

# Public library feedback: Funding

On February 4, SRLAAW is holding a retreat to discuss public library system services. This retreat is part of a larger process that will lead to recommendations and action steps to address concerns about and barriers to system reconfigurations, along with addressing how systems remain effective in meeting member library needs into the future. In order to develop these recommendations and action steps, we're looking for feedback from public libraries around the state on the value of system services and what makes a strong public library system.

This is one of six surveys developed to get your feedback. This survey focuses on **funding**, which includes funding for both systems and libraries: what is the role of systems in helping libraries secure adequate funding? What services can be provided to help libraries with funding concerns? How can systems help raise awareness of funding issues at both the library and system level?. Your time in completing these surveys is greatly appreciated! Please complete the surveys no later than January 25th.

## 1. Library name:

**Note: library names will not be included in the presented results, and will only be used to determine demographic qualities of the libraries responding to the survey: size of library, library system, etc.**

If not listed above, please specify your library below:

## Public library feedback: Funding

**2. For each of the following items, please indicate how important the system-level service is to you and your library. In some cases, your public library system may not provide that service. Please indicate your *perceived importance* of the service, whether or not your library system provides the service at this time.**

	Very important *Critical*	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not at all important
Assisting libraries with fundraising for building projects and other one-time projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Writing grants for system-wide projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries with writing grants for projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries with e-rate applications.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries with funds to supplement budgets for specific projects (summer library program, experimental projects, etc.).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries with funds to supplement staff training & development.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries with funds for net lender reimbursements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participating in statewide efforts to encourage library supporters to advocate for library funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintaining & sharing lists of library supporters & alerting supporters of need to advocate for library funding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Assisting libraries and library boards in securing appropriate county funding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing partnerships to provide sponsorship for library or system projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Negotiating with neighboring systems to secure funding for intersystem service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**3. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

**4. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

## Public library feedback: Funding



**1. For each of the following items, please indicate how important the system-level service is to you and your library. In some cases, your public library system may not provide that service. Please indicate your perceived importance of the service, whether or not your library system provides the service at this time.**

	Very important*Critical*	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not at all important	RatingCount
Assisting libraries with fundraising for building projects and other one-time projects.	19.1% (34)	<b>37.6% (67)</b>	28.1% (50)	15.2% (27)	178
Writing grants for system-wide projects.	<b>70.8% (126)</b>	23.6% (42)	2.8% (5)	2.8% (5)	178
Assisting libraries with writing grants for projects.	41.1% (72)	<b>43.4% (76)</b>	10.3% (18)	5.1% (9)	175
Assisting libraries with e-rate applications.	<b>53.7% (95)</b>	20.3% (36)	13.6% (24)	12.4% (22)	177
Assisting libraries with funds to supplement budgets for specific projects (summer library program, experimental projects, etc.).	<b>42.9% (76)</b>	37.3% (66)	13.0% (23)	6.8% (12)	177
Assisting libraries with funds to supplement staff training & development.	<b>50.6% (89)</b>	31.8% (56)	13.1% (23)	4.5% (8)	176
Assisting libraries with funds for net lender reimbursements.	30.1% (53)	<b>34.7% (61)</b>	20.5% (36)	14.8% (26)	176
Participating in statewide efforts to encourage library supporters to advocate for library funding	<b>51.1% (90)</b>	34.1% (60)	10.8% (19)	4.0% (7)	176
Maintaining & sharing lists of library supporters & alerting supporters of need to advocate for library funding.	30.3% (54)	<b>34.8% (62)</b>	24.2% (43)	10.7% (19)	178
Assisting libraries and library boards in securing appropriate county funding.	<b>73.6% (131)</b>	17.4% (31)	6.2% (11)	2.8% (5)	178

Developing partnerships to provide sponsorship for library or system projects.	<b>43.3% (77)</b>	40.4% (72)	11.2% (20)	5.1% (9)	178
Negotiating with neighboring systems to secure funding for intersystem service.	<b>61.0% (108)</b>	28.8% (51)	6.8% (12)	3.4% (6)	177
<b>AnsweredQuestion</b>					<b>179</b>
<b>SkippedQuestion</b>					<b>1</b>

