Data Collection for Public Library Survey

Documenting the role of Tennessee public libraries in the PLS is critical to communicating the value of public libraries in their communities as key providers of public access technologies, digital literacy, and services to support employment/workforce development, education, civic engagement, and health and wellness. It tells the story of how public libraries all across America are being responsive to the needs of communities.

Tennessee public libraries uniquely serving our community as:

- The heart of discovery and creativity
- The place for literacy and lifelong learning
- The hub of community connections
- The centre for information access

FY 2014/15 data collected shows:
Program growth up 25%
Library Visits 19.2m
Total Digital Circulation 3.5m

- Support the development of early literacy skills in young children through increased investment in materials, services and programs for families, children’s providers and educators
- Increase awareness of the library and its benefits through expanded promotion of programs and services
- Provide opportunities for older adults to meet, learn and contribute so that we build strong connections within the community
- Provide excellent customer service as public needs evolve through continued investment in staff development and training
- Develop stronger relationships with newcomers and Indigenous peoples by providing responsive programs and services
- Expand the impact of the library beyond physical branches through community outreach and digital services
- Select material that reflects the diverse needs of the community so that relevant print, digital and special collections are freely available
- Invest in more programs and services that advance digital literacy so that customers use technology to enrich their lives
- Ensure all library branches are welcoming and accessible destinations to serve as vibrant community spaces for all residents

Data compiled by the State Data Coordinator at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Secretary Tre Hargett. Data Sources: Tennessee Data Collection FY2014/15, Institute of Museum and Library Services Public Library Survey. http://soc.tn.gov/ : christy.chandler@tn.gov