

Staff has been to Brookside Terrace to present a Story Hour with Craft program. We are going to attempt to do this weekly, staffing levels permitting. Staff participated in the farewell gathering for Jenn

Reed from Healthy Families who is taking a different position within the agency. A significant partnership has been developed in the past 8 years with Healthy Families and we thank Jenn for her contribution to the community.

Collection

The Children's Room is deleting the small collection of VHS tapes from the collection as technology has outstripped demand. Therefore the only remaining VHS collection is a small literature collection that was obtained through a grant from the Lannan Foundation.

Research

To-date, I have met on a few occasions with the consultants conducting the master planning for the town. I have had an extensive telephone interview with Daphne Politis, Principal, Community Circle and Martha Lyon, Preservation Specialist on two occasions here at JEL.

School Visits

The Life Skills class from the school system has been meeting at JEL.

Staff

Vacation season is underway and it is also having an impact on the scheduling and service. Center of Hope/ARC have three students here under the Youth Works Summer Jobs Program. JEL has been participating in this program for the past few years, providing mentoring and first job experience for eligible youth. There are also some volunteer hours from the Title III grant via the school department.

Meetings

The MA Library System organized a workshop on disaster preparedness and I was one of the presenters, talking about the JEL experience of adapting to operating as a Disaster Recovery Center. I met with a representative from Upward Bound to organize some mentoring opportunities for the students involved with the program, towards the end of the summer. Within the past month I attended the Digital Commonwealth board meeting. I met with ELL Department staff and made a presentation about library services to the YOU Inc clinicians. . I met with Roxane Gomez of the *Grupa Latina de Juevenes Ayer* and with ELL Director again, to discuss grant opportunities in FY13.

Digitization

Laurie Walsh from Worcester Telegram and Gazette interviewed me about the yearbook digitization project for the Telegram Towns issue.

Donations/Grants

Working with Claire J Birtz Trust on some programs they hope to implement. Applied to the Distribution to Underserved Communities Library Program (DUC) for books on contemporary art, through a grant program they operate. JEL received approximately 20 books from this foundation in FY 12.

Friends of Jacob Edwards Library

The Membership drive has been very successful and has yielded \$1,000. The proposed Side Walk Sale in July has been postponed until a Saturday in September, possibly 15th or 22 (same date as the Youth Summit).

Project Bread

Project Bread – the summer food service for anyone 18 years and younger, began on Monday June 25 – 2.5 weeks earlier than last week. A group of individual volunteers staffed the service until, Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative would be back to staff the service (after their vacation). Lunch will be served five days per week from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library has the longest lunch service hours. Meal numbers have increased to about 35 daily. Positive promotional article on JEL and Project Bread in a recent issue of Southbridge Evening News.