**2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

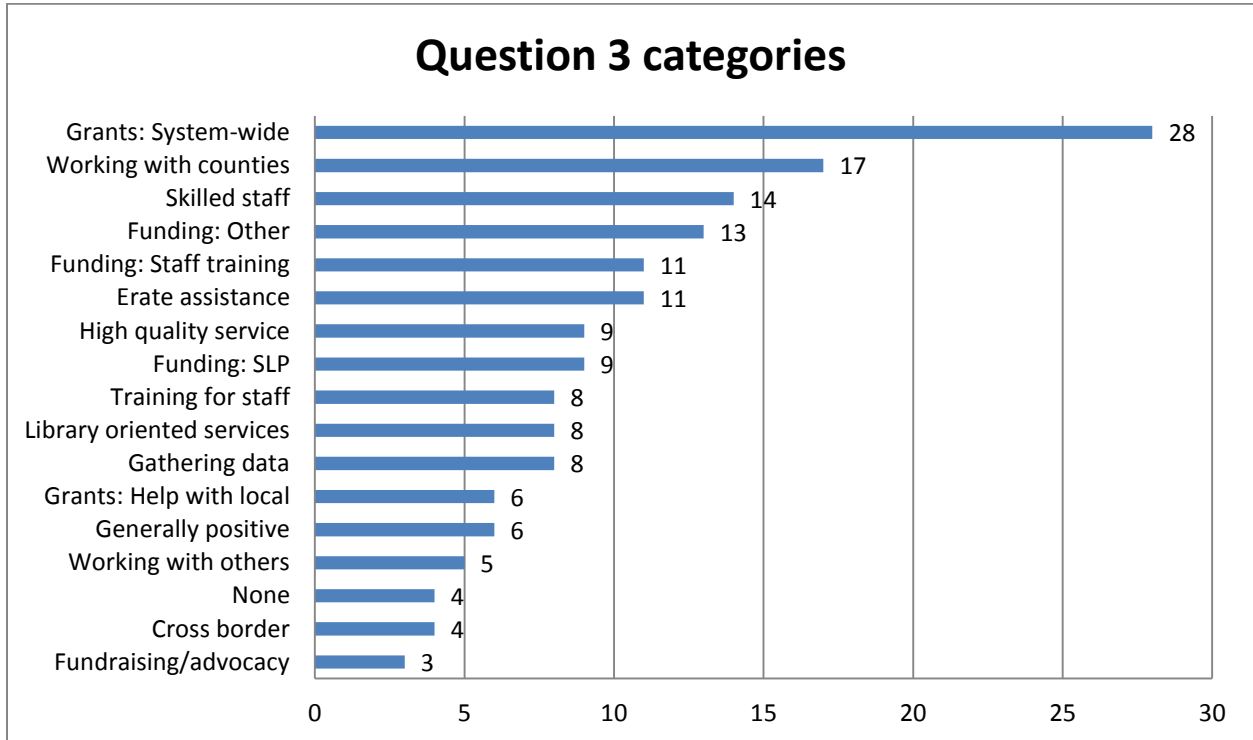
<b>ResponseCount</b>	113	
<b>AnsweredQuestion</b>		<b>113</b>
<b>SkippedQuestion</b>		<b>67</b>

**3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

<b>ResponseCount</b>	86	
<b>AnsweredQuestion</b>		<b>86</b>
<b>SkippedQuestion</b>		<b>94</b>

## Funding Summary of Question 3 and Question 4

Question 3: Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?



**Descriptions of categories:**

**Cross border:** Specifically mentioned assistance with cross-border reimbursement or agreements

**Erate assistance:** System helps with application process for e-rate

**Funding: X:** Specifically mentions funds given by system to libraries for these purposes. “General” includes non-specific comments about funds or specific services mentioned by only 1-2 people (WLA reimbursements, collection, etc.)

**Fundraising/advocacy:** System undertakes activities related to fundraising or advocacy

**Gathering data:** System aggregates and provides statistics for grant applications, annual reports, etc.

**Generally positive:** No specific services or attributes are mentioned, just overall positive comments

**Grants: help with local:** Grant-writing assistance for individual library grants and assistance finding grants

**Grants: system-wide:** System applies for, receives, and distributes grants for multiple libraries, including LSTA grants

**High quality service:** Respondent indicated some aspect of quality service from the system, including timely service, good communication, easy-to-use services, keeping libraries informed of opportunities

**Library-oriented services:** System makes an effort to determine what the needs are of the libraries and develops services for the common good

**None:** Respondent specifically mentions that no services are applicable

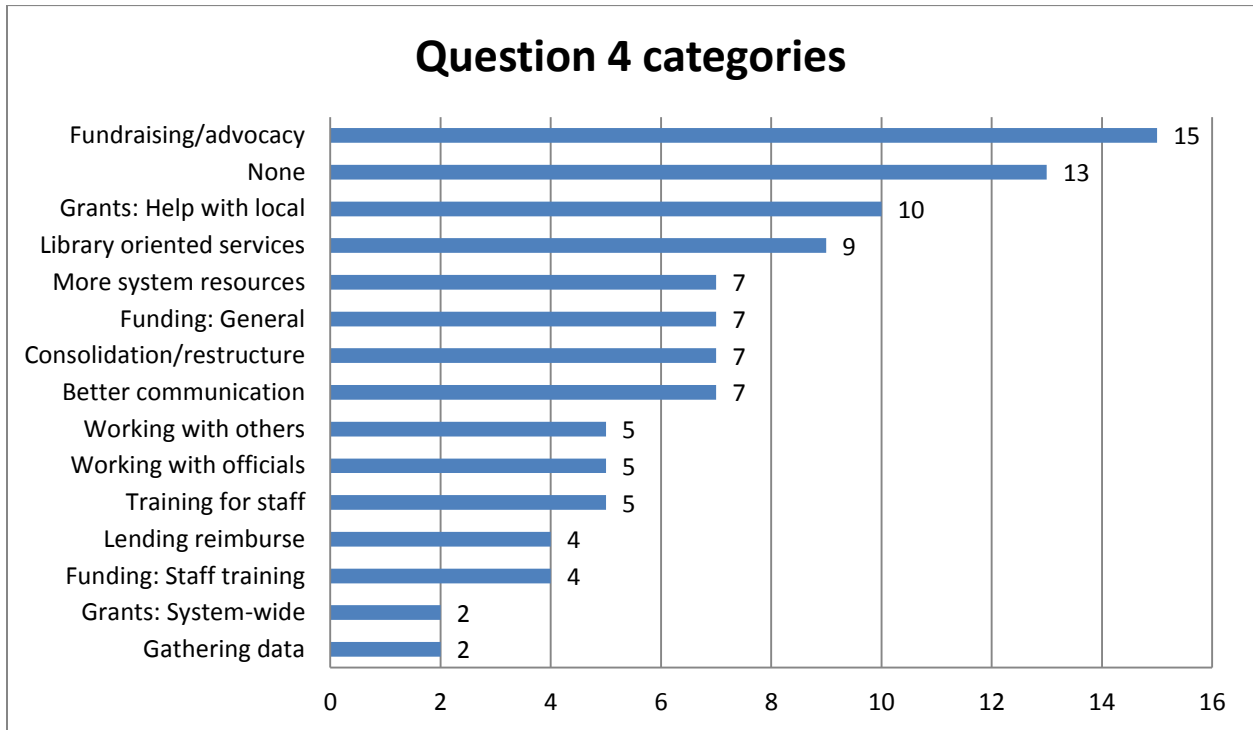
**Skilled staff:** Respondent specifically mentioned knowledge and skills of staff

**Training for staff:** Training provided to member library staff by system (CE)

**Working with counties:** System attends county board meetings, communicates with counties, advocates at the county-level, plans with counties, helps to secure county funding, etc.

