

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners  
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20021034

**1. REQUESTED MOTION:**

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Authorize application to Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services, for fiscal year 2003 State Aid to Libraries Grant

**WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY:** To be considered eligible for funds Chapter 257, State Statutes require application by October 1, 2002

**WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:** Allows Lee County to apply for 2003 State Aid to Libraries grant funds

**2. DEPARTMENTAL CATEGORY:**

**COMMISSION DISTRICT #:**

*CLF*

**3. MEETING DATE:**

*09-24-2002*

**4. AGENDA:**

CONSENT

ADMINISTRATIVE

APPEALS

PUBLIC

WALK ON

TIME REQUIRED:

**5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:**

*(Specify)*

STATUTE Chapter 257

ORDINANCE FS

ADMIN. CODE

OTHER

**6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:**

A. COMMISSIONER

B. DEPARTMENT

C. DIVISION Library

BY: Cynthia N. Cobb, Director

**7. BACKGROUND:**

-BACKGROUND CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO-

**8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:**

A Department Director	B Purchasing or Contracts	C Human Resources	D Other	E County Attorney	F Budget Services				G County Manager
					<i>app 9/11</i>				
<i>Cynthia McCoy 9/6/02</i>				<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>OA 9/9/02</i>	<i>COM 9/10/02</i>	<i>Risk 9/10/02</i>	<i>GC 9/10/02</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

**10. COMMISSION ACTION:**

- APPROVED
- DENIED
- DEFERRED
- OTHER

REC'D.  
by CO. ATTY.  
9/11/02  
CO. ATTY.  
FORWARDED TO:  
*[Signature]*

RECEIVED  
COUN. IN. TD  
9-9-02  
9:45  
COUNTY ADMIN.  
FORWARDED TO: *BH*  
9/12/02

*55  
9/11*

-BACKGROUND CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE-

Section 257.23 of the Florida Statutes states that “the Board of County Commissioners of any county desiring a grant under the provisions of State Statutes 257.14-257.25 shall apply therefore to the Division of Library and Information Services on or before October 1 of each year on a form to be provided by the division.”

The amount to be appropriated will be furnished after December 1, 2002.

The State will distribute all grant funds by June 30, 2003.

Attachments:

- 1) Certification of Local Operating Expenditures
- 2) Grant Agreement ( 2 copies )
- 3) Expenditure Report
- 4) Lee County Library System Long Range Plan

Project Number \_\_\_\_\_

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

**FY2002-2003 STATE AID TO LIBRARIES GRANT APPLICATION  
Single County Library  
(File by October 1, 2002)**

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners  
(name of library governing body)

governing body for the Lee County Library System  
(name of county library)

hereby applies to the Division of Library and Information Services, Florida Department of State, for State Aid to Libraries grants as authorized under Chapter 257, Florida Statutes, and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program, for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2003.

**Certification of Local Operating Expenditures**

We certify that the following total funds from local sources were expended centrally during the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2000, and ending September 30, 2001 (second previous fiscal year) for the operation and maintenance of a library under the conditions outlined in Chapter 257, Florida Statutes, and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program

We further certify that the amount listed below does not include any of the following:

- Funds received from the federal government
- Funds received from the state government
- Funds used for purchase or construction of a library building or library quarters

Such funds are not eligible to be used as local match for State Aid applications under Chapter 257, Florida Statutes, and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program.

**Total local funds expended centrally by the library for the operation and maintenance of a library between October 1, 2000, and September 30, 2001. (The second previous year)**

\$ 13,089,597

## **Grant Agreement**

The Applicant (Grantee) hereby makes application and certifies eligibility for receipt of grants authorized under Chapter 257, Florida Statutes and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program.

### **I. The Grantee agrees to:**

- a. Expend all grant funds awarded and perform all acts in connection with this agreement in full compliance with the terms and conditions of Chapter 257, Florida Statutes, and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program. Funds will not be used for lobbying the legislature, the judicial branch, or any state agency.
- b. Provide the Division of Library and Information Services (DIVISION) with statistical, narrative, financial and other reports as requested.
- c. Not discriminate against any employee employed in the performance of this agreement, or against any applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, handicap, national origin, or sex. The Grantee shall insert a similar provision in all subcontracts for services by this agreement.
- d. Submit an audit or attestation statement pursuant to Section 11.45 and 215.97 Florida Statutes
- e. Identify an individual or position with the authority to make minor modifications to the application, if necessary, prior to execution of the agreement.

