




Montana Library Federations: Library membership SurveyMonkey survey 2013






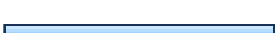










1. Library

	Response Count
	93
answered question	93
skipped question	1

2. Position

		Response Percent	Response Count
Director		91.4%	85
Library Board Member		3.2%	3
Other (please specify)		5.4%	5
	answered question		93
	skipped question		1

3. Your federation’s annual Plan of Service includes overall goals that specify areas in which federation funding will be spent. Programs differ among federations, but they traditionally include interlibrary loan, technology, cooperative purchases and continuing education and training. What are typical expenses you have covered with your federation funding? Please select those items that the funding has helped cover during fiscal years 2010, 2011 and 2012 only. There is an “other” selection that enables you to enter additional items.









		Response Percent	Response Count
Attending the annual MLA conference		54.9%	45
Attending Fall Workshop		40.2%	33
Attending Offline		13.4%	11
Attending MSC annual meetings		24.4%	20
Attending Federation meetings		68.3%	56
Attending in person trainings and workshops		40.2%	33
Attending out of state conferences		6.1%	5
Paying for annual OCLC enrollment		62.2%	51
Paying for annual MSC membership		34.1%	28
Paying for annual MontanaLibrary2Go membership		30.5%	25
Paying for courier costs		8.5%	7
Covering cost to join MontanaLibrary2Go		12.2%	10
Purchasing new, standardized barcodes		12.2%	10
Purchasing book club kits		8.5%	7
Purchasing public computers		31.7%	26
Purchasing Internet service		8.5%	7

Purchasing webpage services		6.1%	5
Purchasing handheld devices or assistive technologies		8.5%	7
Purchasing library furniture		7.3%	6
Purchasing barcode scanners, self check machines, etc.		17.1%	14
Purchasing software		22.0%	18
Other (please specify)		31.7%	26
answered question			82
skipped question			12

4. Libraries describe the benefits of Federation funding in various ways. In the list below, please rank the areas you most benefit from due to Federation funding, from highest to lowest value.

	Highest Value	Somewhat High Value	Medium Value	Somewhat Low Value	Lowest Value	Rating Count
Continuing education opportunities (trainings, workshops, conferences)	56.0% (42)	32.0% (24)	8.0% (6)	2.7% (2)	1.3% (1)	75
Networking with colleagues	42.5% (31)	32.9% (24)	12.3% (9)	8.2% (6)	4.1% (3)	73
Membership in statewide consortia projects (MSC, MontanaLibrary2Go, OCLC, Courier)	58.3% (42)	29.2% (21)	4.2% (3)	6.9% (5)	1.4% (1)	72
Technology purchases (equipment, infrastructure, software)	39.7% (29)	32.9% (24)	16.4% (12)	5.5% (4)	5.5% (4)	73
Other	29.4% (5)	29.4% (5)	5.9% (1)	11.8% (2)	23.5% (4)	17
Other (please specify)						14
answered question						78
skipped question						16

5. MSL understands that many libraries do not formally measure the impact federation funding has on their services to their communities. However, when you consider how to spend your federation funds as part of the yearly Plan of Service, or when you evaluate the expenditures for your Annual Report, what measures might you take in the future to determine the impact of the dollars spent? Select all that apply.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Number of events attended by library staff		60.3%	47
Number of staff attending events		42.3%	33
Membership in statewide collaborative projects (MSC, MontanaLibrary2Go, OCLC, Courier)		84.6%	66
Services or equipment purchased (workstations, infrastructure, software)		57.7%	45
Patron surveys		32.1%	25
Patron reactions or anecdotes		35.9%	28
Return on investment studies		7.7%	6
Community forums or feedback		23.1%	18
	Other (please specify)		3
		answered question	78
		skipped question	16

6. Taking into account your responses to survey questions 3-5, can you identify new opportunities for collaboration in using Federation funding, either within Federations or between Federations? Please share your ideas below.