**Working with others:** System develops partnerships, works with elected officials (other than counties), has centralized advocacy efforts

**Question 4:** What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?



**Descriptions of categories:**

**Better communication:** System communicates available opportunities, explains available services

**Consolidation/restructuring:** Specifically mentioning ideas for consolidating services or changing current system/resource library structure

**Funding: X:** Specifically mentions giving direct funds to libraries for these purposes. “General” includes non-specific comments about funds or specific services mentioned by only 1-2 people (WLA reimbursements, collection, etc.)

**Fundraising/advocacy:** System undertakes activities related to fundraising or advocacy

**Gathering data:** System aggregates and provides statistics for grant applications, annual reports, etc.

**Grants: help with local:** Grant-writing assistance for individual library grants and assistance finding grants

**Grants: system-wide:** System applies for, receives, and distributes grants for multiple libraries, including LSTA grants

**Lending reimburse:** Assistance from system on net lender/cross border reimbursement

**Library-oriented services:** System makes an effort to determine what the needs are of the libraries and develops services for the common good

**More system resources:** Provide additional staff or money to systems

**None:** Respondent specifically mentions that no services are applicable

**Training for staff:** Training provided to member library staff by system (CE)

**Working with officials:** System, either directly or through the local library, explains library and systems services and advocates with local and county officials

**Working with others:** System develops partnerships, works with groups other than officials



**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

1	I think our system has been successful at helping us attain our funding from our county. They always in attend all of our budget hearings and explain to committees and the boards any questions that arise. [Working with counties]	Jan 25, 2013 2:25 PM
2	Knowledgeable help with grant writing. Resource library payment. [Funding: other] [Grants: help with local]	Jan 25, 2013 2:10 PM
3	Generous resource library contract. Generous member library cash grants [Funding: other]	Jan 25, 2013 1:42 PM
4	Writing grants for system-wide projects Assisting libraries with funds to supplement budgets for specific projects [Funding: other] [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 25, 2013 12:02 PM
5	CE classes [Training for staff]	Jan 25, 2013 11:59 AM
6	Knowledgeable on projects and applications, having done similar with other libraries as well as knowing what other libraries, within and outside of the system, have done and succeed with timeliness of projects, system staff is very good at keeping libraries aware of what funding-related issues are coming up (grant proposal due dates, project applications, advocating events, etc.) [Skilled staff] [High quality service]	Jan 25, 2013 11:44 AM
7	Assisting libraries with funds for staff training and development. [Funding: staff training]	Jan 25, 2013 11:03 AM
8	Working with the County to plan for serving rural patrons [Working with counties]	Jan 25, 2013 10:47 AM
9	System funding allows all libraries in our system to provide some of the same services no matter what the size of the library. Ex: Zinio [Funding: other]	Jan 25, 2013 10:08 AM
10	extremely helpful with grant writing LSTA grants, easy to navigate funding assistance [Grants: system-wide] [High quality service]	Jan 24, 2013 9:52 PM
11	The services that are provided well are those which have the attribute of being identified as important by the member libraries. [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 7:57 PM
12	System assistance saves a huge amount of time for busy directors and staff, and allows us to focus more on directly serving our patrons. [Generally positive]	Jan 24, 2013 5:02 PM
13	Assisting with capital projects [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 4:57 PM
14	The staff are the system level that help with the particular service [Skilled staff]	Jan 24, 2013 4:45 PM
15	Need the help in grant writing since we do not have the time or expertise to do this. [Grants: help with local]	Jan 24, 2013 4:29 PM
16	Our system does a good job of communicating the value of libraries to our County Board, and I believe that has helped us keep funding at the same level [Working with counties]	Jan 24, 2013 4:13 PM
17	Our system Director is exceptional when it comes to arranging funding at a county level (securing appropriate county funding, negotiating with neighboring systems for intersystem service). [Working with counties] [Cross border]	Jan 24, 2013 3:33 PM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

