



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 27, 2018

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Fifteen Indiana Libraries Including Johnson County Public Library Chosen to Participate in Harwood Public Innovators Lab

Lafayette, IN – The Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS) announced today that 50 individuals from 15 Indiana libraries were selected to attend the Harwood Public Innovators Lab sponsored by MCLS. The Lab will take place Tuesday through Thursday, March 5-7, 2019 at Indiana Wesleyan University – Indianapolis North campus. MCLS is fully funding the participants tuition for the training, lodging, some meals during the training and will also include follow-up coaching calls to further support the cohort of attendees post-training.

The funds were made available to MCLS member libraries through a grant program established by the MCLS board of trustees from the proceeds of the sale of the former INCOLSA building in Indiana.

The Harwood Public Innovators Lab is a 2.5-day experience to help you and your organization learn what it means to Turn Outward – to use the community, not your conference room, as your reference point for choices and action.

MCLS has been using the tools of The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation and sharing them with libraries since 2013. We are excited to be able to support training for a cohort of Indiana librarians.

The selected libraries represent a spectrum of library types, sizes and geographic locations in Indiana, all with a common goal to engage more deeply in their communities.

The following libraries were selected:

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- Bartholomew County Public Library
- Crown Point Public Library
- Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library
- Fulton County Public Library
- Hamilton East Public Library
- Indiana University Kokomo Library
- Jasper County Public Library
- Jasper-Dubois County Contractual Public Library
- Jefferson County Public Library
- **Johnson County Public Library**
- Kokomo-Howard County Public Library
- Noble County Public Library
- Plymouth Public Library
- Putnam County Public Library
- Wells County Public Library

MCLS is committed to continuing to support the community engagement efforts of Indiana and Michigan libraries beyond the Public Innovators Lab and follow-up coaching. We offer communication forums such as a Facebook group, community engagement roundtables, and a community engagement electronic mailing list for libraries as they put the Harwood tools into practice in their community.

About MCLS

MCLS is a nonprofit, member driven organization whose mission is to facilitate sharing resources and to collaborate with other organizations to benefit Indiana and Michigan libraries.

About JCPL

Since 1911, Johnson County Public Library has worked toward improving the quality of life for all citizens of Johnson County, Indiana.

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