	Response Count
	74
answered question	74
skipped question	20

7. Other comments? Please share additional thoughts, suggestions and ideas below.

	Response Count
	22
answered question	22
skipped question	72

Library - Open-Ended Response	Taking into account your responses to survey questions 3-5, can you identify new opportunities for collaboration in using Federation funding, either within Federations or between Federations?	Other comments? Please share additional thoughts, suggestions and ideas below. - Open-Ended Response
Belgrade Community Library	We continue to need assistance in funding our technology needs like OCLC, Mont. Shared Catalog	(blank)
	We find these dollars to be extremely important in helping us maintain our essential operations (OCLC, MSC) as well as staff training	(blank)
Belt Public Library	no	(blank)
Big Horn County Public Library	(blank)	(blank)
Big Sky High School	(blank)	(blank)
Blaine County Library	I can not think of any new opportunities for collaboration at the moment.	(blank)
Boulder Community Library	I feel the Broadvalley Federation does an amazing job of using their resources.	(blank)
Bozeman Public Library	Having a joint conference between 2 Federations might be a good idea: pool resources for a speaker and widen networking opportunities.	The Broad Valleys Federation is a really dynamic consortium. The funds that we receive are invaluable in helping us attend the BV meetings, as well as other useful library meetings. We appreciate the Federation very much.
Broadwater School and Community Library	I would like to see more workshops, together. Book kits shared among federations.	(blank)
Butte-Silver Bow Public Library	Any type of resource sharing	Looking forward to how we can expand resource sharing to reach more Montana libraries faster and with less cost.
Carnegie Public Library Big Timber	Perhaps a way to improve purchasing power for library supplies.	The Federation funding is outside the library budget allowing the Library staff more independence in how it is spent.
ChouteauCounty Library	don't know of any	(blank)
Clancy Library	More promotion of the Shared Catalog among public libraries, MML2Go, and the statewide courier project	(blank)
Daniels County Library	cannot think of anything at this time	(blank)
Darby Community Public Library	interlibrary loan	(blank)
Dillon Public Library	I'd like to see language learning software cooperatively purchased either statewide or by our Federation.	(blank)
Dorothy Asbjornson Community Library	We could use it for more training.	Federation money is very important to our small library allowing me to attend workshops and meetings, replace computers, join OCLC, and have a summer reading program.
Drummond School & Community Library	Courier Services! Downloadable materials. (Both serve a the widest range of users)	(blank)
	I think patrons from small libraries could benefit from programs, webcasts or self paced trainings offered at larger libraries.	(blank)
Dutton Public Library	The Federation funding must be pretty perfect, because I can't think of anything, except to have more time gatherings with the Librarians to find out what works for them and their successes. That is why I appreciate the Federation meetings (Pathfinder).	I am concerned for the small rural library, that the e-books may take away from the reading books that can possibly enhance the library. I have noticed also that the computer use is down as well.
Dutton/Teton Public Library	Dutton Public Library would love to try new opportunities; however, our number of patrons is limited and the opprtunities we already have through Federation funding are well-received.	(blank)
Ekalaka Public	I can't think of anything at the moment	(blank)
Ekalaka Public Library	I can't think of anything at the moment	(blank)
Fallon County Library	no	(blank)
Flathead County Library System	Any way to grow resource sharing Partnerships like the Partners group.	Also, how can we stretch our Federation dollars to help the teeny libraries like those in Sanders County?
Fort Peck Tribal Library	Our Federation does a good job with collaboration for public programming and materials sharing. The networking we do is very important to all of us.	(blank)
Garfield County Free Librar	(blank)	(blank)
George McCone Memorial County Library	Between federations, the money could be used for CE at the federation meetings or at other times during the year.	(blank)
Glacier County Library	Continued workshops, and perhaps collaborating on technology purchases to make them more cost effective.	I feel the smaller attendance and slightly less formal atmosphere at these meetings makes it easier to get to know our fellow librarians. The networking and support that goes on is invaluable.

glasgow	(blank)	(blank)
Glendive Public Library	Collaboration on state-wide projects	(blank)
Harlem Public Library	Members of federations doing joint trainings in their region. Members sharing information from webinars, workshops, trainings they have attended with other federation members. Visits to libraries in federation to learn procedures, practices that work fo	(blank)
Harlowton Public Library	We might be able to share resources in putting items on the Montana Memory project with the digit process	(blank)
Hearst Free Library.	I'm sorry, I can't think of anything.	(blank)
	(blank)	(blank)
Henry A. Malley Memorial Library	Can't really think of any new opportunities at the moment. Very thankful for the Federation funding we receive.	(blank)
Joliet Public Library	(blank)	(blank)
Laurel Public Library	Use Federation funding to purchase new devices that our patrons may need help with in the future like eReaders, iPads, tablets...	(blank)
	(blank)	(blank)
Lewis & Clark Library	As Federation Coordinator I would defer to my Federation members.	(blank)
Lewistown Public Library	Library visits are always helpful, especially for small libraries. Library directors could visit more libraries around the state to see how they can improve or assist in sharing knowledge.	(blank)
Libby Middle/High School	(blank)	(blank)
Liberty County Library	I believe that there are adequate opportunities available at this time.	(blank)
Livingston-Park County Public	(blank)	(blank)
Madison Valley Public Library	online networking, maybe smaller county meetings with just the libraries in a designated federation	(blank)
	(blank)	(blank)
Manhattan Community/School Library	(blank)	(blank)
MCC	At last fall's meeting some of the public libraries made suggestions to the MSL. Again, as I do not receive funding from the federation I do not have any suggestions.	#5 is not relevant, as I do not receive funding from the federation. I attend the meetings to encourage and support those libraries in my area and to hear an information update from the MSL .
Meagher County City Library	I like the present format.	(blank)
Mineral County Public Library	Any offerings by the State Library, such as databases, etc.	(blank)
	Funding assistance for the Shared Catalog, OCLC and MontanaLibrary2go is crucial for the operation of our library.	(blank)
missoula public library	Group purchases	(blank)
Moore Public Library	I would like to see more opportunities for childrens Program's and after school programs	(blank)
North Lake County Public Library	We have already accomplished many of the milestones described in #4.	I have felt very strongly for some time that a better way to spend Federation monies is with GROUP projects or GROUP purchases. We get a bigger "bank for the buck" if we pool the resources. I don't think some members fully comprehend that Federation mon
North Lake County Public Library District	I feel very strongly that use of federation monies is supposed to benefit the entire Tamarack membership. I like the idea of pursuing group purchases for online tools so that costs are shared for things we cannot do on our own.	(blank)
North Valley Public Library	I'm happy with using the funds to help pay the cost of moving Partner items around the state.	(blank)
Petroleum County Community Library	Don't know unless there could be more help with interlibrary loan expenses.	(blank)
Phillips County Library	no	none
Plains Public Library District	Keeping costs down is a number one priority to our library. The more cost sharing we can do the better. It does not matter what, but the MSC is a big one.	(blank)
Prairie County Library	(blank)	(blank)
Preston Hot Springs Town-County Library	Perhaps cost-sharing to provide Erate support.	(blank)
Red Lodge Carnegie Library	It's interesting to note the varying ways federations use their funding. Perhaps if we pooled some of the funds that go towards CE, we could manage online training opportunities or semiannual face to face training available to all libraries statewide? So	(blank)