18	The system surveys members to find the most critical services that grants can be applied to; most grant applications have been successful. [Grants: system-wide] [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 3:05 PM
19	The funding shared from the system for Summer Library Program performers. and how our system handles the e-rate applications. [Funding: SLP] [Erate assistance]	Jan 24, 2013 3:00 PM
20	Both the erate reimbursements and the preparation for county reimbursements are prepared by Linda Stobbe Financial Mangager for NWLS. Linda is acurate and efficient. She performs these duties and others quietly & without nearly enough appreciation, giving direcotrs what they need even before they know they need it. [Skilled staff] [Erate assistance]	Jan 24, 2013 2:30 PM
21	Reliable fiscal agent; Organized data (i.e. from automation system; in support of county and cross-county payments) [Gathering data]	Jan 24, 2013 2:28 PM
22	Our system does an excellent job in all of these services. They are fundamental to the service of every library & are indispensable. [Generally positive]	Jan 24, 2013 1:42 PM
23	help with e-rate and funding for traning [Funding: staff training] [Erate assistance]	Jan 24, 2013 1:41 PM
24	Through our systems grant projects we have been able to provide computer training to our seniors, supply accessibility tools, children's programming materials and other services and materials that our patrons would not otherwise have access to. This is an invaluable service to our community and when promoted as funded through grants won by our system builds awareness of our system. [Funding: other] [Grants: system-wide] [Funding: SLP]	Jan 24, 2013 1:17 PM
25	Resource library's knowledge in this area. [Skilled staff]	Jan 24, 2013 1:06 PM
26	A continued year round exchange of information and ideas with our county officials. It's important for the powers that be to know our system directors and see them more tha when we are requesting funding. [Working with counties]	Jan 24, 2013 12:54 PM
27	System acts as a coordinator of many to these-very valuable [Generally positive]	Jan 24, 2013 12:37 PM
28	System provides funding for storywagon performers in the summer. This is a well-attended program. Very important that system works with our county to provide funding. [Funding: SLP] [Working with counties]	Jan 24, 2013 12:32 PM
29	That they help with e-rate [Erate assistance]	Jan 24, 2013 12:30 PM
30	Knowledgeable staff, timely response and professional network utilization. [Skilled staff]	Jan 24, 2013 12:08 PM
31	Help with e-rate. Help with dealing with Act 420 problems [Erate assistance] [Cross border]	Jan 24, 2013 12:02 PM
32	E rate statistics [Gathering data] [Erate assistance]	Jan 24, 2013 11:52 AM
33	Helps greatly with our budget. Takes the work/headache away from me and puts it at the system level.	Jan 24, 2013 11:41 AM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

34	shared technology among member libraries provides the system with accurate numbers for calculating use of materials -- they become the independent third party systems provide systems for making payments between member libraries on matters not handled through shared technologies such as loss of material from open holds shelves, payments for items lost or damaged and loaned to a nonresident [Gathering data]	Jan 24, 2013 11:40 AM
35	Streamlined distribution of funds from grants. [Grants: system-wide] [High quality service]	Jan 24, 2013 11:35 AM
36	I can't think of any. [None]	Jan 24, 2013 11:23 AM
37	Ability to work with county officials to secure funding. Partnerships with other agencies. [Working with counties] [Working with others]	Jan 24, 2013 10:58 AM
38	Some grants have been beneficial. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 24, 2013 10:18 AM
39	Assist with annual report prep [Gathering data]	Jan 24, 2013 10:17 AM
40	Helping in finding funding and then help in writing a grant to secure the funding. [Grants: help with local]	Jan 24, 2013 9:47 AM
41	Always asks opinion of members [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 9:20 AM
42	These tasks related to funding are administrative and consulting services. Consulting is a subjective service because it's very difficult to quantify and evaluate the results. The performance of the consultant is dependent on knowledge and initiative.	Jan 24, 2013 9:11 AM
43	Staff training and development are the most important to me. I could never afford or have time to plan the quality of programs that SCLS offers! It's also great to do it with other libraries- networking for staff on all levels that we wouldn't have otherwise. Training new directors on how county and system funding happens was really helpful. I came here from another state and it was a lot to learn in a short period of time. [Training for staff]	Jan 24, 2013 8:58 AM
44	the library gets grants and the application is very easy to use [Grants: system-wide] [High quality service]	Jan 23, 2013 6:12 PM
45	not applicable at this time [None]	Jan 23, 2013 5:59 PM
46	Good graphs and charts of statistical information regarding funding. Provide the billing and receiving of monies from counties..convenient [Gathering data] [Cross border]	Jan 23, 2013 3:14 PM
47	Funding is getting tighter and tighter, not only for libraries, but for Systems as well. I know these are all feasible but whatever help we can receive makes a huge impact on our services we offer our patrons. [Generally positive]	Jan 22, 2013 6:16 PM
48	Really appreciate erate paperwork being done at system level! [Erate assistance]	Jan 22, 2013 4:16 PM
49	Our system does an excellent job writing system-wide grants and group	Jan 22, 2013 3:05 PM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

	training/development. [Grants: system-wide] [Training for staff]	
50	e-rate applications- very cost effective to have 1 person prepare applications for all of the libraries in the system instead [Erate assistance]	Jan 22, 2013 2:56 PM
51	Without our system very few of the items mentioned would or could be accomplished in our small library. The system provides the lifeblood for our library by making the case for continued library support beyond our local service area. [Generally positive]	Jan 22, 2013 2:27 PM
52	Our library system doesn't do much with funding other than e-rate, LSTA grants, etc. Can't answer because I would call it a "successful service" they offer. [Grants: system-wide] [Erate assistance]	Jan 22, 2013 2:23 PM
53	Our system does a good job of securing grants that are well thought out and productive. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 22, 2013 1:15 PM
54	Willingness of someone from the system to show up at a board meeting (town/county/library) to address an issue. [Working with counties] [Working with others]	Jan 22, 2013 1:11 PM
55	The grant writing services are wonderful - professional and efficient! [Grants: system-wide] [Grants: help with local]	Jan 22, 2013 1:06 PM
56	experience [Skilled staff]	Jan 22, 2013 12:30 PM
57	knowledgeable, experienced system staff [Skilled staff]	Jan 22, 2013 12:22 PM
58	Successful Grant Applications Support in programs for grants [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 22, 2013 11:47 AM
59	Communication between system heads and local libraries and county officials about system needs and local needs. Clear, accurate statistics. [Working with counties] [Gathering data] [Working with others]	Jan 22, 2013 11:47 AM
60	They support our summer reading programs. [Funding: SLP]	Jan 22, 2013 11:18 AM
61	Dedication to their libraries in securing county funding. [Working with counties]	Jan 21, 2013 10:52 AM
62	CEU funds that are made available. SLP incentive & program funding. [Funding: SLP] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 17, 2013 5:05 PM
63	timeliness [High quality service]	Jan 17, 2013 12:22 PM
64	Continuing education webinars and some funding toward attendance at state library conferences. [Funding: staff training] [Training for staff]	Jan 17, 2013 11:59 AM
65	County funding - The system works well and closely with decision makers to ensure a balanced reimbursement approach. The close relationships are key. [Working with counties]	Jan 17, 2013 8:14 AM
66	Being alert to options and passing them on to us [High quality service]	Jan 16, 2013 5:57 PM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

