

**South Dakota State Library  
Strategic Plan  
2014 – 2018**

**Daria Bossman, State Librarian**

## **Acknowledgements**

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*“We have an opportunity in this early part of the 21st century to invent the future and not just react to it.”* Stephen Abram

## **Executive Summary**

### **A South Dakota State Library for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

#### **Our Vision**

Effective, well-resourced libraries are critical to the social and economic development of our communities and to the vitality of our democracy.

The South Dakota State Library –

- Supports the work of all South Dakota libraries through education and advocacy
- Works to expand and strengthen citizen access to library services
- Digitizes specific specialized collections and state publications
- Improves the work of state government by providing timely access to information.

#### **Our Mission**

The South Dakota State Library provides leadership for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, innovation and excellence in libraries and research services for state government.

**Connecting South Dakota—Collaborating with Communities---Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Leaders**

## **Plan for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Libraries**

Since 1913 the South Dakota State Library has worked to strengthen libraries and to expand access to library services to all South Dakotans. By law, the State Library: (SDCL 14-2)

- supplements the services of local libraries,
- increases the proficiency of librarians by providing training and continuing education
- provides specialized services or materials to individuals and to libraries
- provides access to specialized digitized collections and state documents
- serves the research needs of state government employees

In collaboration with other libraries and organizations the State Library plays a vital role in the collective effort to:

- preserve our state's heritage and provide more accessible resources,
- build and strengthen communities by enabling citizens to engage in lifelong learning,
- promote information literacy/fluency among our citizens with the widest use of modern technology possible,
- link communities to new economic opportunities; and
- promote access among diverse groups of people

Although the mission of the South Dakota State Library has not altered substantially over the past century, the means and strategies used to achieve our goals have adapted to the tools and technologies of the times. As South Dakota becomes more deeply engaged in the global knowledge-based economy of the 21st century, the need to adapt has never been more necessary.

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### **Developing a New Strategic Plan**

On September 27, 2012 the Institute of Museum and Library Services approved the State Library's LSTA Five-Year Plan: 2013 – 2017. As the State Library's 2007 – 2013 Strategic Plan comes to a close the State Library Board, the staff of the State Library, and an Advisory Task Force began working on the State Library's 2014 – 2018 Strategic Plan. This plan is outlined below with initiatives specified under each goal and objective. It will be reviewed and revised by the South Dakota Library Board and the SDSL staff after careful consultation with the Advisory Task Force and consultation with library leaders across the state. Final approval will be given by the South Dakota State Library Board in October of 2013 with implementation starting January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018.

## **Continuing Efforts from Previous Strategic Plan**

### **Organizational Effectiveness**

The State Library will continue to emphasize library development, expanded online collections, and improve research services to state government. The State Librarian and the Library Board, working with the Secretary of Education and DOE staff, work to ensure that existing resources are being effectively utilized and the State Library is adequately funded to meet our stated 21<sup>st</sup> century goals. This includes a complete review of our organizational structure to “right-size” for most effective and efficient use of time, resources and staffing. This also includes a comprehensive State Library Board review of the state statutes governing the State Library and its correlating administrative rules. (SDCL 14-2 and Education/Libraries, AR 24:30)

### **Work with Libraries to Integrate Data Systems and Expand Resource Sharing**

Maximizing the value of resources devoted to libraries across the state entails a collective effort to link libraries of all shapes and sizes on an integrated information system. The South Dakota Library Network (SDLN) has done well to benefit its member institutions, but the system suffers from the lack of participation of the majority of smaller public and school libraries. The State Library will continue to explore ways to integrate more libraries into a common system. The only way to build a more equitable resource sharing model is to have an integrated information system in which all libraries and institutions can voluntarily and affordably participate.

The cost of traditional resource sharing continues to increase due to increasing transportation and postage costs. In fact for many books, the cost to a library for a single interlibrary loan transaction exceeds the price of purchasing the book. The State Library will continue to work with the library and school communities to educate librarians and classroom teachers about the responsible use of interlibrary loan and about the information already readily available through ever-expanding statewide electronic resources.

### **Continue to Build Awareness among State Employees**

The State Library will continue to work with state agencies to improve their knowledge of services offered by the State Library and to make it easy and convenient for state employees to access the Library’s resources.

