REGIONAL PLANNING MEETING

USING COUNTY-LEVEL DATA TO
INFORM AND IMPROVE LITERACY OUTCOMES

Facilitated by
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Determined to break the intergenerational cycle of low literacy in South Carolina

We believe in the power of collaboration to change lives

We believe that by 2030, we will see a community transformed

We stand as the united voice of the literacy movement, working to promote literacy efforts, raise awareness and build a network of community support
PROJECT BACKGROUND

- County-level process with Literacy 2030 (State Library participation)
  - Identify Needs
  - Define Goals
  - Evidence-Based Practices
  - Develop Outcomes

- Developed process, in collaboration with State Library, to impact literacy
  - Early Childhood
  - Grade Level/Teen
  - Adult

- Year 1
  - Surveyed libraries
  - Interviewed sample of library staff
  - Analyzed library websites
  - Identified data sources/ideas to highlight literary-related data
  - Developed template and identified promising practices
INTRODUCTIONS

- Name
- Library Branch
- Role
- Favorite movie
AGENDA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES 1:45 – 2:00pm
DATA 2:00 – 3:00pm
ACTION 3:15 – 3:45pm
Program Planning 3:45 – 4:30pm

Break @ 3pm
THE URGENCY OF ILLITERACY

• In the U.S., \(43\%\) of adults read at an \(8^{th}\) grade level or lower
• In the U.S., \(36\) million adults need literacy help
  • Only 3 million will receive it
• In SC, \(66.7\%\) of 3\(^{rd}\) graders below standard in reading (ASPIRE)
• In SC, \(51.2\%\) of 8\(^{th}\) graders below standard in reading (ASPIRE)
• The percentage of adults in SC lacking basic prose literacy skills decreased by \(5\%\) from 1992 to 2003.
Limited ability to obtain and understand essential information

- Economic disadvantages
  - Job quality – unemployment or lower-quality job
- Reduced access to lifelong learning and professional development
- Intergenerational transmission of illiteracy
- Low self-esteem
- Negative impact on health
  - Increased workplace accidents
  - Medication misuse
  - More likely to report having poor health
Through Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC), ALA seeks to strengthen communities by giving libraries the tools they need to bring disparate voices together and lead change.
Community/cultural center
Signature initiatives
Partnerships
The initiative helps the public realize the local library is part of their community’s educational resources.

“This means we’ll never again hear, ‘I get everything I need off the Internet — Why do we need libraries?’” Gross wrote.

“Nobody says that ‘We don’t need K-12; everything’s on the Internet,’” Dreaden said.
Build capacity to transform communities through collaboration with community partners to act on literacy-related outcomes.
1. Focus on an area of need in your county
2. Decide on a goal to target
3. Build a network (e.g., community partners, colleagues, staff, etc.)
4. Design an action plan
AGENDA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

DATA

ACTION

Program Planning
USING DATA TO PLAN – CURRENT PRACTICES
USING DATA TO PLAN – LITERACY 2030 WEBSITE

KEY FOR COUNTY RANKINGS

 TOP
 LOWER

Desselect All Counties
USING DATA TO PLAN – CODEBOOK
USING DATA TO PLAN – PROMISING PRACTICES
USING DATA TO PLAN – PROJECT HIGHLIGHT
Time for a Break
AGENDA
ACTION PLANNING DOCUMENT

- **Identify Needs**
  - What data stands out to you related to the targeted level? Codebook as a potential resource.

- **Define Goals**
  - What is an attainable and measurable goal? Should be specific. (e.g., Enroll 25 students in ACT tutoring sessions)

- **Develop a Plan**
  - How are you going to work towards that goal? What programs already exist? Promising practices as a potential resource

- **Map Assets**
  - What/who is needed? What capacity does your library have? What assets are available in the community? How does your goal align with potential partners’ mission? How will you articulate the need?

- **Evaluate Plan**
  - How will you monitor accountability, track progress, and measure impact?

- **Create a Timeline**
  - What deadlines do you need to establish? What are your next steps?
AGENDA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES
DATA
ACTION
Program Planning
PROGRAM PLANNING

With your team (and an assigned facilitator):

1. Explore your county’s data with **Literacy 2030’s Interactive Website**
2. Use the **Action Planning Document** to guide you through a collaborative program plan
3. On the chart paper:
   - Select data point
   - Write a goal
   - Identify potential community partners

(We will share out around **4pm**)
AGENDA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

DATA

ACTION

Program Planning
POTENTIAL RESOURCES

- Literacy 2030 - http://www.literacy2030.org/
  - County Level Data
  - Codebook
  - Promising Practices
- Others?
NEXT STEPS

- Web-based Survey for Feedback (*Be on the look out!*)
- Keep going!
- Reach out for support
  - REM Center
  - Literacy 2030
  - Other library colleagues