Health Sciences Libraries:
Supporting Public Libraries Supporting All of Us

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All of Us Community Engagement Project Award

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Project Goals: Understand and Support
Understand: Memphis Demographics and Health Outcomes

- Unemployment
- Low Educational Attainment
- Low Income
- Poverty
Understand: Memphis Demographics and Health Outcomes

- Diabetes
- Heart Disease
- Breast Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
Understand: Memphis Public Library and Information Center (MPLIC) System
Understand: Survey Development & Overview

Understand the current role of Memphis Public Libraries in providing consumer health information to their patrons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Scope of Work</th>
<th>Health Information Training</th>
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</table>
| • Position title  
• Education Level/Highest degree awarded  
• Years of employment in libraries  
• Library branch  
• Age groups served by branch  
• Racial/Ethnic groups served by branch  
• Number of hours engaging with patrons per week  
multiple choice | • Opinion, what role public libraries have in providing health information to patrons  
• Library’s current offerings regarding health information  
• Frequency of health-related questions.  
• Types of health-related questions by category  
• Resources for health information  
• Difficulties  
multiple choice & long answer | • Perceptions of needed training regarding health literacy  
• Preferred training format  
• Selection of potential training topics  
• Additional comments  
multiple choice & short answer |
Understand: Survey Dissemination

- IRB Approval
- Disseminated to MPLIC libraries
- Online Survey via Qualtrics
- Remained open for two weeks
Understand: Survey Response

81 Total Responses

64 Completed
Understand: Survey Results Demographics

Age Groups Primarily Served at Library

- Senior (65+)
- Adult (25-64)
- Young Adult (18-24)
- Teens (13-17)
- Children (0-12)
Understand: Survey Results Demographics

Racial/Ethnic Groups Primarily Served at Library

- Black or African American: 40
- Other
- White
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
Understand: Survey Results Demographics

Number of Hours Library Workers Spend Engaging with Patrons per Week

- More than 20 hours
- 10-20 hours
- 5-10 hours
- 1-5 hours
- Less than 1 hour
Opinion, what role public libraries have in providing health information to patrons.
Understand: Survey Results Scope of Work

Library’s current offerings regarding health information

- Health Fair
- Health Workshops
- Health Displays
- Health Center within Library
- Partner with Health Organizations
- Healthcare Screenings
Understand: Survey Results Scope of Work

Resources for locating health information for patrons

Scope of Work

Books and Other Print Materials

Databases and Online Sources
Understand: Survey Results Health Info Training

Perceptions of needed training regarding health literacy

96.8%

Somewhat or Definitely Need Training
Understand: Survey Results Health Info Training

Preferred Training Format

- Face-to-Face: 35
- Online Synchronous: 10
- Self-paced Online: 5
- Other: 0

Health Information Training
Understand: Survey Results Health Info Training

Training Topics of Interest

- Developing and Delivering Health-Related Library Programs at your Library
- Serving Health Information Needs of Special Populations
- How to Evaluate Health Information Online
- Available Resources for Finding Health Information Online
- Exploring Health Literacy and Impacts on the Community
Support: Trainings

Exploring Health Literacy
- Define health literacy (HL)
- Discuss low HL impacts on the community
- Explore ways public libraries can improve health literacy in their communities
  - Barriers
  - Potential opportunities

Consumer Health Information
- Discussion of issues related to online health information
- Exploration of tools to evaluate online health information
- Introduction to online health resources
Support: Looking to the Future

- Participation in health fairs
- Health information website
- Additional trainings pertaining to special populations
Thank You!

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