**The MPL Mission**

Spark curiosity. Make connections. Thrive together.

Missoula Public Library achieves its mission by fostering community engagement, providing core services, and promoting sustainability and wellness.

* **Circulation & Cataloging – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* A new collection for the Book Mobile was designed, developed, acquired and cataloged for circulation of these new materials. Research into Arabic book resources continues.

**Core Services**

* The quarterly Partner Sharing Group meeting occurred on September 5, 2024. Discussion items included current holds statistics, holds and transit management best practices, and possible suspension of the floating new books process.
* The Partner Sharing Group is investigating a different crate as a more cost-effective alternative. MPL will conduct durability and ease of use testing.
* All MPL patron records updated to ensure that the HOMEPHONE data field is used. Automated overdue and hold pickup courtesy calls sent daily via OneSolve will now be more accurate and more efficient.
* On-call Library Assistant 2 staff Sierra Gideon and Elizabeth Lofts accepted positions in Circulation and join the team as 24- and a 16- hour, respectively, part-time Library Assistant 2s.
* Elizabeth attended the Trailhead Frontline Local Government Supervisor Leadership Development Workshop in Bozeman, MT on September 25, 2024. She joined local government employees from around the state for a session on leadership management skills and behavior-based change and success.
* **Community Engagement – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Bookmobile Launch Party! We held our launch party for the new Bookmobile in September. Had a lovely ceremony with guest speakers. It was well attended.
* The Library held it’s first ever Craft Swap program in September. We had a number of excited people attend to exchange goods. Note: This also promotes sustainability.
* The library attended the Climate Smart Expo in Caras Park to provide outreach to attendees. We showcased the Library on Wheels (LOW) and signed up new library cards. We reached over 150 people with library information this day. Note: this also promotes sustainability.

**Core Services**

* September was Library Card Sign Up Month. The library provided Outreach to over a dozen locations throughout the month, reaching the community in unexpected venues and generating excitement for the library. In the end, we signed up 365 people for library cards during the month. Five of the 365 will be contacted for having won a small but fun prize.
* The library launched a new service funded by the Friends of the Library called Brainfuse’s HelpNow. This is a free service that patrons can log into with their library card to receive live tutoring help and access tons of study materials. It is for kids and adults.
* September we launched our “Get Lit” series. Any program that promotes any sort of literacy will get tagged with the “Get Lit” logo. We will continue this for the foreseeable future as a way to identify literacy opportunities at the library.

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* September was the second month of the Resource Access Day (RAD) program. We had around 70 people come to the 4th floor to access needed community resources.
* With the Camping Ban in effect, PHC had identified that it was a challenge to track down individuals they need to see. The library partnered with PHC to have a monthly visit at the library which started in September. They used the Community Outreach Table to share information and inform patrons of the service, and used the Ellingson Room to give free care to people such as vaccines and basic health care. This will continue as a monthly offering.
* In partnership with the Library, Betty’s Devine, Missoula County and the City of Missoula, we are leading a “Fall Into Care” initiative in September and November, collecting donations of wrapped tampons, pads, sanitary wipes, menstrual cups and panty liners. Donations will be distributed at the monthly RAD events.
* PR made a change to our quarterly guide. We are now issuing a 1 month guide that showcases special events and have created a handout that has all of our reoccurring programs on it. This has several sustainability benefits. It is more cost effective, cuts down on the amount of paper we are using, and is more efficient for the PR staff. We will include a QR code for patrons to view our programs digitally near the handouts to encourage less paper waste.
* We partnered with Home Resource to host their Spontaneous Construction contest exhibition for the month of September. This contest challenges participants to upcycle found goods to create something sustainable and useful. We also hosted their reception and silent auction for the first time this year.
* **Reference – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Transitioned to a new volunteer spearheading the LGBTQ Center library project. They will start in earnest in October
* Gave new library trustee Janice Nugent a tour of level 3 services and a glimpse of a typical Montana Room Shift.

**Core Services**

**Sustainability and Wellness**

* Received the grant check for Pad Project funds to purchase menstrual products and dispensers. Meeting in October with Aunt Flow rep to place order.
* **Youth Services – September 2024**

**Community Engagement**

* Successful first event in the Community Heroes story time series with some of the Missoula smokejumpers
* Very successful Zero-Three play group weekly program in partnership with Families First – average 30-40 attendees each week
* Started Dream Bigger teen after school program in partnership with Families First – there are 6 teens currently signed up and individual projects are already underway

**Core Services**

* Growing Arabic language collection – fiction, nonfiction, easy readers through JMID

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* Cooking for Kids class this month focused on healthy, low-cost snacks that provide energy