### **II. The DIVISION agrees to:**

- a. Provide a grant in accordance with the terms of this agreement in consideration of the Grantee's performance hereinunder, and contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature. In the event that the state funds on which this agreement is dependent are withdrawn, this agreement is terminated and the DIVISION has no further liability to the Grantee beyond that already incurred by the termination date. In the event of a state revenue shortfall, Operating Grants shall be reduced in accordance with Section 257.195, Florida Statutes.
- b. Notify the grantee of the grant award after review and approval of required documents. The grant amount shall be calculated in accordance with Chapter 257, Florida Statutes and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program.
- c. Distribute grant funds in two payments. The first payment will be requested by the DIVISION from the Comptroller upon execution of the agreement. The remaining payment will be made by June 30.

### **III. The Grantee and the DIVISION mutually agree that:**

- a. This instrument embodies the whole agreement of the parties. There are no provisions, terms, conditions, or obligations other than those contained herein; and this agreement shall supersede all previous communications, representation, or agreements either verbal or written, between the parties. No amendment shall be effective unless reduced in writing and signed by the parties.
- b. The agreement is executed and entered into in the State of Florida, and shall be construed, performed, and enforced in all respects in accordance with the laws and rules

of the State of Florida. Each party shall perform its obligations hereunder in accordance with the terms and conditions of this agreement.

- c. If any term or provision of the agreement is found to be illegal and unenforceable, the remainder of the agreement shall remain in full force and effect and such term or provision shall be deemed stricken.
- d. No delay or omission to exercise any right, power or remedy accruing to either party upon breach or default by either party under this Agreement shall impair any such right, power or remedy of either party; nor shall such delay or omission be construed as a waiver of any such breach or default, or any similar breach or default.
- e. The DIVISION shall unilaterally cancel this agreement if the Grantee refuses to allow public access to all documents or other materials subject to the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.
- f. Unless authorized by law and agreed to in writing by the DIVISION, the DIVISION shall not be liable to pay attorney fees, interest, or cost of collection.
- g. The DIVISION shall not assume any liability for the acts, omissions to act or negligence of the Grantee, its agents, servants or employees; nor shall the Grantee exclude liability for its own acts, omissions to act or negligence to the DIVISION. In addition, the Grantee hereby agrees to be responsible for any injury or property damage resulting from any activities conducted by the Grantee.
- h. The Grantee, other than a Grantee which is the State or agency or subdivision of the State, agrees to indemnify and hold the DIVISION harmless from and against any and all claims or demands for damages of any nature, including but not limited to personal injury, death or damage to property, arising out of any activities performed under this agreement and shall investigate all claims at its own expense.
- i. Neither the State nor any agency or subdivision of the State waives any defense of sovereign immunity, or increases the limits of its liability, upon entering into a contractual relationship.
- j. The Grantee, its officers, agents, and employees, in performance of this agreement, shall act in the capacity of an independent contractor and not as an officer, employee or agent of the DIVISION. Under this agreement, Grantee is not entitled to accrue any benefits of state employment, including retirement benefits and any other rights or privileges connected with employment in the State Career Service. Grantee agrees to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that each subcontractor of the Grantee will be deemed to be an independent contractor and will not be considered or permitted to be an agent, servant, joint venturer, or partner of the DIVISION.
- k. The Grantee shall not assign, sublicense, nor otherwise transfer its rights, duties or obligations under this agreement without the prior written consent of the DIVISION, which consent shall not unreasonably be withheld. The agreement transferee must demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the program. If the DIVISION approves a transfer of the Grantee's obligations, the Grantee remains responsible for all work performed and all expenses incurred in connection with the Agreement. In the event the Legislature transfers the rights, duties or obligations of the Department to another governmental entity pursuant to section 20.60, Florida Statutes, or otherwise, the rights, duties and obligations under this agreement shall also be transferred to the successor government entity as if it were an original party to the agreement.
- l. This agreement shall bind the successors, assigns and legal representatives of the Grantee and of any legal entity that succeeds to the obligation of the DIVISION.