Rocky Mountain Laboratories	no	Sadly, this survey is apparently not for participants who don't get federation funding.
Ronan City Library	Our federation meetings are a great way for sharing ideas and concepts in person and with a small group of librarians and trustees.	Without federation funding, we would have a difficult time providing continuing education for staff. We would also not be able to purchase books on CD, which our patrons LOVE and which also get shared often through ILL.
Roosevelt County Library	Would be nice to plan more events/workshops/shows that could go from one library to another.	Very aware that this money is sorely needed by some libraries to pay for more basic things.
Rosebud County Library	Please see my answer to #7.	Far too much of Federation funding is spent for administration (coordinator & headquarters). The money would be better spent going directly to libraries for specified uses or being used for consortia needs at the State Library level (everyone's OCLC bill
Roundup Community Library	The Courier is still a really good way to collaborate. I like the book kits that can be shared by many libraries.	We don't use much of the funds for technology because our school connection provides a lot of technology for our library and patrons.
Sheridan County Library	programming, design for library spaces, training of all kinds for new programs and technology	(blank) (blank)
Sheridan Public	More online education opportunities (webinars, online classes, subsidized seats in distance education classes, etc) are needed for those of us who have trouble traveling to attend events and conferences. Providing Federation seats for distance learning classes is useful.	More content needs to be focused toward small/solo libraries. (blank)
Sidney-Richland County Library	Doing projects that benefit the federation as a whole and everybody wants to do. Just making it easier to get together because we are so stretched out in Eastern MT.	Federation money is important for all libraries but the small ones especially need it. So making sure that funding is available even if its just to help little libraries within their respective federations should be a priority. That is the point to the fe I think the federations are a great idea and very helpful when everybody works as team to use the money best way possible for their federations.
St Ignatius School Community Library	not at this time	(blank)
Stevensville High School	no	(blank)
Stillwater County Library	I would like to see excess Federation funds used not only for book club kits but also for MSC or MontanaLibrary2Go startup costs for small libraries. I also think that more people could participate in the courier project if money was available to cover t	(blank)
Thompson-Hickman Madison County Library	Courier	I am a strong believer that the Broad Valleys Federation does it right when it comes to our area library needs. It is no much money but we share it in the very best way. I have been here 31 years- Our Federation is a very happy one for sure!!!
Three Forks Community Library	sharing of resources.	(blank)
Twin Bridges Public Library	Montana Shared Catalog with automated front desk and interlibrary loan is the most important innovation in recent years. Any improvements in MSC would help many many patrons and librarians.	Federation funds could be used for any library expense and improve the library and therefore the community.
Wedsworth	(blank)	(blank)
Wedsworth Memorial Library	It is important to continue the education. The possibility of providing funds to enter into the era of ebooks could be a possibility. not experienced enough to comment, Possibility of using funding to add new technologies such as the base structure for ebooks	(blank) (blank) (blank)
Wedsworth Memorial Library	(blank)	(blank)
Whitefish Community Library	I think our libraries do an outstanding job of managing not only their own library budget but also the Federation funding. It would be nice to have several meetings and workshops spread around the state for those smaller libraries that can't afford to pay for staff to attend when there is over night accommodations that must be made. Driving to Great Falls, Billings, Miles Cit	(blank) (blank)
Wibaux Public Library	(blank)	(blank)