



2023 Library Visit Interview Form

Library Name: Marshall Community Library

Certification Grade: 2

Date of visit: 8/22/2023

Library staff present at the visit: Callie Armstrong

SCLS staff present: Mark Jochem

Amount of time spent at visit: 50 minutes

[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?
 - The aerobics class continues to grow at the library doubling in attendance since its beginning. They are also continuing to offer blood pressure and glucose measures from the EMS staff courtesy of Sun Prairie Fire Department.
 - The library received funds from the Madison Community Foundation to purchase more large print materials and audiobooks. Callie showed me the new Playaway materials purchased with the grant funds.

2. What are the next projects (big or small) on your library's to-do list in the coming year?
 - Building issues are becoming more apparent. The building is 20 years old, and the windows in the programming room are showing their age. New windows for that space are very expensive, and currently the library is only able to replace one per year.
 - Working with Beyond the Page to hire a contractor to provide guidance for serving the Hispanic community. They would like to be able to offer more in the way of services, materials, and welcoming spaces.

3. What challenges or concerns is your library facing now and in the near future?
 - Budgets and funding are concerns for Callie. She is mainly concerned with retaining skilled staff members when neighboring libraries can offer more competitive wages.
 - Wait times for e-books and materials. There are significant waits for materials, even ones that are quite old (12+ years).

4. How might SCLS help your library or staff with your challenges, concerns, or projects?
 - Try to keep cost increases down, or decrease costs of system membership.

5. What would you like to see SCLS focus on or prioritize in the coming year?
 - Nothing comes to mind.

6. Is there anything else you'd like to share or discuss?

- Callie described a fairly specific situation where a patron block due to fines was overridden in one library, and an item in the Local Holds section in Marshall was transferred to fill the hold. It is a known issue. Heidi Oliversen will reach out to Callie.
- The library is deciding a course of action for placing the children's chapter book section where it might get more utilized.

Other information gathered at the visit (interesting tidbits, general impressions of the library, or alternative topics):