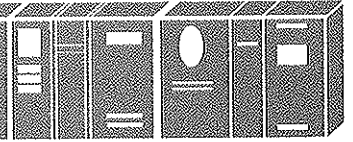


Horsham Township Library



435 Babylon Road • Horsham, PA 19044-1224 • 215-443-2609 • Fax: 215-443-2697 • www.HorshamLibrary.org

Horsham Township Library Request for Proposals

Summary

Horsham Township Library is interested in holding a series of follow-up focus groups to assess its performance and the perception of its services by its public. Results of these focus groups are to be used in the following ways:

1. They are to be compared to the series of focus groups held in 1999 as part of a feasibility study to plan for the establishment of the library to assess whether the library met community expectations in the way it established and managed its program of services during its first five years of operation.
2. They are to help the library board and management establish new goals and objectives as part of a strategic planning cycle for the coming five years.
3. They are to help the library board and management understand the characteristics of its users, such as: use of/interest in new technology, changes in demographic characteristics of the community, and changes in expectations for library services.

Narrative

Horsham Township Library was established by resolution of Horsham Township Council in 2000 to serve the 25,000 residents of Horsham Township, located in Montgomery County, northwest of Philadelphia. The decision to establish a public library to serve the township followed a feasibility study commissioned by the Horsham Chamber of Commerce and a voter referendum held in November 2000.

The building opened for the first time on October 12, 2004. The appendix to this RFP contains usage data for each of the calendar years since its opening.

A mission statement and an initial set of goals for service were established based on information contained in the 1999 feasibility study report. This report summarized desires and expectations for library services expressed by participants in a series of focus group sessions representing the following interest groups within the community:

- Parents
- Educators
- Business people and community leaders
- Senior citizens
- Students

As the library approaches its fifth anniversary in the fall of 2009, the library board and management would like to assess "How are we doing?" and would like to solicit public input on "Where should we go from here?"

Scope of work

The consultant will plan and conduct up to eight focus group sessions, at least five of which should include members of the interest groups reflected in the original feasibility study.

The consultant will work with library management, library board members and members of the Friends of the Horsham Library to identify willing, interested library users and local opinion leaders to participate.

The consultant will work with library management, library board members and members of the Friends of the Horsham Library to develop the list of discussion topics for the focus group sessions.

The consultant will conduct each focus group session according to generally accepted techniques.

The consultant will organize the results and issue a report to the library describing the focus group discussions, summarizing feedback, and describing new and/or modified library services of interest to the participants.

The library would like three print copies and one copy in .PDF format of the consultant's final report.

Timeframe

The library would like to complete these focus groups and receive the consultant's report by July 30, 2009.

Responses

Questions about this RFP and responses to the RFP should be sent to:

Laurie Tynan, Library Director
Horsham Township Library
435 Babylon Road
Horsham, PA 19044-1224

Tel: 215-443-2609, ext. 205
Fax: 215-443-2697
Email: LTYNAN@MCLINC.ORG

Responses should include a cost quote and should describe the type and charges for expenses not included in the basic contract cost. Responses should describe the consultant's qualifications and previous experience with conducting focus groups.

Deadline for responses is October 27, 2008.

**Horsham Township Library
Request for Proposals**

List of attachments:

1999 Summary of Focus Group results

Mission Statement & Goals for 2004-2008

Your Guide to the Horsham Township Library

2004 Statistical Report (October through December)

2005 Statistical Report

2006 Statistical Report

2007 Statistical Report

2008 Statistical Report (January through July)

Results of Community Focus Groups
To Determine the Feasibility of
Establishing a Horsham Public Library

Prepared for the
Horsham Chamber of Commerce

Prepared by
Library Development Solutions
October, 1999

"I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture, and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."

Carl Sagan

Overview

Horsham Township is a rapidly growing suburb of Philadelphia located in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Currently a town of 22,000, the community is expected to grow to 25,100 by the year 2020. Those who are concerned about quality of life issues in this community believe that establishing a public library in Horsham would provide a central focus for community development. Although Horsham is grappling with other infrastructure issues such as roads, schools, parks and recreational programs, and senior citizen services, evidence about Horsham residents' use of other area libraries indicates that this is a community which cares about and uses public libraries and values education. Horsham's school district is considered one of the best in the Commonwealth, yet its school libraries are curriculum-driven and not adequate to meet the library and information needs of the community.

