

Plan of Service

Mission

The Southern Tier Library System, a member-driven regional consortium of public libraries, supports and strengthens its members through clearly defined, cost-effective services that make possible the coordination and sharing of resources, enabling all individuals in the five-county region to have equal access to excellent library service.

Goals

- Goal 1: STLS will ensure that Southern Tier residents have access to a broad range of information and library materials through local libraries
- Goal 2: STLS will assist system members to achieve and maintain electronic doorway library status
- Goal 3: STLS will work toward stable funding for the support of system and member library services
- Goal 4: STLS will be responsive and accountable to its members

Contents

Goal 1: STLS will ensure that Southern Tier residents have access to a broad range of information and library materials through local libraries.

- 1.1 Support cooperative collection development among member libraries
- 1.2 Maximize resident access to library materials throughout the region and state
- 1.3 Support interlibrary loan (ILL) service to member library patrons from libraries not members of STLS
- 1.4 Enable residents of the Southern Tier region to have easy access to materials owned by member libraries
- 1.5 Speed delivery of materials to residents of Southern Tier area

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- 1.6 Coordinate technical services support (purchasing, cataloging, and physical processing of library materials) delivered in a timely way
- 1.7 Provide comprehensive Central Library services to the citizens of member libraries of the Southern Tier Library System.
- 1.8 Provide and inform member libraries of continuing education opportunities
- 1.9 Strengthen and support services in member libraries for adults with low literacy levels
- 1.91 Work with member libraries to provide library outreach services to residents unable to make use of traditional library services "who are educationally disadvantaged or

who are members of ethnic or minority groups in need of special library services, or who are unemployed and in need of job placement assistance, or who live in an area underserved by a library, or who are blind, physically handicapped, aged or confined in institutions." (Funded through categorical aid.) Regulation 273, Regulations of the Commissioner of Education

- 1.92 Provide state correctional facility libraries with services and materials provided to public libraries, as possible
- 1.93 Support member libraries in the provision of services to children, families and young adults
- 1.94 Improve service through new, expanded or remodeled buildings

Goal 2: STLS will assist system members to achieve and maintain electronic doorway library status

- 2.1 Assist member libraries to provide Internet access to their own information resources (Funded through categorical aid)
- 2.2 Operate an integrated online library service for member libraries
- 2.3 Provide member libraries with technical assistance on the use of hardware, software and peripherals used to access the Southern Tier automated network

Goal 3: STLS will work toward stable funding for the support of system and member library services

- 3.1 Seek adequate and stable funding to support system services and programs
- 3.2 Work with member libraries to expand chartered service areas, assist in the formation of public library districts, conduct awareness and advocacy activities, and improve local support

Goal 4: STLS will be responsive and accountable to its members

- 4.1 Promote member participation in System governance, planning, and evaluation.
- 4.2 Provide consultant services to member libraries
- 4.3 Support communication and cooperation among member libraries
- 4.4 Engage in cooperative efforts with other library systems

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