
DATE: May 1, 2025

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library

Pima County Board of Supervisors
Pima County Administration
Friends of the Pima County Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Arivaca Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Esmond Station Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library, Board of Directors
Pima Library Foundation, Board of Directors

FROM: Marissa Alcorta
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Community Engagement and Support Services Report – April 2025

Community Engagement Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

In April we completed the information that will be on our Lotería “Color Our World” tracker for the summer reading program and submitted it to our amazing design team for creation of the board.

Our team distributed books to all our library branches to celebrate Día del Niño/Día del Libro which is celebrated at libraries nationwide during the month of April. Branches will distribute these books to children at their individual Día events or as a giveaway at their locations.

This month the Día del Niño/Día del Libro festivities continued at block party event in partnership with The Galería Mitotera and the City of South Tucson. Our affinity teams Nuestras Raíces and Many Nations had crafts for kids to make and have a planting seeds activity provided by our Seed Library team. The event had other booths and County departments, a jumping castle, a live DJ, and performances by El Grupo Tapatío. We gave away many books to children and families.

Our team participated in the Day of the Child event at Pueblo Park located on the Pascua Yaqui Nation. We gave away several books and had crafts provided by the Many Nations team.

Latinx Community Engagement Manager – Vacant

Workforce and Economic Development – Matthew Landon

Job and Career Help

This month, four library staff set up computers and helped people work on their resumes and apply for jobs at the DREAM Job Fair for people with disabilities on April 15. For this event we created a Job Seeker Best Practices flyer for eventgoers. Our Career Online High School program is continuing to garner attention with 56 people expressing interest in the program since the end of February. Additional scholarships from the Library Foundation are being

processed and will go to serve these needs this fiscal year. There are currently 39 'active' students with 3 more who've completed their homework and are ready for an orientation.

Digital Equity

Niki Giammarco and Jon Meade set up a table and spoke to 60 people about the library's Chromebook and hotspot lending, computer classes, and tech help at the annual Tech Fest on April 5 organized by We Care Tucson and the Arizona Digital Inclusion Network. The first cohort completed the Digital Skill Building Class that Pima Community College Adult Basic Education is teaching at Sam Lena-South Tucson. The second session of this valuable partnership started on April 14. The Community Engagement Office is making connections with organizations like PCC to expand our digital inclusion efforts.

Outreach

359 people attended a free E-Resources Webinar on April 7 that Jessica Pryde and Matthew Landon presented in association with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute entitled '10 things you can do at the library (without leaving home)'. We spoke about how to get an eCard, the library's download and stream services, and the free access to newspapers and magazines that the library offers. Matthew Landon and Holly Schaffer represented the library's Synapse Affinity Team and spoke and shared information with 200 people at the annual NAMI Walks event on April 5.

Collection Development/Support Services Library Services Manager-Kate DeMeester-Lane

I met early in the month with Himmel Park Library staff to discuss their upcoming closure for renovations. Himmel Library receives a lot more materials than they check out, as folks frequently return their materials there. Given that, we discussed ways they can continue to prep their collection to be absorbed by the wider library system once they are closed. They are already doing an excellent job with this work, and I anticipate that the closure will be much easier because of that.

We've made some great progress on our RFID project this month. Branch managers have begun to determine the outlines of our conversion plan, and field trips to visit locations already using RFID have been booked. We will also be working on finishing up the cooperative contract for the vendor.