To receive public library service, Horsham residents have to travel outside of the township to other neighboring libraries. The Upper Dublin Library reports that 25 % of their story hour participants, 20% of their summer reading program participants and 1000 borrowers are from Horsham. Upper Moreland counts 1,471 Horsham residents among their cardholders, and Union Library in Hattiesboro reports that 36% of their users are Horsham residents. The Montgomery County Library System serves the community by providing bookmobile service. But all of these efforts - use of neighboring libraries, bookmobile service, and access to school libraries do not approach the level of service that would be available to Horsham residents in their own community public library.

With the support of the Horsham Township Supervisor and Township Commissioners, The Horsham Chamber of Commerce and its Library Committee decided to assess community interest in forming a public library in Horsham and to determine the level of community support that would establish the library as a key component of this community's infrastructure. Learning more about the ways in which people use public libraries is vital to planning for the future. In an environment where public libraries are facing stiff competition from bookstore/cafes and the Internet and people are time-deprived, community planners need to understand how they can change traditional ways of delivering service to respond to changing demands. Public library planners need to think carefully about how to retain current users, but more importantly need to think about ways in which to attract a new, younger generation of users who will support the concept of free public library service.

The Horsham Township Chamber of Commerce decided to learn more about its community's views about establishing a public library in Horsham Township through a series of focus group meetings. These groups, composed of people purposefully selected by type of interest, were facilitated by Library Development Solutions, a Princeton, NJ-based consulting firm. Prospective library users of a proposed Horsham

Public Library were asked a series of questions to find out more about their current image of public libraries, to discuss the potential array of services, and to identify future roles and directions that are potentially appealing and marketable in Horsham Township. Understanding more about the community's perceptions about public libraries and where they choose to go for library service will be helpful to library planners as they deliberate about establishing a public library in Horsham. Libraries that stay in touch with their clientele will be better able to adapt their services, marketing and promotional campaigns, and services in order to increase the number of people choosing to use the library.

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the focus group effort was to obtain information to assist library planners as they determine the feasibility of establishing a public library in Horsham Township. Specific objectives were:

- To determine community preferences for a public library.
- To interview community leaders and other stakeholders to determine their support for the establishment of a public library
- To use information gleaned during the focus group process to develop a plan for the establishment of a Horsham Public Library

Focus Group Process

Residents of Horsham Township were the target population for the focus groups. The community was subdivided into a series of interest groups that reflected the community at-large – parents, senior citizens, students, school administrators, and business and community leaders. The Horsham Chamber of Commerce recruited participants for the groups by contacting representatives from each group. A trained moderator conducted each 1½-hour session. During the course of the interviews, the facilitator spoke to 54 people who freely shared their ideas about the proposed Horsham Public Library.

Questions used in the interview were developed by Library Development Solutions in consultation with the Chamber's library planning committee. Each group was asked the same set of core questions (see appendix 1). General questions were used to begin the sessions, allowing each participant a chance to talk and get used to the group. Then questions became more specific as the discussion progressed. The moderator asked additional questions as necessary to expand on a topic or get more information about a specific discussion issue.

Notes from each session were transcribed and form the basis of information contained in this report.

Library Roles

Participants were asked to think about their community and what a library could do to contribute to Horsham's quality of life. The groups were encouraged to consider a variety of traditional library roles as well as new roles that their library might assume. Seven common roles emerged among the groups

- The library as a **literacy center**
- The library as an **educational and reading center for children**
- The library as a **center for access to technology**
- The library as a **place for community gatherings**
- The library as a **destination for teens**
- The library as the **community's information center**
- The library as a **center for lifelong learning**

The Library as a Literacy Center

Parents felt the library can play a critical role in fostering early literacy. They believed that summer reading programs stimulate reading interest among school aged children and that a library is one of the best places for children to gain access to this type of programming.

The Library as an Educational and Reading Center for Children

Parents felt formal programs such as those held at the Upper Dublin Library are beneficial. Examples included the study of foreign countries and science programs/projects. One neighboring library had conducted a successful program using various American dolls.

"A side benefit of this type of program is the interaction between children and adults."

The Library as a Center for Access to Technology

Despite the fact that Horsham is an affluent community, focus group participants believe that the library has an important role to play in providing access to information technology. There is a shared belief that many in the community may not have access to technology and some who do have access to technology who need help in understanding how to use it. Participants believe that the library should make technology readily accessible to the community and use information technology as much as possible to provide access to library and information resources both on-site and in remote locations. Groups emphasized the role of the **Librarian as a Knowledge Navigator** to ensure that information provided online is verified by a trained professional.

"We need the professional librarian to verify that the Internet has accurate information."

"The Internet is an equalizer and you need a library as well as staff to ensure that everyone has access as well as professional assistance."