67	Good negotiation skills in dealing with county funding. [Working with counties]	Jan 16, 2013 5:54 PM
68	Assisting libraries with writing grants for projects Assisting libraries with funds to supplement staff training & development. [Grants: system-wide] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 16, 2013 2:38 PM
69	very successful at writing and receiving LSTA grants. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 16, 2013 1:59 PM
70	Communication with other government entities to ensure monetary support of libraries. Developing partnerships with government entities, legislators and community leaders/organizations. [Working with others]	Jan 16, 2013 10:12 AM
71	Provides our automation services and grant moneys . [Funding: other]	Jan 15, 2013 7:29 PM
72	State law that encourages sharing of resources.	Jan 15, 2013 4:32 PM
73	Annual "Dunk the Klunk" guess when the car breaks through the ice [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 15, 2013 3:31 PM
74	Time saving - Grant writing assistance and cooperative, system-wide grant participation are excellent ways for us to benefit from grant programs or to find grant assistance when our staff may not feel they have the time or skills to seek out grants and funding on their own. Professional assistance - It's very helpful to learn from the assistance that the system staff have from their own projects as well as the knowledge they have from working with other libraries, counties and systems. [Grants: system-wide] [Grants: help with local] [Skilled staff]	Jan 15, 2013 1:31 PM
75	supporting through funding our Summer library program with performers and some supplies Supporting continuing education of director by funding classes [Funding: SLP] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 15, 2013 1:29 PM
76	Two System Shared automation service. Support for continuing education both in workshops and grant funding for attending state and national conferences. [Funding: other] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 15, 2013 11:29 AM
77	My system does not do funding related services well. The few things we benefit from, an LSTA grant here, a scholarship for WLA membership or continuing ed, maybe adds to \$5,000 that I see directly for the library. In the meantime, we are paying almost \$70,000 for ILS and technology services from the system. Clearly these added services are not mandated by state law like others, but we pay them and it far surpasses what we get in direct funding to the library. [Funding: other] [Grants: system-wide] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 15, 2013 10:36 AM
78	Attention to LSTA priorities. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
79	Lobbying our local officials for library support, esp. county boards Keeping up with state trends in financing [Skilled staff] [Working with others]	Jan 14, 2013 4:32 PM
80	Grant writing skills that help all libraries [Grants: system-wide] [Skilled staff]	Jan 14, 2013 3:33 PM
81	Good communication with the counties. Successful annual grant writing for projects. [Grants: system-wide] [Working with counties]	Jan 14, 2013 2:54 PM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

82	Can't think of anything [None]	Jan 14, 2013 2:34 PM
83	Summer reading support LSTA grant participation [Grants: system-wide] [Funding: SLP]	Jan 14, 2013 2:10 PM
84	Consulting with member libraries about their needs when applying for LSTA grants [Grants: system-wide] [Library oriented services]	Jan 14, 2013 1:56 PM
85	Our system gathers all the numbers and doe [Gathering data]	Jan 14, 2013 1:46 PM
86	The ability to negotiate consortium prices. The knowledgeable and dedicated personnel that can devote their expertise to advocacy. [Skilled staff]	Jan 14, 2013 12:53 PM
87	Library staff has time to do other tasks. Library gets more financial support [Funding: other]	Jan 14, 2013 12:32 PM
88	involvement in the individual libraries to know their needs regarding funding needs. [Library oriented services]	Jan 14, 2013 12:09 PM
89	system wide grants are well written and typically approved. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 14, 2013 11:21 AM
90	Money for staff training and WLA membership is essential for smaller libraries. [Funding: other] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 14, 2013 10:14 AM
91	I think my library system does well when it focuses on the big picture. Things that libraries can or should do on their own should be left to the library to do. It is difficult for small libraries, I realize that. However, there are not enough funds for library systems to fund local library needs. The dollars are best spent when they provide benefit to *all* as well as when they are spent to accomplish things we cannot do on our own. [Library oriented services]	Jan 14, 2013 9:40 AM
92	Denise at SCLS does all she can to make the paperwork related to funding as easy as possible for us. This is especially useful for a newbie director like me. [Skilled staff] [High quality service]	Jan 14, 2013 9:12 AM
93	Developed an easy means to aggregating library supporters and alerting them to state and system library issues. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 14, 2013 9:04 AM
94	N/A They do well overall. [Generally positive]	Jan 14, 2013 8:48 AM
95	None. [None]	Jan 14, 2013 8:33 AM
96	The provide the leadership in securing county funding and the needed staff training. [Working with counties] [Training for staff]	Jan 13, 2013 6:01 PM
97	Writing grants and staff training [Grants: system-wide] [Training for staff]	Jan 13, 2013 11:11 AM
98	Ease of participation [High quality service]	Jan 12, 2013 6:18 PM
99	Our system does a great job of acting for the common good, and not over-thinking things. At some point, decisions have to be made even though not everyone will be happy. [Library oriented services]	Jan 12, 2013 8:40 AM