- m. This agreement shall be terminated by the DIVISION because of failure of the Grantee to fulfill its obligations under the agreement in a timely and satisfactory manner unless the Grantee demonstrates good cause as to why it cannot fulfill its obligations. Satisfaction of obligations by Grantee shall be determined by the DIVISION, based on the terms and conditions imposed on the Grantee in paragraphs I and III of this agreement and guidelines for the State Aid to Libraries Grant program. The DIVISION shall provide Grantee a written notice of default letter. Grantee shall have 15 calendar days to cure the default. If the default is not cured by Grantee within the stated period, the DIVISION shall terminate this agreement, unless the Grantee demonstrates good cause as to why it cannot cure the default within the prescribed time period. For purposes of this agreement, "good cause" is defined as circumstances beyond the Grantee's control. Notice shall be sufficient if it is delivered to the party personally or mailed to its specified address. In the event of termination of this agreement, the Grantee will be compensated for any work satisfactorily completed prior to notification of termination.
- n. Unless there is a change of address, any notice required by this agreement shall be delivered to the Division of Library and Information Services, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250, for the State and, for the Grantee, to its single library administrative unit. In the event of a change of address, it is the obligation of the moving party to notify the other party in writing of the change of address.

IV. The term of this agreement will commence on the date of the notification of grant award.

**THE APPLICANT/GRANTEE**

**THE DIVISION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Library Governing Body

\_\_\_\_\_  
Division of Library and Information Services  
Department of State, State of Florida

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(or Chief Financial Officer of County  
if responsibility is assigned to another position)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name and Title of Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**THE DIVISION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Library Governing Body

\_\_\_\_\_  
Division of Library and Information Services  
Department of State, State of Florida

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(or Chief Financial Officer of County  
if responsibility is assigned to another position)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name and Title of Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Expenditure Report - October 1, 2000- September 30, 2001**

(See instructions for information to assist you in completing this form.)

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	FUNDING SOURCES:				TOTALS
	LOCAL	STATE	FEDERAL	OTHER	
10 Personal Services	6,582,275		67,909		6,650,184
30 Operating Expenses	3,551,390	453,614	20,601		4,025,605
60 Capital Outlay (Non-Fixed)	2,955,932	585,199	49,514		3,590,645
Other					
<b>Total funds expended for the operation &amp; maintenance of the library</b>	<b>13,089,597</b> <i>(Record this amount on page 1 of form)</i>	<b>1,038,813</b>	<b>138,024</b>		<b>14,266,434</b>

60 Capital Outlay (Fixed, including purchase or construction of a library building or quarters)	8,909,685	300,000			9,209,685
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**SIGNATURES:**

*Lisa Kucsek*

Library finance manager

*9-6-02*

Date

Single library administrative head

*Cynthia Y. Smith*  
Date



**Lee  
County  
Library  
System**

**Long Range Plan  
2002 - 2007**

**September 24, 2002  
*for the*  
State Library of Florida**

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## Introduction

### The Lee County Library System

The Lee County Library System (LCLS) provides public library services to the people of this southwest Florida county through four regional and seven branch libraries, a Talking Books sub-regional library, a special agricultural collection, reference room collection, bookmobile, community outreach services, and a processing and headquarters centers. The LCLS public service locations are:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Type</i>
Boca Grande Reference Room Collection	Boca Grande	Reference
Bookmobile	Varies	Mobile service
Bonita Springs Public Library	Bonita Springs	Branch
Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library	Cape Coral	Regional
Captiva Memorial Library	Captiva	Branch
Dunbar Jupiter Hammon Public Library	Fort Myers	Branch
East County Regional Library	Lehigh Acres	Regional
Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library	Fort Myers	Regional
North Fort Myers Public Library	North Fort Myers	Branch
Pine Island Public Library	Bokeelia	Branch
Riverdale Branch Library	Fort Myers	Branch
Rutenberg Branch Library	Fort Myers	Branch
South County Regional Library	Estero	Regional
Victor Yingst Memorial Collection	Fort Myers	Agricultural reference
Talking Books Library	North Fort Myers	For eligible persons with disabilities

Total square footage of library space was 172,945 as this long-range plan was developed. System headquarters staff had just moved out of the Fort Myers regional library and into a nearby building at that time. Since then the system has since completed a renovation and expansion of the Cape Coral library and begun development of a new regional library. Several other new facilities are in the discussion or planning stages.

The library system is a division of Lee County government and is funded through a dedicated millage to library service. The library director reports to a Deputy County Manager. A group of citizens representing Friends of the Library groups or other library support organizations functions as an advisory committee and meets regularly with the library director. Nine system libraries have community library support organizations or Friends of the Library groups – Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Captiva, Dunbar, East County, North Fort Myers, Pine Island, Riverdale and Rutenberg libraries

The library system maintains a web site and publishes a monthly *Lee County Library System Calendar of Events* and a variety of other printed materials to inform the public about available services. Other publications are available to aid the public in using library collections, equipment, and services. A staff newsletter, *Communique*, is regularly published in hard copy and on-line. Staff also shares information electronically through a library system Intranet.