The Library as the Community's Gathering Space

These days more and more people are recognizing the importance of community space as a means to make connections and reduce social isolation often experienced in the suburbs. Horsham Township residents believe that the library has an important role to play in providing space not only for community events and programs but for informal encounters with one's neighbors and peers. Many think a library is the only place in town in which people of all ages could meet and interact.

"We see a potential public library as a focal point for Horsham as there is no town center."

"A town without a public library is a town without a soul!"

The Library as a Place for Teens

What to do with teens is a common community concern and one that was reflected in Horsham Township focus groups. Town residents want a safe place for their children while teens want a place where they can feel relatively independent. The library fits the bill for both parents and teens.

"As a student going to a neighboring library; you feel as though the library staff is looking down at you since Horsham has no public library; we have to wait two weeks just to get a library card."

"As students we lead very busy lives and don't have time to go to neighboring libraries."

"The school library is open on Thursday night; however the leisure reading collection is limited in scope."

"As students, we are more prone to wanting to go to the library instead of going to do sports."

"Young people go to the library for social as well as educational reasons – the library can be a place to be together, study and visit."

The Library as the Community's Information Center

Focus group participants see the proposed public library maintaining the traditional library role of information-giving by maintaining a reference collection and providing a qualified reference staff. But they also thought about new and expanded roles to enhance the library's information capabilities. There is great interest in local history and genealogy. It might be desirable to also investigate the establishment of a Job Center where people could find out about available jobs, get assistance in writing resumes, and gain access to computer work stations and printers. This information creation role was further expanded to include the library as the coordinator for Horsham Township's presence on the World Wide Web. Seniors use neighboring libraries for leisure reading and would be interested in book discussion groups as well as seeing local art on display in the library.

"Upper Moreland Library always has student art work on display in the library. This brings families together."

The Library as a Source of Lifelong Learning

Horsham Township residents want the proposed public library to be a key contributor to the community's educational attainment whether that is to support students enrolled in formal educational programs or for those interested in pursuing new interests.

"When my wife and I were in college; it was very difficult for us to obtain the necessary library materials to support our course work."

" Now that I am approaching retirement; I have lots of interests that I would like to cultivate."

The Perfect Library

Groups were asked to describe their perception of a perfect public library. They talked about the type of services that would be provided, the level of staffing, hours, programming, services for specific target groups, and technology. As with the discussion on roles, several common themes emerged: hours and access, environment, resources, technology, and staffing.

Environment

Environment is becoming an important part of the retail experience and is spilling over into public service agencies as well. Library users want a library that is comfortable, attractive, and inviting. They want an atmosphere that encourages people to spend time in the library enjoying books, meeting with friends or taking part in programs. Specific suggestions for the perfect library included:

- A structure that can serve as the community's focal point
- Adequate parking with good lighting
- Landscaping around the library
- Public transportation to the library
- An inviting foyer
- Good signage
- Task lighting that is geared to the function
- Natural light, including skylights
- Adequate work space in which one can spread out materials
- Comfortable nooks and crannies for research
- A variety of soft seating like couches and beanbags
- Artwork and plants throughout the building
- A coffee shop, snack bar, and music
- Behind the scenes library support services on a separate level
- Community meeting room with a separate entrance, restrooms and audio-visual equipment
- Exhibit space
- A courtyard with seating where one could relax with library materials
- A room for listening to music and viewing movies
- A separate teen room where it's okay to visit
- Tutoring rooms
- A children's library that is warm and inviting
- Specially designated areas for seniors, teens, literacy tutoring, group study rooms
- A place that's inviting to everyone

Staff

Horsham Township residents want library staff who are readily accessible and easy to identify. In the perfect library, staff would be more flexible about rules with a willingness to bend the rules to accommodate users needs. Staff would be out from

behind their desks, roaming the public service areas asking users if they need assistance. They would be readily identifiable by their "staff name tags". The library would be staffed appropriately during busy times of the day. Staff would be helpful to all ages and not bothered by teens and children who often don't know exactly what they need. The staff would reflect the diversity of the community making it comfortable for all groups to feel welcome in the library. In a perfect world, library staff would not be answering phones and trying to deal with in-person requests. People in the building would have their undivided attention. In the perfect library, volunteers would be used to assist the professional staff.

Hours and Access

Suggestions for expanded hours and access to the library reflect the trend of people who are trying to squeeze more and more activity into their busy lives. The expectation for hours in the perfect library leads to a desire for 24 hour, 7 day per week access to the library. Participants expect to be able to reach the library electronically at any time. School administrators, parents and teens would like evening and weekend hours in the perfect library. It was often noted that banks and businesses schedule hours around customers and a perfect library should do the same. Seniors citizens would like to see day and evening hours to accommodate the schedules of students of all ages. Meeting rooms would be available for community use outside of regular library hours. The library would be in compliance with the Americans for Disabilities Act and ensure adaptive technologies were available.

