

**Information Technology Plan 2006  
Okefenokee Regional Library System  
Waycross, Georgia**

**I. Mission Statement**

The technology goal of the Okefenokee Regional Library System is to provide the tools necessary to meet the educational, informational and recreational needs of the communities we serve. In addition, the goal encompasses the technological needs of the staff as they perform their day-to-day operations.

**II Vision Statement**

The Okefenokee Regional Library System endeavors to provide the technology necessary for patrons to quickly and easily access the information (which can be in the form of print, online databases, of Internet sources) they seek

**III. Strategic Directions, Goals, Objectives and Desired Results**

**Goal I.**

Meeting the needs of our patrons by utilizing traditional and computer-based programs and services, including the Internet

**Objective:**

Increase the use of computer-based resources such as online databases, productivity software, the Internet, educational/informational software and other electronic materials

**Desired Results:**

The Okefenokee Regional Library System has the capability to provide staff and patrons with adequate computer resources, including Internet access.

**Action Required:**

The Okefenokee Regional Library System needs to make provisions for the following branches:

1. **Waycross/Ware Public Library**: Purchase additional computers for the staff and patrons to use. Purchase and install hardware and software to provide firewall safety to insure that the library's LAN is able to withstand the onslaught of hackers and viruses. Purchase and install a new server to host the System's Website. Provide funding for computer consulting and support. Continue to purchase educational software for children and adults and provide educational opportunities for staff and patrons to increase expertise in utilizing computerized resources. To develop a word processing center for our visually or hearing impaired patrons which includes the purchase of vision enhancing software.

2. **Alma-Bacon County Public Library Purchase** additional computers for the staff and patrons to use. Purchase and install hardware and software to provide firewall safety to insure that the library's LAN is able to withstand the onslaught of hackers and viruses. Provide funding for computer consulting and support. Continue to purchase educational software for children and adults and provide educational opportunities for staff and patrons to increase expertise in utilizing computerized resources.

3. **Appling County Public Library** Purchase additional computers for the staff and patrons to use. Purchase and install hardware and software to provide firewall safety to insure that the library's LAN is able to withstand the onslaught of hackers and viruses. Provide funding for computer consulting and support. Continue to purchase educational software for children and adults and provide educational opportunities for staff and patron to increase expertise in utilizing computerized resources.

4. **Blackshear Memorial Library** Purchase additional computers for the staff and patrons to use. Purchase and install hardware and software to provide firewall safety to insure that the library's LAN is able to withstand the onslaught of hackers and viruses. Provide funding for computer consulting and support. Continue to purchase educational software for children and adults and provide educational opportunities for staff and patron to increase expertise in utilizing computerized resources.

5. **Clinch County Public Library**; Purchase additional computers for the staff and patrons to use. Purchase and install hardware and software to provide firewall safety to insure that the library's LAN is able to withstand the onslaught of hackers and viruses. Provide funding for computer consulting and support. Continue to purchase educational software for children and adults and provide educational opportunities for staff and patron to increase expertise in utilizing computerized resources.

6. **Marian Anderson Public Library**; Provide one paid employee to enable patrons to utilize the computer resources available in this small branch. At present the library is staffed infrequently by volunteers and the network is often "down" without a staff person to insure that the network is functioning. Also, there is no oversight in the usage of the public access computers which renders them unavailable to persons under 18 years old. Provide one working telephone line into the library.

**Evaluation:**

The Patrons and staff have easy access to an adequate number of state-of-the-art electronic resources

**Goal II.**

Provide Staff enhanced instruction in computers, software applications and the newest developments in automated library functions.

**Objective:**

Improve the library staff's computer skills in order to enhance their productivity as well as make their jobs more satisfying.

**Desired Results:**

The library staff in all branches will have appropriate and current technology training.

**Action Required:**

Although the System does not employ a Technology Librarian, four professional staff members visit the branches to train each branch manager in aspects of computer/software applications. It is necessary that staff members continue to attend workshops offered by GPLS and

To be encouraged to seek educational opportunities at our local technical colleges.

**Evaluation**

The staff will exhibit competencies gained from the training opportunities made available to them.

**Goal III**

Increase the public's knowledge of computers and software.

**Objective:**

Offer training in computer-related resources in order to enhance the public's productivity and quality of life

**Desired Results:**

The public will become more skilled at and comfortable with electronic media such as the online library catalog, the Internet, and word processing software. Children will be afforded the opportunity of using software onsite and at home to increase educational levels. Senior citizens will gain skills in using computers and be facilitated in searching for information and maintaining communication with their families through the use of email.

**Action Required:**

Provide the public with classes on computer hardware, the library OPAC, the Internet and other electronic resources.

**Evaluation:**

Patrons will exhibit more confidence and skills when using electronic resources in the library. In addition, patron feedback will determine the success of the classes

**PROPOSED BUDGET TO ATTAIN INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY GOALS**

Activity	Goal	Local	Federal	State	Total
<b>Equipment purchase</b>					
	Goal I				
<b>A. Waycross Branch</b>					
Firewall Server/Software		\$4,000.00			\$4,000.00
Website Server		\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00		\$3,000.00
New computers		\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
<b>B. Alma-Bacon Branch</b>					
Firewall/Server/Software		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
New Computers		\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
<b>C. Appling Branch</b>					
Firewall/Server/Software		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
New Computers		\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
<b>D. Blackshear Branch</b>					
Firewall/Server/Software		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
New Computers		\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
<b>E. Clinch County Branch</b>					
Firewall/Server/Software		\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
New Computers		\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
<b>F Marian Anderson Branch</b>					
Firewall Software		\$400.00			\$400.00
Provide working data-line		\$150.00			\$150.00
<b>Staff Development</b>	Goal II				
<b>All Branches</b>					
Travel Reimbursement		\$1,200.00		\$2,400.00	\$3,600.00

<b>Public Development</b>	Goal III				
<b>All Branches</b>					
Books/Software		\$250.00		\$500.00	\$750.00