Annual Report | July 2022-June 2023

PrairieCat assists members in the successful sharing of resources and services, expanding the quality and quantity of information accessible to our library users.

At its core, PrairieCat exists to provide an integrated library system (ILS) to members—having a central ILS provides efficiencies to 138 member libraries.

Database Support

- 12 PrairieCat staff
- 25 monthly statistical reports
- 12 reports with further processing by PC staff
- 494 original cataloging records
- 47,942 record loads
- 33,225 record enhancement and cleanup
- 743,499 special project record cleanup
- 20 MARC Catalogers from member libraries
- 1 Sierra upgrades — v 5.5
- 1 Encore upgrade

Total Help Desk Tickets Processed: 3,620

Member Libraries

138 Member Libraries
83 Fully Participating Members
19 Basic Online Members
36 Union Listing Members

Multi-type Consortium
103 public libraries
31 school libraries
2 academic libraries
2 corporate, medical, or other special libraries

Resource Sharing Network

Access to more than 1.2 million unique titles and 5.1 millions items.

4,791,640 items circulated
652,101 interlibrary loan holds filled
546,338 reciprocal borrowing transactions between PrairieCat libraries

Engagement | *Members are actively engaged at all levels, which creates connections and advances the organization.*

PUG Days 2022 Virtual: 434 attendees from 67 member libraries (49% participation) | 9 live sessions

Virtual Member Updates: 2 meetings with 128 total attendees

In-Person Member Updates: 4 meetings across membership region with 44 total attendees

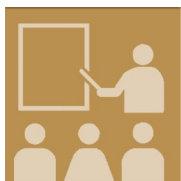10 Governance and Standing Committees: 48 meetings

Site Visits with Member Libraries: 9 Virtual Site Visits | 20 In-Person Site Visits

Resource Sharing Summit: 31 participants

8 other events including New Director Welcome, Union List Members, and Back to School Session

FY23 Annual Report
Connecting Libraries to Strengthen Communities

Training | Learning opportunities equip members to provide excellent service to end users.

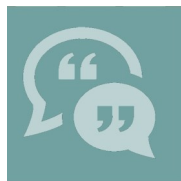| **PrairieCat Led Sessions**	**Talent LMS Courses**
64 Live Training Sessions	51 self-paced courses
425 Attendees	2,877 courses completed | 419 users

TalentLMS: Self-paced courses available 24/7 through PrairieCat's online training platform. The majority of PrairieCat trainings are offered online such as searching, holds, circulation, and cataloging. More advanced classes and workshops are offered as live, on-demand classes.

Item Entry Certification: 43 library staff completed Item Entry Certification through TalentLMS. PrairieCat requires that any staff that adds new items to the PrairieCat database are item entry certified to help maintain the accuracy of the database.

Create Lists Training: Create Lists is available to Fully Participating members and the training must be completed to use this function. 25 library staff completed the training.

User Experience | Members are supported in their efforts to provide exceptional service to end users.

Innovative Interfaces: In July 2022, Innovative released Vega Discover for consortia. PrairieCat worked throughout the year with the Innovative team on implementation and configuration of the system for the 138 individual library agencies. Vega Discover has several features that will improve the end user experience such as roll-ups, e-material integration, improved searching, and site customization.

Fine Free Libraries: 10 PrairieCat libraries went fine free during FY23 bringing the total to 48. PrairieCat staff provided system support and resources to make these changes possible.

Mobile App: 55 PrairieCat libraries have opted in to the mobile app to provide a mobile option for their users.

PrairieCat Website: The redesigned and upgraded website launched in June 2023. The new site provides improved organization, member resources, and discoverable documentation.

Governance | Leadership is transparent, responsive, innovative, and accountable.

Delegates Assembly: 88% voting member attendance rate

FY24 Administrative Council and Standing Committees Election: 49% member participation

PrairieCat welcomed 16 new directors at member libraries.

Membership Changes: North Chicago Public Library went live as a Fully Participating member in October 2022. The Rock Island Public Library Watts-Midtown branch opened in February 2023. Lostant Community Library joined as a new Basic Online member and went live in March 2023. Mount Carroll District Library upgraded to Basic Online in June 2023.

Sustainability: RAILS grant funds accounted for approximately 30% of PrairieCat budgeted revenues in FY23 in addition to in-kind services. PrairieCat completed the transition to support its own IT infrastructure.