Resources

The perfect library would have a balance between print and non-print resources as well as an adequate number of computers to meet public demand. The ability to locate materials not in the library would be expanded. Access Pennsylvania services would be publicized to all residents.

Access to current fiction would be unlimited in a perfect world. There would be many copies of the latest bestsellers so people requesting books would not have to wait a long time. There would be books, videos, tapes and recordings in the collection. Access to back issues of periodicals is of great importance to students.

The perfect library would provide a wide variety of materials including better and newer CDs and CD-ROMs, courses on tape and an extensive reference collection that suits all elements of the community including students.

Technology

The perfect library would have the latest technology and lots of it. Computers would rarely be "down". The children's area would have computers specifically programmed for children with many child-friendly programs that are readily accessible and continuously updated.

Library users would be able to communicate with the library staff through the World Wide Web. Staff would create information resources about opportunities available for senior citizens and information to help them cope as well as create a network of seniors who are willing to make special expertise available to others in the community. Community information would be an integral part of the library's homepage.

Other Ideas for the Perfect Library

Library staff would be externally as well as internally focused, recognize changing demographics in the community and respond with new library programs. Library staff would collaborate with other community agencies to plan jointly sponsored programs. There would be less competition among community agencies and an attempt to pool resources.

Library Personality

Participants were asked to describe how they would view the library's personality and to consider any characteristics about the community that are unique and contributing factors to the community's perceptions about the library. Terms like pleasant, business-like, helpful and friendly, sophisticated, professional, competent, vibrant, attractive, and progressive were among the positive personality traits associated with a proposed library.

Library and Bookstore Experiences

Participants spoke about their positive experiences in using neighboring libraries and/or bookstores. Among the things that were considered attractive and should be considered for Horsham are:

- Quiet study rooms
- Career Center
- Ability to purchase food/beverages
- Conference rooms
- Book discussion groups
- Lots of current materials
- Ease of access to materials when browsing
- Feeling of spaciousness
- Natural lighting
- Trained staff
- Staff with customer service training
- Location of proposed library

Focus group participants were asked how far they would be willing to drive in terms of distance and time to a public library in Horsham, with the exclusion of rush hour periods. The average response was fifteen minutes, although students indicated they would be willing to go as far as forty-five minutes for good library service.

Property Tax Annual Increase

The participants were given a range of annual property tax increases and asked which they felt comfortable supporting in terms of maintaining a library on an annual basis.

The parent group was comfortable with \$100.00 annual increase. In addition, the suggestion was made that a portion of annual property tax be dedicated specifically to the library. Seniors suggested a membership fee be initiated for those that wish to use the library. School administrators/faculty supported an increase of \$100.00 with only one exception who felt more comfortable with \$75.00.

Community Support Ideas

The groups were asked to suggest ways to garner support for a Horsham Township Public Library.

- Have activities at library such as Bingo night and dancing lessons
- Form a Youth Coalition
- Develop a videotape showing students using other libraries
- Have a library activity at Horsham Day in June
- Start a Friends of the Library group
- Form a coalition with other organizations in the township that would benefit from the library
- Go to neighborhood meetings
- Speak to home/school associations
- Develop a traveling road show
- Use kiosks at community events to promote the library
- Develop cost benefit data that relates to the amount individual residents currently spend on newspaper and magazine subscriptions, along with the purchase of new books
- Prepare a video that takes a viewer from an old library to a modern facility with varied services

Other Suggestions for the Horsham Public Library

The group was asked if they had any other last minute thoughts about establishing a library in Horsham Township. Among the ideas were:

- Horsham needs a library and a community center; they are not mutually exclusive
- Write legislation for a sliding township tax based on ability to pay
- The library can fill the cultural needs in the Township
- The library can be a place where students earn community service by completing internships at library
- Retired teachers can be called upon to serve as tutors in the library
- Build upon the excellent school program through partnering with public library

Conclusions and Recommendations

Residents of Horsham Township have been utilizing neighboring libraries as well as going to bookstores to both browse as well as to purchase materials. Since there is currently no public library in Horsham, those we spoke with lack a frame of reference in which to describe what good library service can mean to them. Some who attended the session were able to draw upon past library experiences from the libraries they do use. Once the groups understood what today's modern public library program includes the conversations became very animated.

Among the groups we interviewed there was solid support for the establishment of a public library in Horsham, with the exception of a few senior citizens. The senior citizens were concerned about the impact of a library on their property taxes and were unsure if Horsham Township should build its own library. Several senior citizens suggested charging a membership fee for those who want to use the library, exploring the establishment of a joint library with Montgomery Township, and expanding the

school library to supply public library materials. This same group suggested that if the Township desires a library it should consider the establishment of a sliding tax to support it based on ability to pay.

