

System Funding Task Force Meeting - April 13, 2010

Attending: Attending: Linda Deubert, Deb Kamecke, Gloria Goverman, Sally Alderdice, Jeanne Buck, Margie Menard, Tom Lawrence, Karen Garafalo, Josh Cohen, Merribeth Advocate.

At the March Directors Association meeting the Task Force presented a cost analysis of Tires and Wires with the amount necessary for total cost recovery. At the April Directors Association meeting, the Task Force presented a chart estimating what the cost per library would be.

The Task Force recommended that beginning in 2012 to increase the members share of automation and delivery costs. Discussion included looking to reduce the reliance on CLDA funds, and to start reducing it by \$5000 or \$10000.

Two models of implementation were discussed:

1. A multiyear phase-in, leading to eventual total cost recovery.
2. A 2-year at a time projection, if the state funding is not sufficient.

The Task Force recommends to go forward with a plan to make up the MHLS projected 2012 deficit with an increase to member library automation and delivery fees. Consensus of the Task Force is that this is the best way to make a decision for 2012. A chart will be included in the May Directors Association packet showing what members are currently paying, what is needed to cover the deficit, what is needed for total cost recovery, and the % impact on library budgets to assist members with their budget projections.

Discussion included looking to reduce the reliance on CLDA funds, and to start reducing it by \$5000 or \$10000.

Consensus of the Task Force is that for the next several years plan to preserve the existing range of System services, with no service cuts. This is to prevent the erosion of the System whose resources need to continue to be focused on helping libraries grow. As discussed at the Directors Retreat it is in everyone's best interests to have strong libraries, and it is part of the state mandate. The Task Force recommended having a Directors Retreat in early 2011 for further discussion and ideas for the next 5-year Plan of Service.