**Q2. Thinking of funding-related services that your system provides well, what are one or two attributes that make these successful services?**

100	Shwon does a great job with the Systemwide grant writing. She is great about communicating the project, the parameters in which we have to work and following up on the results. Also, as a small Library, I deeply appreciate the assistance with Summer Reading funding....and the workshops offered. [Grants: system-wide] [Skilled staff] [Funding: SLP] [Training for staff]	Jan 11, 2013 6:22 PM
101	Help in staff training and development and assisting our library in securing county funding are the two services that is most valuable to our library. [Funding: staff training] [Working with counties]	Jan 11, 2013 4:36 PM
102	delivery [Funding: other]	Jan 11, 2013 4:36 PM
103	Help with communicating at the county level. Maintaining a consistent message even though our county libraries have had many change overs with directors. Help with maintaining accurate statistics for funding purposes. The stats are always professionally presented. Looks like we are concerned with keeping accurate statistics. [Working with counties] [Gathering data]	Jan 11, 2013 4:19 PM
104	To a degree, System checks with libraries on priorities - helping set budget [Library oriented services]	Jan 11, 2013 4:09 PM
105	Our system is proactive in seeking LSTA funding for projects that will benefit member libraries. [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 11, 2013 3:58 PM
106	Writing grants for system-wide projects Assisting libraries with e-rate applications [Grants: system-wide] [Erate assistance]	Jan 11, 2013 3:40 PM
107	Grant funds for collection development, Summer program, CE workshops, etc. [Funding: other] [Funding: SLP] [Funding: staff training]	Jan 11, 2013 3:30 PM
108	Attributes that make these services successful -- the system has to have staff with the skills to write great grant applications. Great communication skills in general are essential, both written and oral. [Grants: system-wide] [Skilled staff]	Jan 11, 2013 3:28 PM
109	legal advice re: funding laws knowledge of funding requirements	Jan 11, 2013 3:27 PM
110	My library system provides very quick and thorough response to funding-related services. Any time I have a question, it's answered within a few hours. Amazing. [High quality service]	Jan 11, 2013 3:23 PM
111	Excellent work with counties to communicate funding plans, requests, and relevant meetings with library directors. Making e-rate easy (I should ask how cost effective the process is). Applying for system wide grants that make our individual libraries better. Providing great staff training and development options. [Grants: system-wide] [Working with counties] [Training for staff] [Erate assistance]	Jan 11, 2013 3:15 PM
112	reimbursement for non resident use [Funding: other]	Jan 11, 2013 3:02 PM
113	County Funding agreements have made the process seamless. Grant writing ( in the past) has given member libraries additional resources. [Grants: help with local] [Cross border]	Jan 11, 2013 2:59 PM

**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

1	Many of the services that we have looked for our system to handle have been slowly being cut out. Once again I feel that they need to be funded at an adequate level. [More system resources]	Jan 25, 2013 2:25 PM
2	Increase the system budget. [More system resources]	Jan 25, 2013 1:42 PM
3	More involvement negotiating intersystem services funding More assistance for library directors in grant writing [Grants: help with local] [lending reimburse]	Jan 25, 2013 12:02 PM
4	Less funding for Resource Libraries [Consolidation/restructure]	Jan 25, 2013 11:59 AM
5	Don't know [None]	Jan 25, 2013 11:03 AM
6	more help with grant writing would be appreciated, or learning opportunities on grantwriting, also I'd like it if the system would fill out and submit county reimbursement forms. [Training for staff] [Grants: help with local] [lending reimburse]	Jan 24, 2013 9:52 PM
7	The quality of funding-related services would be improved by making certain those services are desired by the member libraries, by discussing them and voting on them. [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 7:57 PM
8	It would be fantastic if the system staff could help with helping find funding for library improvements including new buildings. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 6:38 PM
9	Direct assistance with fundraising and obtaining funding from the City and County Board. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 5:02 PM
10	More information on library law and what are the ramifications in a library does not comply e.g. meeting county funding levy. Who watches over funding levels and who enforces funding levels.	Jan 24, 2013 4:57 PM
11	Don't forget the small libraries! [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 4:45 PM
12	So much of the funding over the years has diminished or been eliminated entirely when it comes to system funds for staff training and development. I would reinstate those funds to help ALL libraries within the system. [Funding: staff training]	Jan 24, 2013 4:13 PM
13	I don't have anything to suggest for this - I think currently our system does all that is can and should in the area of funding. There is some funding that really need to be done on a municipal and local level by the individual libraries. [None]	Jan 24, 2013 3:33 PM
14	Personally, I think that we should be in a different system. We are much closer to Eau Claire than we are to LaCrosse.	Jan 24, 2013 3:19 PM
15	Better state funding so that the system could pursue wider advocacy projects. [Fundraising/advocacy] [More system resources]	Jan 24, 2013 3:05 PM
16	Library funding needs are not a consideration for our system. Any Budget meetings are to discuss NWLS's needs. Our system has no qualms about passing their costs on to us and little concernwith local library financial struggles. Our fund raisers/ building project oare our problem and NWLS stays out of it.	Jan 24, 2013 2:30 PM



**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

[Library oriented services]