## Service Profile

The Lee County Library System provides a wide range of public library services to county residents and visitors including collection, organization and loan of books, magazines, video and audio tapes, music CDs, books on CD, DVDs, and new formats as they become available. An automated database of titles, user registration, and current use records enables the public to find titles and subjects of interest across the system and to keep abreast of their own borrower status.

Reference and information services are available to people of all ages. Staff makes use of print and digital resources to answer questions and help users find information, in person at individual libraries, through a centralized telephone reference service, and by e-mail through the LCLS web site. The libraries offer a number of digital informational databases, electronic journal/magazine indices, and access to the Internet and World Wide Web as well as a collection of print reference resources. Interlibrary loan of print material held by other libraries in the state and nation is available.

The library's web site links users to information about Lee County library events and services and to a variety of other informational web sites. Computers are available at all libraries for public use.

Children and young adult library users have access to collections and services tailored to their needs, including assistance with homework. Electronic resources of interest and use to children are available as are computers for Internet searching and other applications. Program events for preschool children are held throughout the year and the annual summer reading programs serve children and teens through age seventeen.

LCLS is the largest by far of the public library agencies in southwest Florida and is actively involved in the Southwest Florida Library Network, a multi-type library cooperative. Library employees have memberships in the Florida and American Library Associations, attend conferences for continuing education sponsored by these groups, and participate in state and nationwide planning and development of library services.

## The Previous Long-Range Plan

The library system is currently working under a three year plan of services, *the Long Range Plan Fiscal Year 2000-2002* and an *Annual Plan of Service, October 2001-September 2002*. Mission and vision statements are given in those plans, as are goals and objectives for the planning periods.

The existing plan was reviewed during development of the new plan. The library director as a basis for their work provided planners a status report on goals and objectives. Significant progress or action taken was reported on most annual plan objectives. General consensus of library management was that, with a new planning period beginning in the Fall of 2002, the system accomplished much of what was previously hoped for and is ready to analyze projected needs for the next five years and develop plans to focus resources to meet the most pressing service needs.

### **The Need for a New Plan**

Planning is an evolving and on-going process. Expansions of electronic information options and personal computing have created new roles and opportunities for public libraries to respond

to community needs. Planning is an important means of involving the community in thoughtful decision making about what the library will do and provide. In addition, the State Library of Florida requires a long-range plan of each public library that applies for State Aid to Libraries funds. A new plan is due to the state in the fall of 2002.

## Planning Methods

### Community Participation and the Planning Committee

The library system used *The New Planning for Results* by Sandra Nelson, the Public Library Association's long-range planning model, to develop this plan. The fourth in a series of manuals on public library planning published by the national association, Nelson's version provides an efficient approach to assuring community and staff involvement and focusing planning on identified needs. Lee County residents and library staff were involved in planning as described below.

➤ *Survey of resident opinion*

Lee County residents responded to a brief survey, available at all library sites and on the library web site from May 8 through 21, 2002 and in *The News-Press* on May 7, 2002. Spanish and Haitian Creole versions of the survey questionnaire were available at libraries serving communities where these languages are spoken. A large print version was available at all libraries.

The 1,828 people who completed the survey answered two basic questions. The first asked them to evaluate ten general categories of existing materials and services. The second listed six services that might be offered and asked for their level of interest in those services. Survey questionnaires also provided an opportunity to add suggestions for new services and changes in existing services. LCLS planners used survey results to consider the status of current service and needs for service development, improvement, and change.

➤ *Focus group of Library Advisory Committee*

Members of the Library Advisory Committee (representatives of Friends of the Library or other library support organizations from around the county) met with the consultant assisting the library system in developing the plan, the library director, and deputy director. They were asked for their opinions regarding the future of library services and what could or should change.

