

**THE INTERMOUNTAIN COMMUNITY LEARNING INFORMATION SERVICES
PROJECT: A PARTICIPANT'S VIEW**

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The Intermountain Community Learning Information Service Project or ICLIS, is a Kellogg Foundation funded project that links the Land Grant Universities of Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and Montana, the University Libraries, the respective State Libraries and eight rural public libraries, two in each state, together to provide information and adult education for the rural population.

This linkage is done through existing or new technology.

The Wyoming ICLIS mission is:

To develop and demonstrate improved ways to provide educational and informational services and resources to people in rural areas through local public libraries.

Wyoming Objectives

1. To deliver new educational and informational services to rural communities to meet needs identified by local residents;
2. To design, develop or acquire and deliver educational and informational programming to rural communities;
3. To train and educate residents in the applications of informational technologies;
4. To strengthen the support base among public and private sectors to support rural service development;
5. To increase private sector activity to support education and economic opportunity in rural areas.

Wyoming Methods of Implementation

1. Continuous assessment of rural needs for education, training and information services.
2. Utilization of computer-assisted information services, teleconferencing and traditional information delivery systems.
3. Applied use of educational technologies for state and multistate services to rural learners.
4. The use of properly equipped and staffed model facilities to enhance the formal and informal education of rural residents by assisting with informational needs, providing educational and cultural communications and implementing information systems networking.
5. Training personnel in use of technologies, services, and marketing.
6. Cooperate in multistate communications network tied to compatible technologies in community libraries.

PROFILE OF A LEARNING AND INFORMATION SPECIALIST

1. Must know the community and the key players in that community. (The title on the door is not always the person that you need to see).
2. Must be able to listen and match needs with resources non-threatening to the other Agencies turf.
3. ADAPTIVE--very flexible with both time and ideas.
4. SELF/STARTER--Make things happen, a catalyst in the community.
5. EMPATHETIC--Needs of a community run a full range. Nothing is too unimportant.
6. STRAIGHT-FORWARD--If a thing cannot be done, let the patron know.
7. INNOVATOR--Link and match programs, people and agencies.
8. RISK-TAKER--Don't believe every time that this has been tried and didn't work. Examine the project and try again.
9. MAVERICK--Sometimes one has to jump right in and take chances. Do it and beg forgiveness. Do nothing that would be detrimental to the library or the patron.

CONCLUSION

ICLIS provides services that libraries have historically provided. Libraries have always provided information and education to the self-directed learner and the ICLIS project is designed to use existing technology to expand these services.