17	Maintaining, and adding as able system staff, not reducing it. Overworked staff is not as able to develop and facilitate grants, perform job duties, and respond to the needs of its members in a timely manner. It seems that more and more job duties and expectations are added with less staff to perform them. Cutting back at the system level and then passing on to individual libraries those tasks that the system has helped with in the past, only hurts the public. [More system resources]	Jan 24, 2013 1:17 PM
18	I don't think our individual communities have a clear idea of what services the system provides in securing our funding. It would be helpful to find a successful way to clarify that for our community and library boards. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 12:54 PM
19	more actual funding [Funding: general]	Jan 24, 2013 12:37 PM
20	We used to get some LSTA grants . . some were good, others were less helpful. It would be nice if this service was improved to reflect the interests of the directors and their patrons. I could use better information on the direction of library building funding in Wisconsin . . something professional and official would probably enhance discussions with my village. [Fundraising/advocacy] [Library oriented services] [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 24, 2013 12:32 PM
21	Help with grants [Grants: help with local]	Jan 24, 2013 12:30 PM
22	Our staff does not have time to do grant writing so this is something we need assistance with. [Grants: help with local]	Jan 24, 2013 12:13 PM
23	Advocating for funding of member libraries and distributing information through media about library success stories. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 12:08 PM
24	Restore maintenance of effort and increase state funds for library systems. [More system resources]	Jan 24, 2013 12:02 PM
25	Possibly set up a system foundation [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 11:52 AM
26	It is confusing to the public. It may always be, but maybe not.	Jan 24, 2013 11:41 AM
27	can't think of anything... [None]	Jan 24, 2013 11:40 AM
28	Being proactive in communicating with the individual libraries about opportunities of which the library staff may not be aware. [Better communication]	Jan 24, 2013 11:35 AM
29	They could consider the needs of the individual libraries. [Library oriented services]	Jan 24, 2013 11:23 AM
30	Wotk to change the formula for reimbursement so that if a library is a net lender, funding would be adjusted to work in favor of the lending library rather than the circulating library. More funds available to libraries for training/mileage. [Funding: staff training] [lending reimburse]	Jan 24, 2013 10:58 AM
31	Offer training on effective strategies for working with municipal and county governments. Since the demise of MOE, individual libraries risk losing funding,	Jan 24, 2013 10:18 AM

**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

and that comes from counties and municipalities, not from the State. While it is true that we are the beneficiaries of the State funding of systems, the threat of loss of local funding is a much more urgent issue for individual libraries. Efforts to secure support of libraries at the State should be redirected to the local level. [Working with officials] [Fundraising/advocacy] [Training for staff] [Working with others]

32	Support for library funding and legislative matters on a statewide level. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 24, 2013 10:17 AM
33	If the consulting and administrative services were more evenly delivered across the state it would be of more value to the libraries. But currently if a system is not performing there is very little that can be implemented to encourage the system to better their performance. [Consolidation/restructure]	Jan 24, 2013 9:11 AM
34	better information on regional grants [Better communication]	Jan 23, 2013 6:12 PM
35	not applicable at this time [None]	Jan 23, 2013 5:59 PM
36	It would be helpful if system staff attended County Board meetings or City Council meetings to help educate the elected officials on the importance of funding and funding formulas. I believe the way libraries are funded from area counties can be very confusing. Providing on going trainings for staff and even developing talking points about the topic would be helpful. [Working with officials] [Training for staff] [Working with others]	Jan 23, 2013 12:06 PM
37	A larger effort to enlighten County representation regarding how library funding works.... [Working with officials]	Jan 22, 2013 4:16 PM
38	Help more with developing partnerships to provide sponsorship for library or system projects. [Working with others]	Jan 22, 2013 3:05 PM
39	System support for fundraising software like GiftWorks or Wishlist, etc. Support/consultation for starting foundations - or a system-wide library foundation with individual library "funds?" [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 22, 2013 2:23 PM
40	To provide equal opportunities to "all" libraries in the sytem, wheteher or not they belong to MORE, smaller libraries sometimes get left out of the picture or overlooked. [Library oriented services]	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
41	An effort to encourage local giving and support of the libraries. A large scale annual system-wide fundraiser that would result in shared funds that could be used for joint programming or collection development. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 22, 2013 1:15 PM
42	Keeping in mind that some services will never be used by a very small library, and taking that into consideration when putting money towards that service. [Library oriented services]	Jan 22, 2013 1:11 PM
43	I don't believe our system provides the fund raising or supplemental fund services for member libraries. That would be marvelous. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 22, 2013 1:06 PM
44	Support in legal information for trusts, Friends Groups and 501 C3 info [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 22, 2013 11:47 AM

**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

45	Greater communication of grant opportunities and grant writing training would be helpful. [Training for staff] [Better communication]	Jan 22, 2013 11:47 AM
46	I would like them to offer more funding for professional training, in the form of continuing education reimbursement. [Funding: staff training]	Jan 22, 2013 11:18 AM
47	At this time, our system does not provide support for building project fundraising. That would be a major improvement for us. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 21, 2013 10:52 AM
48	I would like to see increase in CE reimbursement and materials grants. [Funding: staff training] [Funding: general]	Jan 20, 2013 7:41 AM
49	State funding should be redirected towards services, such as ILS and technology support. [Funding: general]	Jan 17, 2013 5:05 PM
50	grant writing assistance/help with finding available grants in community [Grants: help with local]	Jan 17, 2013 12:22 PM
51	Stop giving so much funding to Brown County Library for being our "Resource Library" since they provide hardly anything to the other seven counties within NFLS [Consolidation/restructure]	Jan 17, 2013 11:59 AM
52	N/A [None]	Jan 17, 2013 8:14 AM
53	Making us aware of more grant possibilities..and helping in the process of application [Grants: help with local] [Better communication]	Jan 16, 2013 5:57 PM
54	Assisting libraries with funds to supplement budgets for specific projects (summer library program, experimental projects, etc.). [Funding: general]	Jan 16, 2013 2:38 PM
55	I'm not sure [None]	Jan 16, 2013 1:59 PM
56	No changes. [None]	Jan 16, 2013 10:12 AM
57	Better organized Friends group [Working with others]	Jan 15, 2013 3:31 PM
58	?	Jan 15, 2013 1:31 PM
59	more help with grant writing for those of us not familiar with it [Grants: help with local]	Jan 15, 2013 1:29 PM
60	Provide system-wide numbers and comparisons for use by local libraries in promoting better funding and the overall results of system cooperation. [Gathering data]	Jan 15, 2013 11:29 AM
61	Better planning and a willingness to cut services, staff, etc. Both sides of the funding equation need to be looked at. Revenue is only one side and that's all your survey focused on. Expenditures is another. For far too long, libraries have expanded services and systems followed. Surely things are changing, but we can't keep adding, we have to start cutting away the less important things to make room for the newly important. This may require law changes to redirect system responsibilities so funding can be properly directed at what member libraries need, but regardless, expenditures must be looked at and the political	Jan 15, 2013 10:36 AM