Other groups expressed voiced a theme that indicated that a community without a library is like a community without a soul. The proposed library would indeed become the focal point for educational, cultural and recreational pursuits and a place of pride for the entire community. The library could serve as a "town center" as well as a source of information and entertainment for Township residents.

The next step is to develop a marketing strategy to ensure that the concept of a public library is clearly understood by all residents, including the costs of constructing and operating a library and the impact on local property taxes.

XIX.

I. Mission and Goal Statements

A. **Mission:** The Horsham Township Library promotes literacy, cultural enrichment and a sense of community by providing Horsham's citizens with information resources, programs, expert staff assistance, and a hospitable place to exchange ideas.

B. **Goals:** The Horsham Township Library's goals shall be:

1. To promote development of literacy among very young children and to be an educational and reading center for school age children by developing a collection of high quality materials and a schedule of programs that stimulate learning and thinking.
2. To be both a center for access to technology and a "knowledge navigator," promoting citizens' information literacy by helping them sift and evaluate information from many different sources. The library will
 - use its website to gather, disseminate and connect citizens to useful information;
 - contract for access to relevant electronic resources for its community;
 - maintain an up-to-date, reliable computer network with access to useful software;
 - offer workshops to teach library users to use information technology and evaluate information resources.
3. To serve as a community meeting ground by offering space for formal group meetings and by maintaining an environment conducive to informal meeting, social networking, fellowship, and the exchange of information and ideas.
4. To be a destination for teens by offering a relevant collection of library materials, a convivial place to meet friends, and an interesting schedule of programs and activities. To encourage teens to use library resources to further their academic pursuits by cooperating with local public and private schools on reading, service learning, and other programs. The library will cooperate with local public and private schools to encourage teens to use library resources for academic pursuits.
5. To be a community information center for Horsham Township by collecting and sharing information about community groups and their activities.
6. To be the community's resource for lifelong learning by:
 - maintaining a collection of useful, current publications and information resources in all appropriate formats,
 - offering access to information resources outside the library, and
 - offering informative programs on a variety of subjects.
7. To serve all residents of Horsham Township and the Hatboro-Horsham School District in Montgomery County, and through state-sponsored reciprocal borrowing programs to share resources with residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

8. To strive to continuously improve service for the library's customers.
9. To review regularly these goals of the Horsham Township Library and, if necessary, revise them in the light of new developments.

Your Guide to the Horsham Township Library

Collections

The library has more than 78,000 books and recordings in three age-appropriate areas. The Children's collection caters to boys and girls from birth through sixth grade. The Teen Room offers material for students in 7th through 12 grades. The main adult collection offers Mysteries, Science Fiction/Fantasy, General Fiction, and Non-Fiction for adults.

The library also offers a collection of audiobooks in both audiocassette and compact disc formats. It offers collections of movies in DVD format and music CDs for both adults and children.

The library subscribes to 14 newspapers, retaining back issues for 2 months. It subscribes to 141 magazines, retaining back issues for 2 years.

The library is glad to place reserve requests for any items not currently on the shelf. The library will telephone or email patrons when items are ready to pick up at the check-out desk.

Technology

27 computers with high-speed Internet access are available for the public. They offer Microsoft Office Pro and Photoshop software and are networked to a black-and-white laser printer. Patrons pay 15¢ per page for printing.

The library also offers wireless Internet access for visitors who prefer to log-on using their own equipment. Access requires a library card and PIN number which can be obtained free of charge in a few minutes.

A closed-circuit TV magnifier is available to help patrons with low vision.

The library is a member of MCLINC, the Montgomery County Library and Information Network Consortium. The 15 member libraries in MCLINC share materials and honor one another's library cards.

A coin-operated photocopier is available for the public. Copies cost 15¢ per page.

The library's website at www.HorshamLibrary.org contains links to on-line databases, information about the library, and topical information resources.

Programs

The Children's Dept. schedules story times for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and families on a seasonal basis and offers an annual 8-week Summer Reading Program for readers of all ages. Call the Children's Department at (215) 443-2609, x 204 for scheduling information.

A library sponsored adult book discussion group meets the last Wednesday of each month. Contact the Reference Librarian at (215) 443-2609, x 202.

The library exhibits art work by local artists in its main hall and exhibit cases. Information about current shows can

be found on its website. The library's website includes a calendar of events with links to additional information on each listed event.

