Northnet Library System

The Northnet Library System improves the services of its constituent member libraries by ensuring that libraries are best positioned to respond to demographic, economic, and cultural changes through innovative and collaborative approaches to programming and services and the enhancement of collective resource building and sharing.

Values - traits or qualities that are considered worthwhile; our highest priorities and deeply held driving forces. Value statements are grounded in values and define how people want to behave with each other in the organization.

Our Values

NLS:

• Is nimble and responsive

• Benefits all the people we serve

• Is equitable

• Works for all members; large and small, rural and urban, special, academic and school

• Is affordable

• Is a leader

• Is forward-thinking

• Is seamless in the provision of services

 • Enables us to do things we cannot do on our own

• Keeps members informed and solicits their opinions -- has a staff and a governance structure with a strong communication element that works to keep all members "in the loop."

• Benefits our staff through networking and communities of interest

• Creates greater visibility for us; enables us to market ourselves

• Gives us a stronger voice

Strategies - the broadly defined four or five key approaches the organization will use to accomplish its mission and drive toward the vision.

Goals - enable you to accomplish each of your strategies. Goals should be SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-based.

• The NLS will achieve economies of scale by investing in a set of shared resources in programs and services that will benefit people served by the communities in the three systems.

Goal 1: Databases

• The NLS will facilitate the ability of member libraries to work together to increase the quantity and quality of the services and programs for the people in this broader geographic area.

• The NLS will enable each member to be more responsive to the changing needs and expectations of its community.

• The NLS will create a common approach to marketing and public relations and have a shared capability for this work.

• The NLS will enable resource sharing to work better and more seamlessly.

Goal 1: Connect libraries that are not part of a resource sharing network

• The NLS will allow member libraries to have a stronger, more effective and unified voice.

• The NLS will capitalize on the talents and competencies of a larger group of member library staff and increase the opportunity to share and learn from each other.

Goal 1: Staff training workshops

• The NLS will collaborate to invest in research and development of new initiatives and pool resources to support development of these initiatives.

Goal 1: Participate in grant for investigation of open source software

• The NLS will extend the network and communities of practices among the people who work in the member libraries.

Goal 1: Provide software to facilitate networking