MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
66 Libraries 1 Great Community

103 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601-4028
Phone: (845) 471-6060
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https://midhudson.org

Mid-Hudson Library System Central Library Plan 2027-2031

The Central Library Plan describes the services funded by the Central Library Services Aid program as well as related services.

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District's Adriance Memorial Library is designated as the Central Library for the Mid-Hudson Library System. The Central Library/Collection Development Advisory Committee of the MHLS Directors Association oversees the Aid program and related services to ensure that expenditures are responsive to patron needs.

Element 1 – Digital Collection Development

1. Goal Statement: Central Library Program funds will assist in the provision of a system-wide digital collection that will be developed in response to member library needs.
2. Intended Result(s):
    - Member libraries and their patrons will have access to digital collections and content that are affordable and cost-effective. Purchasing strategies will be guided by digital collection development guidelines adopted by the MHLS Directors Association and may be modified from time-to-time.
    - Member libraries will have coordinated training and promotional opportunities designed to increase usage of database collections and content by 3% - 5%, on average, each year.
    - Member libraries will be provided with "best practices" guidance on how to manage local digital collection development budgets in relation to the purchasing done through the Central Library program funds.
3. Evaluation Methods:
    - The Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee will annually review and revise its recommendations for digital collections and content.
    - MHLS staff will work with collections and content vendors to develop accurate usage statistics.
    - To the extent practical, the Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee will, at least once every five years, determine patron perspectives on digital collections and content provided with Central Library Program funds using commonly accepted outcome measurement methodology.
    - The average wait time for accessing digital collections and content shall be on par with the physical collection. The number of maximum holds, determined by the holds ratio, will be reviewed and revised annually.

Element 2 – Public Service Staff Training and Education

1. Goal Statement: Best practices training in targeted areas of collection development and reference services will be provided.
2. Intended Result(s):
    - Training and education will be offered for member library staff so that they have the skills and understanding to provide effective reference service to patrons.
    - Member libraries will employ best practices in developing their collections.
3. Evaluation Methods:

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- The Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee will advise on appropriate training opportunities at least annually which relate to an element related to professional services focusing on reference and collection development.

Element 3 – Collection Management and Use Analysis

1. Goal Statement: Training and tools for collection analysis will be provided, as needed.
2. Intended Result(s):
    - Member libraries will learn about managing library collections.
    - Member libraries will be provided with tools and training to enable data-driven use analysis of collections.
3. Evaluation Methods:
    - The Mid-Hudson Library System's annual satisfaction survey will address this area of service.

Element 4 – Discovery Services

1. Goal Statement: The Central Library Program will provide supplemental discovery services support through third-party OPAC enhancements.
2. Intended Result(s): Member libraries will have expanded resources and services to assist member library patrons in the use of the online catalog (OPAC).
3. Evaluation Methods:
    - The Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee will support supplemental development of the OPAC designed to improve the patron discovery experience.

Element 5 – Delivery

1. Goal Statement: The Central Library Program funds will assist in access to local, regional, and statewide collections through coordinated delivery services.
2. Intended Result(s):
    - Member library patrons will receive affordable access to materials outside of their libraries.
3. Evaluation Method:
    - Delivery of requested and available items within the system will be, on average, available within three (3) days of request.

Endorsed by the MHLS Directors Association: June 24, 2026
Approved by the MHLS Board of Trustees: July 14, 2026
Approved by the PPLD Board of Trustees: August 26, 2026