



WILKES * ASHE * WATAUGA

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 2025

Personnel

- Ashe: Hiring an Adult Services Manager and a Youth Services Specialist (PT). One staff member may need extended leave in the next three months.
- Watauga: Hiring a Youth Services Manager (FT)
- Wilkes: All positions are filled. One staff member is on extended leave. Another staff member may need extended leave in the next three months. CL on leave for two weeks in January.
- Evaluation and WDP templates
- Potential All Staff Training Day in March: All ARL libraries would be closed for this training.

Policy

- Meeting Room revision update
- Personnel Policy revision for sections on delays and closures for weather

Grant Updates

- NCDIT Digital Champion Grant
- NC Dept. of Commerce Downtown Development Funds
- LSTA 2025-26 Grants (each county library plans to submit an EZ grant)
 - Ashe: New library outreach vehicle
 - Watauga: Modular, private workspaces
 - Wilkes: Mamava lactation pod
- John Henry Eldred Jr. Foundation Grant
 - Ashe will purchase Launchpads for children and older adults
 - Watauga will apply funds toward Seed Library programming and supplies
 - Wilkes will apply funds toward Summer Reading Programs and cooking with kids

Professional Development/Networking

- Tammy and Laura attended NCPLDA's winter meeting in Winston-Salem to hear presentations from the State Library of NC and the NC Digital Heritage Center, as well as a seminar on public records requests.
- Tammy attended the NCCMT meeting in Morganton.