

Community of Practice Directory

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Following is a list of statewide communities of practice in Maryland public and regional libraries. Members share similar professional roles in their organizations. They meet together to network, share best practices, develop in their role, collaborate on statewide projects, and provide expertise statewide. These groups proceed to meet and coordinate with the encouragement of the libraries that employ their members, and the Maryland State Library.

Cybersecurity

Members meet to share experiences and resources related to cybersecurity in Maryland public libraries. Identify and articulate emerging cybersecurity related staff and public needs including software, hardware, policies, and training. Collaborate on local, regional, and statewide cybersecurity projects and programs. Membership includes those in the role of IT Director in each library, plus a representative from MDLIBTECH and Staff Development.

Meets quarterly: Virtually (twice) and In-person (twice, with virtual option)

Listserv: yes

Please contact the chairperson to be added to the list

Chairperson: Ryan Rickels, IT Director, Harford County Public Library

MSL Liaison: Nini Beegan

Data & Statistics

Members meet to discuss best practices for collecting, managing and conveying data and statistics in their library systems and statewide.

Listserv: yes

MSL Liaison: Yana Demireva, Maryland State Library

Yana will work with the group to determine meeting schedule

Tableau group continues to meet regularly to share learning on this data visualization tool. Monthly online lunch and learns are held to discuss Tableau related topics. The contact is Colin Khem, Colin Khem, Business Intelligence Analyst, Prince George's County Memorial Library System.

Human Resources

Members meet to discuss various HR-related issues to include but not limited to legislation, current trends, policies and procedures, staffing concerns, etc.

Meets 2-3 times per year, in-person

Listserv: Yes. To be added to the contact list and listserv, please email Andrea Beichler, PHR, Human Resources Specialist, Harford County Public Library and include "MD HR Listserv" in the subject line. In the email, please include your contact information - name, library system, position title, mailing address, phone number including extension, email address, fax.

Hosting: Rotates each meeting

MSL Liaison: Nini Beegan (Temporary)

Marketing

Members meet to network, to learn and to discuss various Marketing & Communication issues. Statewide projects such as One Maryland One Book and Choose Civility are discussed, as are best practices for effective messaging, advocacy, and marketing/media strategies.

Meets quarterly, in-person

Listserv: Yes

Please contact chairperson to be added to the list

Chair: Christie Lassen, Director of Communication and Partnerships, Howard County Library System,
Vice-Chair " Ashley Biggs, Outreach Librarian, Maryland State Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped

MSL Liaison: Nini Beegan

MDLIBTECH

MDLIBTECH exists to provide a forum where Maryland public and regional library information technology staff can share our expertise and insight, and to provide a framework for efficient learning and collaboration among the membership. The membership is composed of Maryland public and regional library technology specialists, generalists and enthusiasts, and representatives from the Maryland State Library.

MDLIBTECH has been a sponsor of the MD Tech Connect event since the event's inception in 2015. For the last four years, Tech Connect has served as the group's December meeting.

Meets every other month

Website: <http://mdlibtech.weebly.com>

Yes - Please join the listserv via the website

Chair: Stephanie Petruso, Virtual Services Manager, Anne Arundel County Public Library

MSL Liaison: Nini Beegan

Staff Development

The Maryland Staff Development Coordinators group exists to provide a framework for effective and efficient collaboration of statewide staff development projects and programs, and to share staff development experiences and resources. Members work together to identify and articulate emerging staff development and training needs.

Meets quarterly (twice in-person, twice online) - The June in-person meeting is typically a planning meeting

Listserv: Yes

Chairs: Maurice Coleman, Technical Trainer, Harford County Public Library and Katie George, Professional Development Instructor, Howard County Library System

MSL Liaison: Nini Beegan

Youth Services

The Maryland Youth Services Coordinators group exists to provide a framework for effective and efficient collaboration of statewide youth services best practices, to network, and to share ideas, experiences and resources regarding early literacy, school-age, STEM, and teen services. This group identifies emerging trends in youth services and their training needs. The Summer Reading Advisory Council (SRAC) is a sub-group of this community, led by Janet Vogel, Frederick County, and meets as needed to discuss pertinent issues regarding summer reading programs.

Meets twice a year, in-person, in November and April. Additional meetings are held online, as needed.)

Listserv: Yes

MSL Liaison: Carrie Sanders