tour before we sat down to talk. Recently, one of the library's patrons, unexpectedly passed away. He would visit the library daily with his computer and*

*always sit at the table by the window. This gentleman was an avid fisherman, so the library has put up a memorial at this table, in honor of his memory.*