➤ *Community Planning Committee*

A representative group of Lee County residents was invited to participate in the planning process; the twelve people listed below provided the citizens' point of view. They met three times from May through June 2002, providing valuable insights into how the library system can most effectively respond to local needs in the next five years and achieve service excellence. Committee members were:

- Cheryl Lynn Burnett, high school student, Fort Myers
- Judith Cassidy, Florida Gulf Coast University department director, Lehigh Acres
- Steve Foust, elementary school principal/parent, Cape Coral
- Dan John, retired educator/library volunteer, Bonita Springs
- Theresa Kellum, retiree/cultural and museum volunteer, Fort Myers



- Matt Mahoney, high school student/library volunteer, Fort Myers
- Diana Marsden, public school teacher/small business person, Cape Coral
- Carl Skinner, Friend/library volunteer, Fort Myers
- Peggy Slot, small business person/50+, Fort Myers
- Erin Snyder, home schooling parent, St. James City
- Lori Van Wagner, researcher/Edison Estate non-profit agency and library user, San Carlos Park

Cynthia Cobb, Library Director, and Terri Crawford, Deputy Director, also served on this committee.

➤ *Activities Planning Subcommittees*

County residents also participated in planning activities to carry out the plan. One person from the community served on each of the seven Staff Task Force subcommittees that did activities planning.

### **Library Staff Participation and the Staff Task Force**

Library employees also participated in the planning process.

1. The planning consultant, library director and deputy director met with twenty management staff, representing all library departments and sites, to hear their views on community needs.
2. A Staff Task Force of sixteen people plus the director and deputy director received the recommendations of the Community Planning Committee and completed the plan. They were representative of all library sites and position classifications. Additional staff members were added to this group's subcommittees during the activities development phase of planning.
3. All library system employees were offered the opportunity to contribute their suggestions for actions that could be taken to implement the new plan goals, once the goals were identified.

### **Community Needs and the Library System Response**

Community Planning Committee discussions led to a list of "community needs" – general areas of need for change and improvement in Lee County.

*Growth and Development*

1. Development in the County should be controlled to prevent more urban sprawl, assure availability of needed infrastructure, and protect natural resources.

2. Population growth is bringing a more diverse citizenry; the cultures and languages of newcomers should be respected and welcomed to the community.
3. Tourism should be encouraged through development of attractions and maintenance and improvement of existing natural resources.
4. Water management should be improved.
5. Transportation improvement is ongoing (planned expansion of I-75, for example) but continued attention to this problem is needed, including improved public transit services and improved roadways.

#### ***Education and Employment***

1. Education at the k-12 level should be improved and adequate financial support provided.
2. Other resources that support education should be continued and enhanced.
3. Education to develop an appropriately trained labor pool that supports a strong economy is needed.

#### ***Recreation and Cultural Activities***

1. Increased activities for teens should be available.
2. Public library services should be supported and enhanced.
3. Seniors should have continued access to the life of the community as they age and may experience limitations in independent function.
4. Spaces appropriate for large public gatherings should be readily available.

#### ***Community***

1. Geographic and cultural isolation occurring because of population diversity and the way residential development is done create a lack of community interest and participation. Efforts to bring people together and develop community ownership and spirit are needed.
2. Individuals and groups that are racially or culturally different from the majority population, that speak languages other than English, that have disabilities, and/or are economically disadvantaged should have opportunities to participate in the life of the community. Their differences should be appreciated and they should be valued members of society.

The Community Planning committee used their needs list as a basis for selecting seven service responses – types of public library service that can help meet certain needs – from a list of thirteen provided in the planning model. The list of service responses on which the library system will focus its resources shapes the mission statement, goals, objectives and activities that make up the long-range plan. In selecting seven of the thirteen possible service responses the committee recognized that no public library could do everything for its community at the desired level of excellence.

The Staff Task Force reviewed the recommendations of the Community Planning Committee regarding appropriate service responses and made some changes to finalize

this decision-making process. The service responses that will be the focus of library activities and resources for the life of this plan are:

- Commons – addressing the need of people to meet and interact with others in their community and to participate in public discourse about community issues
- Cultural Awareness – satisfying people’s desire to gain an understanding of their own cultural heritage and the cultural heritage of others
- Current Topics and Titles – fulfilling people’s appetite for information about popular cultural and social trends and their desire for satisfying recreational experiences.
- Genealogy – helping people know and better understand their personal history (primary service location: Fort Myers regional library)
- General Information – providing information and answers to questions on a broad array of topics related to work, school, and personal life
- Information Literacy – Assisting people to develop skills related to finding, evaluating, and using information effectively
- Lifelong Learning – assisting people’s efforts regarding self-directed personal growth and development

### **Definitions of Long-Range Plan Components**

Once service responses were finalized, the Staff Task Force was responsible for writing plan components, assisted by the planning consultant. The plan that follows consists of:

- **Mission** – a brief statement of the services on which the library system will be focusing its services over the next five years
- **Goals** – what the library system hopes will result from its efforts; what the people get
- **Objectives** – statements that set a standard of performance for the library’s work towards meeting its goals; measurable and time-limited, objectives tell staff how success will be measured and services evaluated
- **Activities** – a list of actions the library system will take to try and meet objectives and work towards goals; what the library system will do to implement the plan

As a next step to implementing the new plan, library managers will begin the process of assigning responsibilities and working out the details of what will be done and when.