Meeting Space

Meeting rooms for 30 to 180 people are available free of charge for local civic organizations. Please reserve ahead of time by contacting the Circulation Supervisor at (215) 443-2609, x 207.

Three conference rooms seating up to six people are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A Cafe with coin-operated coffee, tea, soft drink and snack machines is located just off the library's main entrance. It is a convenient place to relax and talk with friends.

Information Resources

Library patrons may log on to the following information resources using public access computers at the library. Patrons with a Horsham Township library card can use their barcode number to log-on to these resources remotely from home, school or office by clicking on the links on the library's webpage at www.HorshamLibrary.org.

Library borrowers may also log-in to their account to monitor items checked out and their due dates. They may renew selected items on line (with some limitations) and may place their own reserve requests on line. To use this feature of the library's computer system, patrons must set up a PIN number to serve as a password to work in conjunction with their library card.

The library offers access to a variety of useful databases included in the Pennsylvania Online World of Electronic Resources, funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This collection includes the EBSCOHost magazine/newspaper index, on-line reference books, "NoveList" guide to fiction, auto repair manuals, the Associated Press library of images, and much more.



The NewsBank database indexes the Philadelphia *Inquirer* from 1981 to the present, offering full text access to articles, searchable by subjects, names, and dates.



The ReferenceUSA database is a directory of businesses and households.



A collection of more than 800 downloadable audio-books is available via the library's website. Each audio file is checked out for a period of 2 weeks and automatically returns itself to the library! Audiobooks can be downloaded to a computer or MP3 player. Many of the audiobooks can be burned to CDs to play in a home or car stereo.



Horsham Township Library
435 Babylon Road
Horsham, PA 19044-1224
Tel: (215) 443-2609

Website: www.HorshamLibrary.Org

Friends of the Horsham Library

Website: www.fhlib.Org

Friends of the Horsham Library

The Friends of the Horsham Library is a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt Non-Profit Corporation (EIN 23-3030763) created to maintain an association of persons interested in books and libraries; to focus public attention on library services, facilities, and needs; and to stimulate gifts, desirable collections, endowments and bequests.

Genealogy databases available

Two genealogy databases are available for

searching in the library: **Ancestry.Com** and **HeritageQuest**. Tracing your family tree has become a popular hobby. With the advent of on-line databases that offer access to US Census

Ancestry | library edition

HERITAGE QUEST ONLINE

records, immigration data, and family history materials, much of the genealogy legwork can be done from the library's computer workstations rather than requiring trips across the country.

A Celebration of Book Clubs, Sept. 15

The library will host its first "Celebration of Book Clubs" Monday, September 15 from 6 to 8:30 PM to encourage book group members to meet each other, network, and learn about the services the library can offer reading and discussion groups. There is a growing interest in book discussion groups throughout our community. If you are in a book club or are looking to join one, come enjoy the activities, appetizers, refreshments and prizes. Learn from experienced book club leaders and share your favorite reading lists.

Library Staff is glad to help you

Laurie Tynan, Library Director, ext. 205
Sandra Courtney, Reference Librarian, ext. 202
Ellyn Benner, Children's Librarian, ext. 204
Barbara McCorkindale-Sers, Circulation Supervisor, ext. 207

Our Mission:

The Horsham Township Library's mission is to promote literacy, cultural enrichment and a sense of community by providing Horsham's citizens with information resources, programs, expert staff assistance, and a hospitable place to exchange ideas.

The Library is open:

Mondays: 12:30 PM to 9 PM

Tuesdays: 10 AM to 9 PM

Wednesdays: 10 AM to 9 PM

Thursdays: 10 AM to 9 PM

Fridays 10 AM to 6 PM

Saturdays: 10 AM to 5 PM

Sundays: closed.

BookFlix on-line reading resource for kids

is a fun new way to enjoy children's books. The on-line database offers streaming videos based on well known children's picture books produced by Weston Woods, paired with animated storybooks and educational games geared for children in pre-school through third grade. To access BookFlix visit the library's website, click on the "on-line Resources" link, then click on the BookFlix logo. All you need to log on is your library card number.



New Holiday Traditions with Christina Pirello, Monday, October 27 from 6 to 9:30 PM at Horsham Township Community Center.

Friends of the Horsham Library present a 3-hour lecture & cooking demonstration with TV chef and whole foods guru Pirello who will show you how to create classy, healthy, scrumptious dishes you'll be proud to showcase on your holiday table. Cost is \$35 per person. For more information and to register, visit the Friends of Horsham Library website at www.fhlib.org.

