97th CML Annual Conference
June 18–21, 2019 • Breckenridge, CO

Libraries as Hubs for Community Engagement
June 21, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Diane Lapierre, Loveland Public Library
James Vallejos, Denver Public Library
Beth Warren, Denver Public Library
Sarah Scheinman, Summit County Library - Breckenridge
Crystal Schimpf, Colorado State Library
Community Engagement in Colorado Libraries
Community Engagement: Listening, Learning and Responding
How does it work?

- Community engagement initiative team
- Community conversations
- Conversation participants
- Workshops
What are we learning?

- Summaries
- Quick Wins
- Trusted source
- Expanding reach
- Going deeper
- Addressing gaps
- Staff Development
How are we using this information?

- Culture
- Programming
- Partnerships
- Outreach

THE COMMUNITY IS THE HEART OF THE LIBRARY BECAUSE WHEN OUR COMMUNITY SUCCEEDS, WE SUCCEED.
Summit Reads:
One Book / One County

- 2011: Summit Reads launched

- Partnerships: Summit County Rotary, Next Page Bookstore, and Colorado Mountain College

- Paperbacks for $10.00

- Speakers & authors invited with partnership funding

www.summitcountylibraries.org
2017 Summit Reads

- 2016: Mental health challenges hit Summit County

- 2017: *Show Me All Your Scars: True Stories of Living with Mental Illness*

- 2017 partners:
  - Mind Springs Health
  - NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health)
  - St. Anthony Medical Center
  - Summit County Sheriff’s Office
2018 Summit Reads: *Smokejumper: A Memoir by One of America’s Most Select Airborne Firefighters*

2018 partners:
- County Commissioners
- County Emergency Manager
- Animal Control
- Red, White and Blue Fire District
- Lake Dillon Fire

www.summitcountylibraries.org
“Ask” Exercise

Discuss in small groups of 2-4:

1. What kind of community do you want to live in?
2. Why is that important to you?
3. How is that different from how you see things now?
4. What are some of the things that need to happen to create that kind of change?
“Ask” Exercise - Debrief

What did you learn from your conversations?

What questions do you want to ask your community?

How do you hope to engage your community?
Considerations for Partnering with Public Libraries

Public libraries...

- Share a common interest in engaging & understanding the community.
- Are a safe, neutral space where all viewpoints are welcome.
- Maintain partnerships with organizations throughout the community.
- Provide public meeting & gathering space.
- Are hubs for community engagement.
Resources

Libraries Transforming Communities- American Library Association
http://www.alan/0/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities

The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation
https://theharwoodinstitute.org/

National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation
http://ncdd.org/

Center for Public Deliberation - CSU Fort Collins
https://cpd.colostate.edu/
Thank you!

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