

Catamount Library Network Starr Latronica

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- Who makes up your membership? **23 member libraries**
- What is your organization's role? **As a larger library in the consortium, we tend to be called upon to weigh in on most matters. Although meetings are open to all libraries and all libraries are "required" to send a representative, many of the small libraries don't always make it to meetings, though they are urged to attend or submit input.**
- What is the cost to members, if any? **It varies—based on population, size of collection and circulation. There is a minimum price of \$700/year.**
- What support or service does your organization provide to members/libraries/the Vermont public? **A shared catalog and ILS at a reasonable price—that's the support for the member libraries, which ultimately translates into support for the public by allowing for easy access to 23 collections.**
- What is going well? **Patrons appreciate being able to browse the shared catalog and place their own hold for materials beyond their home library. Libraries appreciate an ILS at a reasonable price (and the ease at which patrons can access other collections.)**
- What are your organization's pinch points? **It's hard for the small libraries to fully participate in meetings and trainings. Sometimes long term staff gets frustrated with new staff that doesn't always have training in cataloging, etc. At times the ILS is not what we would hope it is...it is open source and can be clunky.**
- What do you see on the horizon for your organization in the next 10 years? **We have just appointed a long range planning committee. The structure is becoming unwieldy by trying to balance the needs of the small libraries with those of the larger.**
- What improvements in statewide structures would help the libraries and library staff your organization supports? (Please note that this question is *not* limited to asks of the Department!) **We frequently hear frustrations from patrons that they cannot check out materials onsite from other libraries with their card (unlike CT or large swaths of MA). It would be very popular to have a statewide card, but I assume that would require state funding for public libraries.**