

NICE (Northern Wisconsin ILS Consortium Exploration) Project Report

May 30, 2024

With the use of 2023-2024 LSTA grant funds WVLS and NWLS will again contract with WiLS to coordinate meetings, facilitate the project's processes and prepare a final report. Four members have been added to the NICE team for the 2023/2024 grant cycle (marked with an *).

NICE Team Members:

Alexander Johnson - Library Support Services Manager, MCPL
Gina Rae - System Staff, NWLS
Jackee Johnson - System Staff, NWLS
Katelyn Sabelko* - Library Services Manager, MCPL
Katie Zimmermann - System Staff, WVLS
Kelly Wiisanen* - Youth and Family Resources Manager, Superior
Laurie Ollhoff* - Library Director, Merrill
Molly Lank-Jones - Library Director, Hayward
Peggy O'Connell- Library Director/ Consortium chairperson, Minocqua
Rachel Metzler - System Staff, WVLS
Sara Klemann* - Library Director, Eagle River
Sue Heskin - Resource Library Director, Superior
Tammie Blomberg - Library Director, Rib Lake
Teresa Schmidt - Library Director, Mercer

The NICE Team met on Tuesday, April 16 to hear updates from the Holds Fulfillment and Records Standards Workgroups. The NICE Team discussed overarching recommendations that could span across all of the more specific recommendations such as re-assessing all of the workgroup recommendations at the end of the first year. The group discussed feedback received. Based on feedback gathered, the NICE Team has asked the ILS Vendor Selection Workgroup to meet and review the feedback gathered and discuss whether it changes the recommendation. The ILS Vendor Selection Workgroup will meet May 13. The NICE Team will meet again on May 21.

The Record Standards Workgroup met on April 22 and the Holds Fulfillment Workgroup met on April 30. The Cataloging Workgroup will meet on May 9. All three groups are expected to present recommendations at the next NICE Team meeting on May 21.

The NICE Team met on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 to hear updates from the Cataloging and ILS Vendor Workgroups. Recommendations from these groups will be shared early in June. The Team reviewed the Holds Fulfillment Workgroup and the Records Standards Workgroup recommendations. The Team discussed overarching project recommendations and ILS merger key considerations. A second town hall meeting is scheduled for June 11th at 10:30am.

The following recommendations have been presented to, and reviewed by, the NICE Team:

[ILS Vendor Selection](#)
[Delivery](#)
[Collaborative Decision-Making](#)
[Funding Formula](#)
[Record Standards](#)
[Holds Fulfillment](#)

The following recommendations will be shared in early June:

Updated ILS Vendor Selection
Cataloging

ILS Vendor Selection Workgroup Members:

Ann Larson, Sherman & Ruth Weiss Community Library, NWLS
Alexander Johnson, (MCPL), WVLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS
Jackee Johnson, NWLS
Maria Pregler, T. B. Scott Public Library, WVLS
Angie Bodzislav, Spooner Public Library, WVLS

Funding Formula and Budget Workgroup Members:

Amber Brill (Greenwood) WVLS
Leah Giordano (MCPL), WVLS
Sue Heskin (SPL), NWLS
Jackee Johnson, NWLS
Sara Klemann, (Eagle River), NWLS
Sherry Machones, NWLS
Virginia Roberts (RDL) WVLS
Cherie Sanderson (Boulder Junction), NWLS
Marla Sepnafski, WVLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS

Delivery Workgroup Members:

Jackee Johnson, NWLS ILS Administrator
Sherry Machones, NWLS System Director
Jamie Matczak, WVLS
Sarah May, NWLS
Rachel Metzler, WVLS
Marla Sepnafski, WVLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS

Collaborative Decision-making Workgroup Members:

Sue Heskin (SPL), NWLS
Sarah Adams, (Vaughn PL), NWLS
Cherie Sanderson (Boulder Junction PL), NWLS
Leah Giordano (MCPL), WVLS
Janay Ziebell (Neillsville PL), WVLS
Tammie Blomberg (Rib Lake PL), WVLS
Jackee Johnson, NWLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS

Holds Fulfillment Workgroup Members:

Tammie Blomberg (Rib Lake PL), WVLS
Olivia Carlson (MCPL), WVLS
Kyle Hawley (SPL), NWLS

Sue Heskin (SPL), NWLS
Jackee Johnson, NWLS
Sara Klemann (Eagle River PL), NWLS
Ann Larson (Hayward PL), NWLS
Peggy O'Connell (Minocqua PL), WVLS
Laurie Ollhoff (T. B. Scott PL - Merrill) WVLS
Teresa Schmidt (Mercer PL) WVLS
Kathryn Sullivan (MCPL), WVLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS

Record Standards Workgroup Members:

Angie Bodzislaw, Spooner Public Library (NWLS)
Teresa Hall, Loyal Public Library (WVLS)
Kyle Hawley, Superior Public Library (NWLS)
Jackee Johnson (NWLS)
Chris Luebbe, Marathon County Public Library (WVLS)
Jacquie Pooler, Iron River (NWLS)
Maria Pregler, T. B. Scott Library, Merrill (WVLS)
Virginia Roberts, Rhinelander District Library (WVLS)
Cherie Sanderson, Boulder Junction Public Library (NWLS)
Teresa Schmidt, Mercer Public Library (NWLS)
Cindy Wendt, Minocqua Public Library (WVLS)
Katie Zimmermann (WVLS)

Cataloging Workgroup

Gina Rae, NWLS
Kelly Wiisanen, Superior Public Library/NWLS
Mary O'Shaughnessy, Superior Public Library/NWLS
Jacquie Pooler, Iron River/NWLS
Rachel Metzler, WVLS
Cindy Wendt, Minocqua Public Library/WVLS
Jenny Jochimsen, Abbotsford Public Library/WVLS
Chris Luebbe MCPL/WVLS
Jackee Johnson, WVLS
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS

Questions are Welcome! V-Cat and NWLN (Northern Waters Library Network) member library staff are welcome to share their questions and concerns via an [online form](#). Answers will be shared on the NICE Libraries [FAQ page](#).

More details will be shared on the [NICE Libraries website](#) when the reports are complete. Full NICE Team meeting minutes are posted [here](#).