Library Board of Directors

David Creamer, President
Michael A. Colucci, Treasurer
Debra Carr, Secretary
Amy Caples
Milton Kunz

Horsham Township Library
Calendar Year 2004
Statistical Report
(October through December)

Library materials borrowed

	adults	young adults	children	total
Books, Fiction:	5,310	686	9,083	15,079
Books, Non-Fiction:	3,014	284	6,831	10,129
Periodicals:	65	0	221	286
Spoken Word:	537	13	371	921
Compact discs:	38	0	1	39
Digital Video Discs:	7,128	0	3,363	10,491
Videotapes:	0	0	0	0
Inter-Library Loans:	9			9
Total:	16,101	983	19,870	36,954

Library card registration

	adults	children	total
Total borrowers registered:	1,635	1,120	2,755

Information and Reference Services

Reference interviews:	120
Computer assistance:	120

Public Access Computer Use

	Total sessions	Total Hours
Year to date:	1,535	267.94

Programs

	number of programs	attendance
Tours:	16	183
Storyhours:	1	60
Meeting Room reservations:	25	188

Horsham Township Library
Library Use Statistics

Calendar Year 2005

Library materials borrowed

	adults	young adults	children	total
Books, Fiction:	22,284	6,953	85,223	114,460
Books, Non-Fiction:	28,118	1,757	13,106	42,981
Magazines:	1,999	0	3,411	5,410
Audio Books:	7,181	117	2,621	9,919
Compact discs:	4,455	0	1,836	6,291
DVDs & Videos:	33,088	0	16,634	49,722
Interlibrary Loans:	13	0	0	13
Other items:	36	0	38	74
Total:	97,174	8,827	122,869	228,870
	42.5%	3.9%	53.7%	

Library card registration

	adults	children & teens	total
New cards issued in 2005:	2,484	1,132	3,616
Total borrowers registered:	4,119	2,352	6,471

Information and Reference Services

Reference interviews:	3059
Computer assistance:	1454
POWER Library remote logins:	800
POWER Library searches:	2331
POWER Library items viewed:	3003

Public Access Computer Use

	Total sessions	Total time
Year to date:	18,579	10441:38:00

Programs

	number of programs	attendance
Tours & Programs:	64	1565
Storyhours:	143	2852
Meeting Room reservations:	299	1381
Readers signed up to participate in Summer Reading Club:	0	464

Horsham Township Library
Library Use Statistics
Year-to-Date Total 2006

Library materials borrowed					
	adults	young adults	children	total	Comparison to last year
Books, Fiction:	26,271	7,547	97,295	131,113	114,460
Books, Non-Fiction:	31,064	1,567	16,027	48,658	42,981
Magazines:	3,701	3	3,406	7,110	5,410
Audio Books:	9,163	63	3,531	12,757	9,919
Music:	5,611	0	1,730	7,341	6,291
DVDs & Videos:	36,504	0	17,666	54,170	49,722
Interlibrary Loans:	82	0	0	82	13
Total:	112,416	9,180	139,658	261,254	228,870
MCLINC requests shipped:	13,080				433

Library card registration				
	adults	children & teens	total	Comparison to last year
New cards issued:	1,665	520	2,185	3,616

Information and Reference Services				
				Comparison to last year
Reference assistance:	3,727			3,059
Computer assistance:	2,146			1,454
<u>Database use:</u>	Log-ins	Searches	Items viewed	
POWER Library Remote Logins:	788			598
POWER Library searches:	1,388	5,669	6,138	1,791
InfoUSA:	18	34	632	0
LearningExpress:	32	23	22	0
NewsBank:	0	0	0	0
Downloadable Audio Books:	62	87	215	0

Public Access Computer Use			
	Total sessions	Total time	
Wired public access computers:	21,309	13688:04:00	18,579 / 10,441:38:00
Wireless computer sessions:	710	158:45:00	n/a

Programs			
	number of programs	attendance	
Library Attendance (door count):		47,598	
Tours & Library-sponsored Programs:	66	2,575	64 / 1,565
Storyhours:	156	3,487	143 / 2,852
Meeting Room reservations:	202	2,972	299 / 1,381
Readers signed up to participate in Summer Reading Club:	128	668	464
	teens	children	

Volunteers		
	People	Hours
Circulation	32	312:35:00
Technical Processing	32	280:45:00
Reference, Programming & Misc.	15	79:15:00

