AGENDA

I. Introduction to Contra Costa County Library Inclusive Plan
II. Definition, Philosophy and Goals
III. Accessibility Committee
IV. “Library Insiders”: Definition and Ways to be Inclusive
V. Q & A
INCLUSIVE LIBRARY PLAN
- Accessible Library “Products” and Services
  - Accessibility Committee
- “Library Insiders” – monthly programs for adults with developmental disabilities
- Summer Reading (all ages/abilities)

Contra Costa County Library Accessibility Mission Statement:
Bringing People and Ideas Together: Improving access for people with disabilities means improved access for all.

II. DEFINITION, PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS
DEFINITION, PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

What is Inclusion? - Importance of Attitude

- Encouraging people of all abilities to feel comfortable and confident using the library
- Presenting library programs that provide a variety of opportunities for learning for everyone
- "People First" Language

EQUALITY DOESN'T MEAN JUSTICE

Equality doesn't mean Justice

"Sometimes equality means treating people the same despite their differences. Sometimes it means treating them as equal by accommodating their differences."

-Rosalie Siberman Abella (Canadian Supreme Court Justice)

III. ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE
ACCESSIBLE LIBRARY

- “Products” – Assistive Technology and the collection
- Services – Inclusive public programs and outreach

ACCESSIBLE LIBRARY

- The Accessibility Committee
- Focus Groups
- Insiders
- Experts in your community

V. “LIBRARY INSIDERS”

DEFINITION AND WAYS TO BE INCLUSIVE

Noelle Burch

Thank you for inviting us in. – Eva, Library Insider
**“LIBRARY INSIDERS”**
**DEFINITION & WAYS TO BE INCLUSIVE**

- Someone who feels at ease navigating the library.
- An individual who approaches the desk with a question or comment.
- An individual who uses resources and/or attends programs that are available, as a library user.

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**Dream Collage Activity**
Library Insiders, Walnut Creek Library

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**CREATING AN “INSIDER” EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE**

- For some individuals with intellectual disabilities, the library can be an intimidating environment.
- The goal of Library Insiders is to cultivate an “insider” experience for adults with intellectual disabilities.
- Specialized programs give library staff an opportunity to welcome someone who feels like an “outsider” into an “inside” library experience.
HOW TO GET STARTED

- Do you have adults in community-based groups visiting your libraries on a daily basis? (Poll)
- Introduce yourself to individuals already in your library.
- Call local town/city/county adult community-based organizations (for example, ARC)

TYPES OF PROGRAMS

- Programs that encourage adults with developmental disabilities to feel comfortable and confident using all resources in the public library.
- Programs that provide a variety of opportunities for lifelong learning.

- Behind the scenes library tour
- Scavenger hunts (handout)
- Special Library Resources
- Library technology and computer tutorials
- Summer Reading Records (handout)
- Volunteering
INCLUSIVE TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iPads for Inclusive Programming</th>
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<tr>
<td>2013 Accessibility Committee received a grant to purchase iPads.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apps geared toward developing life skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPads benefited everyone!</td>
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SUMMER READING RECORDS

Example of literacy activities listed in Adult Summer Reading Record (see handout)

- Visit the library!
- Ask a librarian a question.
- Listen to music or books.
- Read or spend time with a book or magazine.
- Watch a movie.
- Write or draw a picture about your summer.

EXAMPLE OF ACCESSIBLE SUMMER READING RECORD: LIBRARY INSIDERS

Follow the directions for each picture. Once you have completed all of the activities, bring the reading program to the Summer Reading in September for a special celebration!

- Visit the library!
- Ask a librarian a question.
- Listen to music or books.
- Read a book or magazine.
- Watch a movie.
- Write or draw a picture about your summer.

- For every 10 stories, circle a box.
- For every 100 minutes, circle a box.
- For every 100 minutes, circle a box.
HOW CAN YOU MAKE SUMMER READING MORE ACCESSIBLE?

- **2012 Adult Summer Reading Record Instructions**
  Read a book and write a short review to enter in the Library’s prize drawing. Ages 18 and older.

- **2013 & 2014 Adult Summer Reading Record Instructions**
  Read a book and write a short review to enter in the Library’s prize drawing. Ages 18 and older. For other ways to participate, visit ccclib.org/summer.

- **2015 Adult Summer Reading Record Instructions**
  Review a book or activity to enter in the Library’s prize drawing. Ages 18 and older. For other ways to participate, visit ccclib.org/summer.

VOLUNTEERING

- Volunteering benefits the library and helps individuals develop career and life skills.

- Group or individual volunteering

- Basic way to begin creating an inclusive environment.

TYPES OF PROGRAMS

- Programs that provide a variety of opportunities for lifelong learning.
  - Safety
  - Health (nutrition & exercise)
  - Local environment
  - Creativity & expression
  - Music
  - Career development
  - Current holidays/events
PARTNERS
A good place to start: Your Community!

PARTNERS: AGENCIES & PRESENTERS
- Police and Fire Department
- City Parks and Recreation Department
- Local Rangers
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Local Businesses
- Friends and Library Foundation

SAFETY & HEALTH
- Fire Safety (Fire Dept)
- Personal Safety (Police Dept)
- Doctors from local hospital visit
- American Heart Association
- Reading Therapy Dogs
- Guide Dogs for the Blind
- Local Businesses (Yoga, Nutritionists)
LIBRARY INSIDERS PROGRAM
WALNUT CREEK LIBRARY

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT
- Park Rangers
- Local Wildlife Rehabilitation Organizations
- Gardening
- Composting
- Drought Awareness
- Lapidary Society

CREATIVITY & EXPRESSION
- Music and Dance
  - Local Musicians
  - Dance Parties
  - Karaoke
  - Library Inclusive music kit
- Crafting and Art
  - Collages
  - Beading
  - Coloring
  - Water coloring
CURRENT EVENTS/HOLIDAYS

- Veterans Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day (handout)
- Valentine’s Day
- Holiday Season (making gifts)

GROUP BRAINSTORM

Do you know of any local/state/national organizations that has the potential to be a presenter at your library?

FREQUENCY OF PROGRAMS AND SCHEDULING

When working with local adult organizations it is helpful to determine a set schedule for programs.

- Most programs meet on a monthly or bi-weekly basis.
- Programs are publicly promoted.
STAFF COOPERATION

× Communication
  - Explain the importance of including everyone.
  - Share program feedback.
  - Foster introductions and relationships with staff and Insiders.
  - Get everyone involved.

“NOTHING ABOUT US, WITHOUT US”

× Program would not be possible without constant feedback from our participants

× Insiders presented alongside librarians on a panel about programming for adults with developmental disabilities.

IMPACT

× Participants report that they use the library more, feel comfortable asking questions of library staff, and are now attending a variety of library programs.

× Library Insiders gain independent public library skills and are equipped to navigate most public library resources/services.

× Staff appreciate the kindness and positive interactions received from Library Insiders.
QUESTIONS ABOUT INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING?

It is time to hear from you!

Don’t hesitate to contact us after the webinar!

Thank You

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