**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

will must be present to make the tough choices and cut some things.  
[Consolidation/restructure]

62	NA in Milwaukee County. [None]	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
63	More pro-active on cross border borrowing charges [lending reimburse]	Jan 14, 2013 3:33 PM
64	Better support from county officials for library service. Increased system funding from the state. [Working with officials] [More system resources]	Jan 14, 2013 2:54 PM
65	The library system itself needs more funds from the state. The state has never lived up to the formula in state statutes. [More system resources]	Jan 14, 2013 2:34 PM
66	Allow more time for grant writing [Grants: help with local] [Grants: system-wide]	Jan 14, 2013 2:10 PM
67	More assistance with grant writing for individul libraries [Grants: help with local]	Jan 14, 2013 1:56 PM
68	Clearly list all funding-related services provided by system and who is contact. [Better communication]	Jan 14, 2013 12:32 PM
69	looking at funding services that will be beneficial on an equitable basis among member libraries; what is feasible? Think outside of the box in terms of funding priority issues across the system; could systems carry part of the ILS costs - I understand a differing of opinion on this topic... [Funding: general] [Library oriented services]	Jan 14, 2013 11:21 AM
70	1. Eliminate the funding for our system resource library. The world has changed and there is no longer a need to fund the same things. In my library system, this would free up a large amount of funding. In my opinion, there is actually more need for (county-funded) county resource libraries than (system-funded) system resource libraries. Because county funding is a very critical issue, having someone take care of the county library business is key to building grassroots support and keeping on positive terms with the county. In some cases, this work happens at the library system level instead of the county level. I'm not sure that this is the most effective way to do things because library systems already have enough on their plates and the individual county libraries have an enormous stake in their own county funding. So, in my opinion, the more local the funding request, the better. But library systems can and should be supporting (and developing) the county funding needs and mechanisms...especially as library systems grow and are really not in the best position to understand each individual county's needs. In other words, develop and support counties within your system not by doing their work *FOR* them, but by making sure the system is in place that they can do for themselves. 2. Focus the dollars on "big picture" items. Very few dollars should be spent on items that don't benefit all. For example, our library system provides promotional materials for individual libraries. I almost never use the service because I can create my own. The dollars spent there benefit some libraries but not all and as we become more able to do for our own locally and the dollars become even more scarce, I would like to see the dollars spent on things that benefit *all* the libraries. [Consolidation/restructure] [Library oriented services]	Jan 14, 2013 9:40 AM
71	I would love help identifying more grant opportunities and would absolutely	Jan 14, 2013 9:12 AM

**Q3. What are one or two changes that you would make that would significantly improve the quality of funding-related services from your system?**

	welcome regular correspondence about what grants are due when for which projects. [Grants: help with local] [Better communication]	
72	Provide access to the database of library supporters to local libraries so that they can easily alert them of local library issues. [Fundraising/advocacy]	Jan 14, 2013 9:04 AM
73	N/A [None]	Jan 14, 2013 8:48 AM
74	I think the financial procurements could be handled by a state agency which would decrease the overhead for systems of which there are way too many. [Consolidation/restructure]	Jan 14, 2013 8:33 AM
75	None [None]	Jan 13, 2013 6:01 PM
76	Greater quantity of opportunities	Jan 12, 2013 6:18 PM
77	I think having the system run the numbers to tell us how much funding needed by the township to allow the town to exempt itself from county funding would be VERY helpful. [Gathering data]	Jan 11, 2013 4:36 PM
78	grant writing training [Training for staff]	Jan 11, 2013 4:36 PM
79	It would be nice if they could assist on the local level when asking for increased funding. [Working with officials] [Working with others]	Jan 11, 2013 4:19 PM
80	Perhaps further cooperative services shared with another system [Consolidation/restructure]	Jan 11, 2013 4:09 PM
81	Can't think of any [None]	Jan 11, 2013 3:40 PM
82	Our system does only a few of these services (e-rate applications is one that they do well), so its difficult to say what changes would be helpful. [None]	Jan 11, 2013 3:28 PM
83	more proactive sharing of information about changes--it is done, but I am not sure the manner of presentation is always successful. [Better communication]	Jan 11, 2013 3:27 PM
84	None. [None]	Jan 11, 2013 3:23 PM
85	more money for computer networks and electronic sources [Funding: general]	Jan 11, 2013 3:02 PM
86	Having more funds available to do things- lately every budget cuts back on a service that we had or has the funding cut entirely. [Funding: general]	Jan 11, 2013 2:59 PM