

2025-2028 Resource Library Agreement

By and among the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (System), the City of Milwaukee (City) and the Milwaukee Public Library (Resource Library, also referred to as MPL)

This Agreement effective as of January 1, 2025, by and among the Milwaukee County Federated Library System, organized and existing under Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes (hereinafter referred to as the SYSTEM), and the City of Milwaukee, a municipal corporation, through its Milwaukee Public Library, established and maintained by the City of Milwaukee under the provisions of Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes (hereinafter referred to as MPL).

WHEREAS, the SYSTEM was established to facilitate the cooperative development of library services in Milwaukee County and a plan to facilitate the orderly and efficient operation of cooperative library services was entered into per a formal Member Agreement between the SYSTEM and the public libraries within Milwaukee County, wherein the SYSTEM shall receive county, state, and federal aid to expend as deemed appropriate in the best interests of its Members; and

WHEREAS, the SYSTEM is obligated by the Wisconsin Statutes, regulations and the Membership Agreement to provide the extension of backup reference and information services from a Resource Library; and

WHEREAS, the SYSTEM and MPL previously agreed that MPL would be designated as the Resource Library for the SYSTEM and MPL is willing to continue to extend backup reference services to the residents of the SYSTEM's member communities as required by state law and regulations governing Resource Libraries; and

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WHEREAS, the CITY's Common Council adopted the resolution identified in MPL's signature block below, authorizing the MPL Board and the proper City officers to enter into this Agreement and to provide the services in accordance with this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein:

II. AGREEMENT

A. IT IS AGREED THAT THE SYSTEM SHALL:

1. Designate MPL as the Resource Library for the SYSTEM and aid MPL in its efforts to fulfill its obligations as such Resource Library.
2. Provide payment to CITY in consideration for the services rendered under this Agreement. Said payment amount shall be 6.25% of State System Aid received by MCFLS for 2025 through 2028. Said payment is payable in the same calendar year for each year of the term of this Agreement. Said cash payment to be paid annually in equal quarterly payments no later than March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 15.

B. IT IS AGREED THAT MPL SHALL:

1. Be designated the Resource Library for the SYSTEM in consideration of the payments from the SYSTEM.
2. Provide full backup reference and backup information services to the SYSTEM's member Libraries and their patrons, on the same terms and conditions as such services are extended to such patrons of the Resource Library.
3. Provide services to other SYSTEM Member Libraries, including:
 - Access to specialized collections and staff training in these resources, such as legal, government documents, rarities, small business resources, patents, archival collections, etc.

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- Consultation and training on public programming, including public computer class curriculum and methods.
 - Consultation and training in technical services, such as training on Sierra Acquisitions, Serials, and Circulation modules.
 - Consultation on technology-related programs, such as webpage development, use of social media, digitization, RFID, including automated materials handling units, automated meeting room and calendar software, and wireless network connections.
 - Consultation on other library services, such as library design and mixed-use library development, grant writing, roving reference, and library card campaigns, and tours of the resource library and orientations for staff, directors, and library boards of trustees.
 - Consultation on library operations, such as human resources, marketing, community engagement and staff training.
 - Sharing MPL's best practices for safety, security issues, and conflict resolution; provided, however, that System and System's members shall make their own safety, security, and conflict resolution determinations and shall use MPL's best practices for informative purposes only, and shall not rely on MPL's best practices for legal determinations of the sufficiency of such policies.
4. Provide direct service to patrons throughout the SYSTEM, including:
- Use of ready reference,
 - Email and chat reference service,

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- School and other groups field trips to Central library, and
- Access to special collections.

5. Aid the SYSTEM to support partnerships with local workforce development organizations.

6. Provide leadership and consultation to the SYSTEM and its members on matters of local, state and national importance. Examples would be MPL's leadership role in selecting the MyPC platform, the Public Library System Redesign project, and work with the Urban Libraries Council.

7. Designate MPL staff to act as system liaisons for both Inclusive and Youth Services to coordinate collaboration among member libraries and at the state level.

8. Since 2020, MPL has generously provided \$1.7 million in funding to the SYSTEM OverDrive Advantage program serving all county residents. Unless sufficient funds are not appropriated, MPL agrees to provide a minimum of \$75,000 annually to the SYSTEM OverDrive Advantage account for the duration of the contract. MPL staff will have sole discretion in selection of titles using this funding.

9. Annually, MPL will report to the SYSTEM and member libraries on services provided as part of this Agreement.

10. Maintain the necessary requirements of a Resource Library in accordance with Sec. 43.16(2), Wis. Stats., and shall comply with all other applicable laws relevant to providing the services specified in this Agreement.

