How Small is It?

Resources

ULA Rural and Small Libraries Committee Website: http://ula.org/rural

The Association for Rural & Small Libraries: http://arsl.info/

Webcasts for Small Libraries:

Library Journal Best Practices:

Webjunction Free Webinars: https://www.webjunction.org/

Friends of the Library Resources:

United for Libraries Friends Groups Info: http://www.ala.org/united/friends

Salt Lake City Public Library: (BIG) http://www.slcpl.org/friends

Ada Community Library: (Small) http://www.adalib.org/hiddensprings/support-your-library

Various resources:

Albert Wisner Public Library Best Small Library in America Winner 2016

Programming Librarian: http://www.programminglibrarian.org/

The Small but Powerful Guide to Winning Big Support for Your Rural Library
http://www.ala.org/offices/olos/toolkits/rural

Outreach toolkits: http://www.ala.org/offices/diversity/resources

Swiss Army Librarian Blog: http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/
LIBRARY - COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

- Six County RSVP - http://www.volunteer-connection.com/ (Central Utah)
- Library Board of Trustees: help with everything - programs, committees....
- Library Teen Advisory group T.A.C.O.S.: adopted flowerbed in front of Library, service projects for Library, bulletin boards
- Special job committees: Centennial Celebration Committee
- Youth City Council: help with book sale & distributing flyers
- Wasatch Academy (private High School): child-development classes plan & execute two preschool storytimes
- Eagle-scout projects:
  - Library sign & two benches in front of the Library
  - Tables for archive room
  - Storage shelves in supply room
  - Sell old books online (with supervision)
  - General service hours
- Easter Seals: (workers put in hours at the Library & Easter Seals pays them)
- Barnes & Noble: partner with Friends for a multiple author-signing event, including books for sale for the author to sign
- Court-ordered community service: DVDs & CDs, wash windows, shelf reading, weed flower bed, move books & shelving, help get ready for book sale (Certainly can’t be involved in some functions)
- High School Sterling Scholars:
  - Technology: update & troubleshoot computers (one was our paid IT specialist)
  - Tech Trades: authentic looking shelving in Archive Room
  - English: write articles for newspaper
  - General service hours
- Local Mt. Pleasant Royalty (other close cities also): help with programs, storytime, Summer Reading
- Local city officials: Summer reading – draw prizes, read to children
- High School “Work-based Learning”: Students get high school credits for performing work & learning job skills. (Three ended up being hired as paid employees)
- Parents: too many to list – programs, booksale, Summer Reading – weekly events & as presenters, such as our "Mad Scientist" or teaching hula dancing,
- Boys from local Youth-in-Custody group homes: general service needed – (one home helped us out and back in for our renovation – around 12 separate sessions of moving)
- Local missionaries: plant & weed flowerbeds
- Friends of the Library: ongoing book sale, manage money & book flow, purchase books & for other library needs, helping hands with everything
- Local artisans & specialists for programs: cowboy boot maker, Civil War buff, dancers, gymnasts, athletes
- Local artists: donate or allow use of artwork for Library display
- High School classes: photography contest
- Staff members’ spouses, children, parents: EVERYTHING from building parade floats to bringing a tarantula, snakes & lizards for storytime
SURVEY RESULTS: 101 responses

Statements based on the results of the

- **The 4 biggest challenges rural and small libraries face are:**
  - Budget: staff and operations (c=65, 64%)
  - Space: materials and programs (c=54, 53%)
  - Training: expense, distance, effectiveness (c=50, 50%)
  - Budget: collection development (c=47, 47%)

- **The top 4 ways in which people currently receive training are:**
  - Webinars: real-time or archived (c=81, 80%)
  - In-person training: local area (c=69, 68%)
  - Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=67, 66%)
  - In-person training: outside local area (c=63, 62%)

- **The top 4 ways people prefer for getting training are:**
  - In-person training: local area (c=77, 76%)
  - Webinars: real-time or archived (c=76, 75%)
  - In-person training: outside local area (c=67, 66%)
  - Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=52, 51%)

- **The top 4 obstacles that influence participation in training are:**
  - Time: balancing work duties and training opportunities (c=88, 87%)
  - Budget for training and travel: funds to register for and attend the training (c=81, 80%)
  - Budget for staff: payroll costs for staff to attend training or to replace trainee’s absence (c=65, 64%)
  - Distance: transportation arrangements or don’t like to travel (c=65, 64%)

- **The top 4 broad categories of training people need help with are:**
  - Technology and digital literacy (c=68, 67%)
  - Programming: children, teens, adults (c=55, 54%)
  - Collaboration with other libraries, schools, businesses (c=52, 51%)
  - Finance, budgets, writing grant proposals (c=51, 51%)