Job/Career Support includes interactive group seminars, job search resources and one-to-one coaching (in-person and online). This flexible service connects community members with expert assistance to meet their career and employment goals. Resources include the third edition of our Job Search Toolkit.

What our clients say: “Thank you for helping me with my resume and cover letter… I feel very lucky and grateful because I got to prepare for the interview with you… it made a difference.”

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Job Search Toolkit

Music & Memory is a program to support caregivers by helping them use library resources and loanable music devices for family members at home with memory loss.

What our clients say: “My father has a general positive mood when he is listening to the music and he comments and wants to share with my mother... It is specially relevant for my father because being from a foreign country, the music of his youth would not be played on the radio or other media. It was also made very easy by the friendly staff helping with the technical side of entering the music into the device.”

Music & Memory

Reentry Services work to inform justice-impacted individuals of needed supports. We provide programming, accessible content, and an email/chat helpline. We are helped immensely by our collaboration with the Westchester County Reentry Task Force, the Westchester Department of Correction, and other service agencies.

What our clients say: “Thank you for the “Welcome Back” – you provided a lot needed information.”

“I have a lot of clients who I have had in the past but they have graduated and I no longer have access to them. I have been given the opportunity to talk to clients who I have no idea where they are now and I have no access to them. I am able to do this because of the Westchester Library System.”

Reentry Services

VisionLabs: Reading for Lifetime is a pilot program to find new ways for libraries to serve patrons with visual impairments and emerging vision loss. In addition to referrals, we lend out digital magnifiers, adjustable lamps, and other visually accessible technology.

What our clients say: “Thanks so much for meeting with P and me yesterday. You met her right where she is, taking time to listen to her strengths and challenges and acknowledging them, then explaining so carefully how you can help. I saw her physical demeanor relax as she spoke with you. It was clear that it was one of the first times she’d felt that someone truly understood what she’s going through. Thanks again -- you were so helpful.”

VisionLabs: Reading for Lifetime

To find out more
outreach@wlsmail.org

Making Connections &
Encouraging Discovery
at the Library

Westchester Library System (WLS) helps individuals and families across Westchester County discover and connect to information services that advance their knowledge, needs, and dreams. Whether we’re delivering library materials or personalized services, we are always looking for unmet needs. In this brochure, you can find examples of our ongoing programs.
Westchester Breathes emerged from our work in the Westchester Resilience Coalition. Participants experience gentle movement, breathing and relaxation exercises that reduce stress and anxiety and increase calm and well-being. In 2022, in addition to our well attended public programs, we provided staff wellness events for several agencies alongside trainings to advance this effort throughout New York State.

What our clients say: “Feeling connected with anyone and anything throughout the pandemic has been tough; the consistency and the care and guidance that you’ve offered is truly indescribable. It literally made my day. And that was only my personal experience. Seeing and hearing the other participants share their relief, gratefulness and happiness with being connected was very moving. The quality of instruction is top notch and I believe that every person you’ve touched is “paying it forward” in some way.”

Senior Law Day Collaborative, co chaired by WLS outreach director Elena Falcone, offers free educational seminars and brief one to one consultations in person and online. This work taps the knowledge of attorneys, financial planners and other professionals serving Westchester County’s older adults. When possible, we offer a full day of learning in events such as the October 19th Yonkers Seniors Law Day, hosted at the Grinton L. Will Library. In 2022, more than 1,150 attended our webinars, and over 200 separate consultations were delivered.

What our clients say: “I want to thank you and everyone responsible for Senior Law Day. It was very helpful and informative. I learned so much and everyone was so nice, giving, and eager to serve. I appreciate each and every one of you...”

WLS’ commitment to advocating for and promoting equity and access is the foundation for our county wide Digital Equity initiatives. Working with member libraries and trusted community partners – in the library, onsite at community based organizations, or at community events - WLS helps individuals to obtain the information technology capacity and resources to fully participate in our society, democracy, and economy.

What our clients say: “I am now retired and have been out of work and I’m excited to learn about all of that stuff I can benefit from”

Interlibrary Loan Services provide Westchester residents with access to books and articles from other libraries across the country. WLS also lends unique materials from our own collections to other libraries. In 2022 we circulated a total of 7,476 materials.

What our clients say: “This morning I took the GED Math test, I passed!! I can tell you that without my coach this could not have happened. Thanks for having this wonderful program to help people like me.”

The College Coach program, piloted at the Mamaroneck Public Library, is primarily intended for Spanish speaking first generation students who may need additional support in navigating their path to college. Expanded web content and community outreach encourages connection with our College Coach.

What our clients say: “I wish there were more opportunities like this. Please get this out to those who need to know. We need things to change.”

WLS Cataloging Services oversees the content of the shared online catalog, which makes it possible for the Westchester community to be aware of the member libraries’ holdings, and for the libraries to circulate their materials. The WLS catalogers import or create bibliographic records for items including books, audiobooks, CDs, DVDs and Blu-rays, games, government documents and other traditional library materials, as well as objects such as knitting needles, binoculars, musical instruments, baking tins, dolls, laptop computers and much more. They also work on special projects; in 2022 they cataloged more than 4,200 books from the National Maritime Historical Society’s collection, expanding access to people outside of Peekskill.