## The Plan

### Mission - What the Library Does

The Lee County Library System provides county residents and visitors with

- Current materials in a variety of formats for recreational reading, viewing and listening
- Information on popular cultural and social trends
- General information and answers to their questions
- Assistance and training to improve users' skills of finding, evaluating, and using information
- Spaces and opportunities for people to meet and gather for discussion
- Information and activities to assist people in understanding their own and other cultural heritages
- Materials and information to assist people with their self-directed, personal growth and development
- Genealogy research materials and assistance at specified libraries

A shorter version of the mission can be used for public postings and other publications where brevity is required.

The Lee County Library System provides residents and visitors with

- Popular materials and current interest activities
- Reference services
- Information services
- Virtual and physical access services
- Cultural awareness forums
- Programs and activities
- Genealogy research

### Goals and Objectives

*Goal 1* – The community has access to popular materials in a variety of formats and to programs of current interest.

Objectives:

- 1.1 The number of items in the popular and current materials collection will increase by 15% over the number of items available at the end of fiscal year 2002.
- 1.2 Annually, 90% of the people surveyed, who attend programs on topics of current interest, will report their needs and expectations were met.

**Goal 2 – The community has virtual and physical access to spaces designed for conversation and discussion.**

**Objectives:**

- 2.1 Annually, use of available Commons spaces will maintain at least at 2001-02 Levels.
- 2.2 After the library establishes virtual Commons spaces, the number of uses by the public will increase by 25% annually.

**Goal 3 – Community members come together at the library for events and activities on issues of community interest.**

**Objective:**

- 3.1 Annually, the number of people indicating they used a Commons space during a library visit will increase by 10%.

**Goal 4 – Community members have information and activities to expand their understanding of the cultural heritage represented by the communities the library serves.**

**Objectives:**

- 4.1 Annually, circulation of foreign language materials will increase by 5%.
- 4.2 Annually, attendance at multi-cultural activities and programs will increase by 15%.
- 4.3 Annually, attendance at multi-cultural activities and programs will increase the cultural awareness of 25% of attendees

**Goal 5 – The community has resources to gain an understanding of the world and its people.**

**Objective:**

- 5.1 Annually, circulation of materials about histories, traditions, and cultures of other countries will increase by 5%.
- 5.2 Annually, partnerships with other cultural organizations and or/counties will increase by 10%.

**Goal 6 – The community gets timely, accurate answers to their questions.**

**Objectives:**

- 6.1 Annually, 80% of respondents to the reference service survey will report timely and accurate service.
- 6.2 Annually, the number of reference questions answered will increase by 5%.

*Goal 7* – The community has assistance in developing skills for effectively finding, evaluating, and using information.

Objectives:

- 7.1 Annually, the number of library users assisted in locating, evaluating, and using information will increase by 10%.
- 7.2 Annually, 90% of participants in information literacy classes will improve their ability to locate, evaluate, and use information.
- 7.3 Annually, all staff will have training to assure the currency of their skills and abilities in information literacy.

*Goal 8* – Children and families experience the joy of reading and how the library can enhance their lives.

Objectives:

- 8.1 Annually, participation in the summer reading program will increase by 5%.
- 8.2 Annually, 90% of the parents/caregivers surveyed will report that participation in library program activities encouraged their children to read at home.

*Goal 9* – The community has access to materials, programs, and services for personal growth and development.

Objectives:

- 9.1 Annually, participation in library-sponsored programs will increase by 10%.
- 9.2 Annually, circulation of non-fiction materials will increase by 5%.

*Goal 10* – Community members interested in genealogy have resources, information, and assistance for their research.

Objective:

- 10.1 Annually, 90% of genealogy researchers using the Fort Myers library will find genealogy resources to help them with personal research and/or locating additional resources.