3. ALL PARTIES AGREE:

1. That each item and condition herein stated in the recitals of this Agreement are agreed to by the parties and hereto incorporated.

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2. To jointly work toward improved library cooperation in Milwaukee County to ensure the satisfaction of state regulations and requirements governing the efficient operation of the SYSTEM and the effective implementation and administration of this Agreement.

3. Negotiations shall be completed by December 31, 2024, between the SYSTEM and the MPL, but any amendment must be approved by the CITY. If for any reason agreement cannot be reached on mutually acceptable terms, Agreement shall automatically terminate in accordance with Sec. 43.16 (1)(a), Wis. Stats., on the succeeding December 31. The SYSTEM shall at that time reimburse MPL for all services rendered during said period on the same basis as herein stated.

4. That this Agreement may be amended at any time but only by the written agreement of the parties.

5. That in the event any single year of SYSTEM aid from the State of Wisconsin increases or decreases by more than 10%, both parties agree to renegotiate the terms of this Agreement.

6. That one or more waivers by any party of any covenant or condition of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver of a subsequent breach of the same or of any other covenant or condition. The consent or approval given by any party with respect to any act by the other party requiring such consent or approval shall not be deemed to waive or render unnecessary further consent or approval of such subsequent similar act by such party.

7. It is City's policy not to discriminate against any qualified employee or qualified applicant for employment because of an individual's sex, race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, lawful source of income, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, victimhood of domestic abuse or sexual assault, past or present

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membership in the military service, HIV status, domestic partnership, genetic identity, homelessness, familial status, or an individual's affiliation or perceived affiliation with any of these categories ("Protected Classes"), pursuant to Milwaukee Code of Ordinances ("MCO") Section 1 09-9. Contractors and their subcontractors employing any resident of City of Milwaukee may not discriminate against any member of the Protected Classes, and such contractors must insert this clause into any subcontracts of subcontractors employing any resident of City of Milwaukee.

8. That any notice provided herein or given pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed in compliance herewith if in writing and sent by United State mail, postage prepaid, or by personal delivery to the parties as follows:

MCFLS Director
Milwaukee County Federated Library System
709 N. 8th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53233

MPL Library Director
Milwaukee Public Library
814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53233-2385

City Clerk, City of Milwaukee
Room 205, City Hall
200 East Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

III. TERMINATION

The term of this Agreement shall be January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2028. Thereafter, the term may be renewed by mutual agreement of the parties.

IV. WAIVER OF LIABILITY. THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES, AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE THE CITY OF MIL WAUKEE OR MPL, ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "RELEASEES") FROM ALL LIABILITY TO THE UNDERSIGNED, HIS/HER PERSONAL

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REPRESENTATIVES, ASSIGNS, HEIRS AND NEXT OF KIN FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE AND ANY CLAIMS OR DEMANDS THEREFOR ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY TO THE PERSON OR PROPERTY OR RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF THE UNDERSIGNED, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE WHILE THE UNDERSIGNED IS IN, UPON OR ABOUT THE PREMISES OR ANY FACILITIES OR EQUIPMENT THEREIN, OR PARTICIPATING IN ANY PROGRAM AFFILIATED WITH THE CITY WITHOUT RESPECT TO LOCATION. THE UNDERSIGNED FURTHER EXPRESSLY AGREES THAT THE FOREGOING RELEASE, WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT IS INTENDED TO BE AS BROAD AND INCLUSIVE AS IS PERMITTED BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, AND THAT IF ANY PORTION THEREOF IS HELD INVALID, IT IS AGREED THAT THE BALANCE SHALL, NOTWITHSTANDING, CONTINUE IN-FULL LEGAL FORCE AND EFFECT. THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNED THE RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND FURTHER AGREES THAT NO ORAL REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OR INDUCEMENT APART FROM THE FOREGOING WRITTEN AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MADE.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement, as of the day and year written below:

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

By

Mark Sain, President

Date 11-26-24

By

Joan Johnson, Secretary

Date 11-27-24

By

Jim Owczarski, City Clerk

Date

COUNTERSIGNED

By

Bill Christianson, Comptroller

Date

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

Milwaukee County Federated Library System

By

Paul M. Ziehler, President

Date 12/11/24

By

Steven E. Heser, Secretary

Date 12/11/24

Approved as to form and execution this ____ day of ____, 2024

Assistant City Attorney