Horsham Township Library
Library Use Statistics
Year-to-Date Total 2007

Library materials borrowed						
	adults	young adults	children	total	Comparison to last year	
Books, Fiction:	32,658	8,796	105,081	146,535	131,113	11.8%
Books, Non-Fiction:	33,785	1,709	19,614	55,108	48,658	13.3%
Magazines:	4,292	25	3,148	7,465	7,110	5.0%
Audio Books:	9,918	216	3,594	13,728	12,757	7.6%
Music:	7,944	0	2,124	10,068	7,341	37.1%
DVDs & Videos:	41,935	0	22,095	64,030	54,170	18.2%
Interlibrary Loans:	112	0	0	112	82	36.6%
Other items:	2	0	0	2	23	-91.3%
	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	
Total:	130,646	10,746	155,656	297,048	261,254	13.7%
MCLINC requests shipped:	17,143				10,308	66.3%

Library card registration					
	adults	children & teens	total	Comparison to last year	
New cards issued:	1,457	417	1,874	2,185	-14.2%

Information and Reference Services					
Reference assistance:	3,071			3,383	-9.2%
Computer assistance:	1,809			1,961	-7.8%
Database use:	Log-ins	Searches	Items viewed		
POWER Library Remote Logins:	1,064	77	0	703	0
POWER Library searches:	2,159	11,580	10,642	1,446	5,119
InfoUSA:	36	132	2,383	18	139
LearningExpress:	44	38	35	30	24
NewsBank:	0	0	0	0	0
Ancestry.com:	0	0	0	0	0
HeritageQuest:	0	0	0	0	0
Downloadable Audio Books:	260	248	463	156	175

Public Access Computer Use				
	Total sessions	Total time	Comparison to last year	
Wired public access computers:	22,258	14435:20:00	21,309	13688:04:00
Wireless computer sessions:	1,451	2008:27:19	648	1022:05:55

Programs				
	number of programs	attendance	Comparison to last year	
Library Attendance (door count):		119,519	47,598	
Tours & Library-sponsored				
Programs:	73	2,844	65	2,553
Storyhours:	152	4,536	156	3,487
Meeting Room reservations:	266	4,294	202	2,972
Readers signed up to participate in Summer Reading Club:	624	236	796	
	Children	Teens		

Volunteers				
	People	Hours	Comparison to last year	
Circulation	67	609:50:00	31	277:35:00
Technical Processing	19	190:00:00	29	450:00:00
Reference, Programming & Misc.	4	26:00:00	15	79:15:00

Horsham Township Library
Library Use Statistics
Year-to-Date Total 2008
(January through July)

Library materials borrowed						
	adults	young adults	children	total	Comparison to last year	
Books, Fiction:	23,515	5,589	68,654	97,758	84,769	15.3%
Books, Non-Fiction:	23,098	1,552	13,894	38,544	32,839	17.4%
Magazines:	3,007	0	2,060	5,067	4,588	10.4%
Audio Books:	6,646	317	2,451	9,414	7,536	24.9%
Music:	5,488	147	1,150	6,785	5,892	15.2%
DVDs & Videos:	29,918	0	15,131	45,049	36,662	22.9%
Interlibrary Loans:	44	0	0	44	65	-32.3%
Other items:	2	0	0	2	0	
Total:	91,718	7,605	103,340	202,663	172,351	17.6%
MCLINC requests shipped:	12,851				9,486	35.5%
Library card registration						
	adults	children & teens		total	Comparison to last year	
New cards issued:	908	249		1,157	1,169	-1.0%
Information and Reference Services						
Reference assistance:	2,038				1,856	9.8%
Computer assistance:	899				1,236	-27.3%
Database use:	Log-ins	Searches	Items viewed		Log-ins	Items viewed
POWER Library Remote Logins:	718	0	0		653	0
POWER Library searches:	1,558	7,128	5,322		1,343	6,643
BookFlix:	180	252	721			
InfoUSA:	30	43	513		14	862
LearningExpress:	4	3	3		12	12
NewsBank:	0	0	0		0	0
Ancestry.com:	0	0	0		0	0
HeritageQuest:	0	0	0		0	0
Downloadable Audio Books:	177	289	451		138	272
Public Access Computer Use						
	Total sessions	Total time			Comparison to last year	
Wired public access computers:	12,708	8277:16:00			13,096	8488:09:00
Wireless computer sessions:	1,180	1641:23:16			761	1145:37:24
Programs						
	number of programs	attendance			Comparison to last year	
Library Attendance (door count):		75,117			70,020	7.3%
Tours & Library-sponsored Programs:	58	2,406			51	2,223
Storyhours:	84	2,608			82	2,377
Meeting Room reservations:	239	4,008			179	2,894
Readers signed up to participate in Summer Reading Club:	728	106	226		624	
	Children	Teens	Adults			
Volunteers						
	People	Hours			Comparison to last year	
Circulation	37	452:10:00			36	354:00:00
Technical Processing	25	224:00:00			9	132:00:00
Reference, Programming & Misc.	17	438:45:00			4	26:00:00