## Goals & Objectives

### Access For All Through Collaboration

#### **Goal 1: All South Dakotans will have access to library services.**

##### **Objective 1: Strengthen statewide resource sharing.**

###### Initiatives:

- Identify and implement solutions, in conjunction with SDLN, by which all libraries can share their collections with one another.
- Promote and expand the “*South Dakota E-card*” program (access to statewide databases)
- Explore public library interest & SD legislative support/funding for a “*South Dakota I-card*” (a proposed voluntary program among participating SD public libraries for a shared book lending library card)
- Successfully migrate through participation within the SDLN network from Ex-Libris’ Aleph system to a new ILS system
- Continue to provide electronic resource training to schools and libraries.
- Fund the statewide courier system and review ways to expand the system in the most efficient and cost effective manner.
- Continue to promote and expand “*South Dakota Titles to Go*” (access to local e-books through local public library consortium subscriptions)

##### **Objective 2: Provide services to blind and visually impaired citizens.**

###### Initiatives:

- Acquire, organize, and maintain collections that meet the needs of users.
- Explore most efficient and cost effective means to provide and deliver services.

##### **Objective 3: Facilitate shared purchasing of electronic resources by libraries.**

###### Initiatives:

- Maintain an active statewide Task Force to evaluate resources and determine on-going appropriate resources for group purchase.
- Negotiate statewide purchase contracts.
- Increase breadth and depth of statewide electronic resources.

Objective 4: Improve libraries' ability to provide services with grant opportunities.

Initiatives:

- Identify and share grant opportunities.
- Administer LSTA grant program.
- Promote innovative grant projects.
- Promote or secure grant funds to meet identified needs
- Assure grant compliance.

## **Stronger Libraries in South Dakota**

**Goal 2: South Dakota's libraries will meet all citizens' information needs through the leadership of the State Library.**

*Objective 1: Determine services necessary to assist local libraries to build capacity for improved services.*

Initiatives:

- Identify needs of state's libraries.
- Explore ways to promote and implement birth-to-five programming and resources.
- Ascertain services and delivery methods.
- Create an advocacy/marketing plan for the state.
- Promote the SDSL and local libraries.
- Study alternatives to all SDSL operations to create a more efficient and effective agency and library.

*Objective 2: Maintain and review statewide library policies and standards to facilitate best practices in all of the state's libraries.*

Initiatives:

- Review and improve statewide policies and standards.
- Provide training and guidance to public library boards of trustees and school boards.
- Review state statutes and make recommendations for changes.

*Objective 3: Improve library services delivered to South Dakota citizens through increased professional development opportunities for librarians.*

Initiatives:

- Provide appropriate and relevant training opportunities and consulting services in standard library practices, including information fluency.
- Support libraries in implementation of applicable library practices.

*Objective 4: Ensure high-quality and timely backup research services to libraries and schools.*

Initiatives:

- Provide prompt, appropriate, and accurate research services.
- Explore chat/interactive reference feasibility on State Library website.

## **A More Informed State Government**

**Goal 3: The State Library will meet South Dakota state government agencies' information needs through access to timely and relevant information.**

*Objective 1: Increase state employee awareness of the information resources available through the State Library.*

Initiatives:

- Determine agency specific needs.
- Create and deliver training to state agencies.
- Maintain and promote interactive SDSL web page.
- Identify state agencies and organizations to work collaboratively on programming and projects of mutual interest.

*Objective 2: Ensure that information resources provided meet the needs of state agencies.*

Initiatives:

- Review and evaluate existing information resources.
- Identify trends and acquire related information resources.
- Modify research products and services developed for state agencies.

*Objective 3: Ensure high-quality and timely research service to state government.*

Initiatives:

- Provide prompt, appropriate, and accurate research services.
- Explore chat reference feasibility on State Library website.
- Strengthen/increase all research skills of State Library staff.

## **Collections That Support the Mission**

**Goal 4: Designated collections, both print and non-print, of the South Dakota State Library will meet specific specialized needs of the state's libraries and state government.**

*(The SDSL collections support State Government agencies, professional library services, Federal and State Documents, research, South Dakota history and culture, regional Native American history and culture, and Braille and Talking books.)*

*Objective 1: Acquire and promote statewide access to additional electronic resources.*

Initiatives:

- Continue the Electronic Resources Task Force to review and analyze current licensed databases' effectiveness and determine areas of additional statewide need.
- Digitize State document resources to meet the 24/7 needs of digital content users.
- Investigate outsourcing digitization for selected state publications.
- Evaluate the use of and satisfaction with licensed databases.

*Objective 2: Build an electronic collection of state documents.*

Initiatives:

- Identify, capture, digitize, preserve, and make accessible state documents.
- Maintain and promote an online portal for South Dakota state documents access.
- Annually increase volume of state document digital content in ContentDM.
- Write a plan and create a timeline for digitizing the State Library's state publications.

*Objective 3: Create, manage and sustain collections of books, and other formats.*

Initiatives:

- Acquire, organize, and maintain collections that support the mission of the State Library.
- Circulate requested materials to libraries, state employees, and Braille and Talking Book registered patrons.
- Coordinate, reorganize, and maintain State Documents Depository system.
- Coordinate citizen access to federal document information.