

Partnership

Objective 1: The consortium will investigate merging ILS services with other systems.

Action	Update 8/2021	Time Frame	Status
Create document focused on Merging ILS.	This document serves as the current focus for this action.	2022	Ongoing
Provide form for directors, staff input.	Directors and staff met for strategic planning. This document is the result.	Spring 2021	Completed
Reach out to WVLS & IFLS. Schedule a meeting.	Watching systems around the state, but there doesn't seem to be local opportunities at the present time.	Summer 2021	On Hold
Address potential issues of a merged ILS by identifying fears and pitfalls, describing how problems and conflicts could be addressed in a reasonable way.	This was somewhat addressed at planning session. As more concrete plans develop, conflict resolution may become more active, but as of present, we seem to all be looking in the same direction. Review project WIN documentation.	2022	Ongoing

Objective 2: Investigate other potential shared services and standards.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Reach out to other systems for bulk supply purchasing opportunities.	Bulk orders of supplies completed. Joint purchase of receipt paper printer ordered.	Spring 2021	Completed
Reach out to normalize bib standards with other systems.	Have formed an alliance catalogers throughout Wisconsin to work on statewide steps toward inclusive headings and issues of centralized cataloging. NWLS staff coordinated meeting with the group and formed a listserv to maintain connection.	October/November 2020	Completed
Continuing to reach out to normalize bib standards with other systems.	Regularly updating our list of inclusive headings. Share this work with statewide colleagues by December 2021.	Summer 2021	In progress
Reach out to other system bib standards committees to meet jointly.	Working with the cataloging Slack group, Jackee has been observing meetings at IFLS.	Spring 2021	Ongoing

Relevance

Objective 1: Positive, consistent marketing of services and support of libraries.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Promote relevance of libraries and the library system.	An active marketing team has been formed and is meeting regularly.	2021	Ongoing
Consortium-specific marketing materials. Partner with other system marketing coordinators to collaborate.	Potential future project: Patron drive during National Library Card Sign Up Month (September).	September 2021	Ongoing

Objective 2: Seek and promote programming, services and resources.

Action		Time Frame	Status
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Coordinate marketing of existing Network services.	Successful rebrand from Merlin to NWLN. Bi-Weekly online directors discussions to share ideas and support. PIKA roll out completed. New patron cards designed and distributed. Evaluation of digital services.	Summer 2021	Ongoing
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Objective 3: Develop stakeholder understanding of system (vs. single library) model and benefits.

Action		Time Frame	Status
List of stakeholders.	Develop a list of those with a vested interest in library system success.	Fall 2021	Ongoing
Educational marketing materials to share with stakeholders.	Develop talking points about the relevance & support of libraries.	Fall 2021	Ongoing

Patron Services

Objective 1: Develop a plan and timeline for centralized cataloging.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Decide what options are available (system cataloger or partner with other consortia)	Plan for centralized cataloging implementation to be presented at August Network meeting.	August 2021	In progress
Develop a funding plan.	In this tough budget climate, NWLS is actively engaged in developing a mutually effective resource library contract and centralized cataloging is a part of this contract.	August 2021	In progress

Objective 2: Investigate ways to improve online catalog.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Discovery layer options & costs.	Approved decision to implement the Pika discovery layer.	September 2020	Completed
Develop a funding plan.	Pika budget approved.	September 2020	Completed
Install discovery layer.	New discovery layer implemented.	April 2021	Completed

Objective 3: Promote backup plans for service outages.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Arrange for NWLS head end access to switch to the RDC.	Moved NWLS staff to new domain in RDC. Migrated NWLS file server to RDC. The new servers located at RDC are up and running and NWLS system migration has begun. Router configurations for migration have been finished and tested in a lab environment. Wireless configurations have been configured also for the migration process.	End of 2022	In progress
Investigate local options for alternative internet access.	Norvado has installed their fiber access to the back server room April 2020. Could be used as a secondary connection in the future for backup ISP.	End of 2022	In progress

Objective 4: Promote WebSierra for outreach use.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Provide access to staff for WebSierra.	Logins for WebSierra have been activated.	September 2020	Completed
Provide continuing education on mobile outreach and examples.	Office hours held and recorded August 11th for mobile outreach.	Summer 2021	Completed

Objective 5: Evaluate ILS options.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Investigate available options.	IUG: Check out vendors. Ask PIKA for suggestions. Milwaukee County, Wisconsin Valley both are going through this process. Have contacted them to tagalong.	Fall 2021	In progress.
Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of options.	Developing list of options.	December 2021	On hold

Positioning for the Future

Objective 1: Align with state level practices (directions).

Action		Time Frame	Status
Participate in PLSR related activities	DPI waiting on state technology departments for CE portal software. Statewide delivery changes to be implemented by 2024. Oversight of statewide delivery will be proposed to WPLC in the next few months. A consultant has been hired by DPI to explore changes to the funding formula. Sherry will be on a special LD&L committee working with the consultant.	2021-2022	Ongoing
Consult with SRLAAW to keep abreast of the status of ILS and System mergers.	Marathon County in transition. Still monitoring WVLS, IFLS and waiting for other opportunities. In merger news, there is a possible system merger between Arrowhead and Lakeshores.	Summer 2021	Ongoing

Objective 2: Funding for additional system staff.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Investigate grant opportunities.	Working outside of LSTA Funding. Looking for Grant for Streaming services.	Fall 2021	Ongoing
Seek alternative sponsors.		2022	On hold

Objective 3: Development and expansion of digital collections.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Investigate possible streaming and other digital resources.	Viewed vendor demonstrations, formed Digital Services committee, compiling lists of pro's and con's. Contracted with WILS for a survey of Digital Services. Next step: Compiling and evaluating	Fall 2021	In progress.

Objective 4: Develop specialized consulting/training resources which can be shared through the state.

Action		Time Frame	Status
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Highlight inclusive services.	Have formed an alliance of catalogers throughout Wisconsin to work on statewide steps toward inclusive headings and issues of centralized cataloging. NWLS staff coordinated meeting with the group and formed a listserv to maintain connection.	2021	Ongoing
Highlight accessibility services.		2021	Ongoing

Objective 5: Add more libraries and patrons to the consortium.

Action		Time Frame	Status
Open consortium membership to school libraries in the area.	WEMTA/WLA partnership, started conversation at Ashland High School	Winter 2021-2022	To do
Encourage community libraries to become members.	Minong, Siren.	Winter 2021-2023	To do
Investigate possibility of more branch libraries.	Are there any tiny community libraries that could be enhanced by becoming a branch of an existing public library.	Winter 2021-2024	To do
Conduct patron drive activities.	Pop up library training. Active patron drive tied to Library Card Month: researching demographics.	September 2021	In progress
Investigate and encourage tribal libraries.	Bad River, Red Cliff, St. Croix (Hertel)	Winter 2021-2026	To do
Develop a plan for outreach.	Talking points, identifying community partners to begin conversations, cost-benefit analysis for all of the above.	Fall 2021	To do