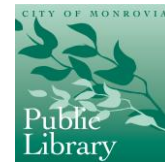




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Public Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: September 27, 2018

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder,  
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor  
Linda Rivas,  
Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

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**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

Literacy Staff and volunteers hosted a Volunteer Orientation and Information Session in the Literacy Center on Tuesday, August 14. Staff presented information on the literacy program, training, and tutor requirements. Highlighting opportunities offered by the library is a goal of the strategic plan.

Staff attended a *Mental Health First Aid* training on August 14 and 15 at the Glendale Central Library. *Mental Health First Aid* training teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. Staff received information about mental illness along with action plans, a first aid manual and a list of local resources. A goal of the library's strategic plan is providing staff development opportunities. Developing partnerships with social service providers is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On Tuesday, August 21, Staff attended a Luau event at Heritage Park, a local senior residence. Staff instructed over 20 attendees in a Hawaiian dance lesson and provided information on library services and programs. Supporting lifelong learning and "Active Mind, Active Life" programming for seniors is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On Friday, August 24, Staff attended a *StoryFaire* training for developing story-based programs for the public.

The training was held at the Los Angeles County Library, Hollywood Branch and was offered via *California Listens*. Berkeley-based *StoryCenter* has created a new *StoryKit for Public Libraries*, which will be available Fall 2018. The easy-to-use kit will include a number of tools and activities such as using *StoryCenter's* oral history tool, digital storytelling, writing exercises, and visual storytelling through smartphone photography. Attendance at the trainings expands staff skills and provides connections to library best practices.

**YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

On August 20, the Monrovia Reads Van resumed its outreach service to Monrovia's five elementary schools. Visiting one school each day Monday through Friday, the library staff provides off-site opportunities to check materials in and out of the library, get a library card and update their library accounts to patrons who may not have time to come to the library. During the first week in operation,

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staff saw 214 people and checked out 114 items. These outreach visits support the strategic goals of enhancing the mobility of the library, strengthening and community partnerships.

On August 25, staff shared stories and songs with families at the Canyon Park Campout, an overnight camping experience for families run by the Parks Department. As part of a series of outside activities, library staff contributed by providing the decades old camping staple, campfire stories. Fifty people participated in the Campout. This was a fun way to contribute to our strategic goal of enhancing the mobility of the library by working with a community partner.

Beginning on August 28, staff attended Back to School Night at each school within the Monrovia Unified School District in partnership with the Community Services department. These events were a great way to reach out to students, parents and teachers to promote the services we offer and get feedback regarding community needs. By attending, staff had an opportunity to meet instructors in the Chinese/English dual immersion program and get a better understanding of the type of support the library can offer these learners. Being a presence at these events with another city department supported our strategic goal of working with community partners and developing closer ties with MUSD.

The week of September 4 saw the launch of fall programming in Youth Services. This first week consisted of story times for children between the ages of 0 to 5, including Baby Storytime, Play with Me and Story Studio. Parents and children had an opportunity to listen to stories and learn different ways to lay the foundation for lifelong learning. In support of our strategic goal of emphasizing 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills, Story times provide a space for very young children to practice communication, critical thinking and creativity. A total of 200 people attended the story times.