



wiLS 2026
Member
Meeting

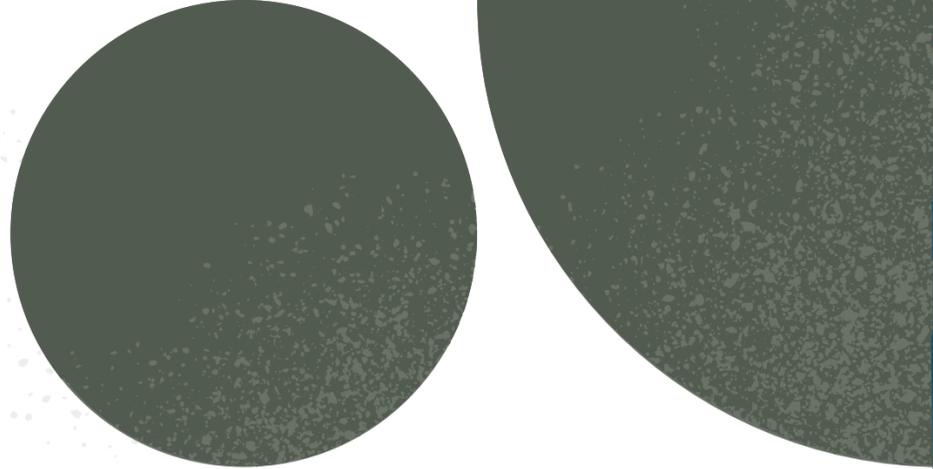
Friday, February 27th | 10:00 am CT

Featuring libraries working to care for their communities

The meeting will begin soon.

While you wait, we'd love to hear from you!

Please share in the chat ways your organization is showing care for your community



Welcome!

From the WiLS Board Chair

**Jennifer
Gurske**

Madison Trust for Historic Preservation



WiLS Board



Renee Anhalt
Madison College



Michelle Byholm
Chequamegon School District



Jennifer Follett
Madison Metropolitan School District



Frank Foss
Milwaukee Art Museum



Kristina Gómez
Milwaukee Public Library



Jennifer Gurske, Chair
Madison Trust for Historic Preservation



Mindy King
UW-Stevens Point



Sarah Miller
WiscNet



Kim Olson-Kopp
Viterbo University



Margaret Ottenad
Kettle Moraine School District



Andrew Prellwitz
Ripon College



Jill Roth
Demmer Memorial Library



Tasha Saecker
Appleton Public Library



Shannon Schultz
South Central Library System



Brenna Weston
Polk County Historical Society





Well, hi!

**Jennifer
Chamberlain**

WiLS Executive Director

WiLS Staff



Jeff Brunner



Jennifer Chamberlain



Melody Clark



Andi Coffin



Laura Damon-Moore



Sara Gold



Erin F. H. Hughes



Kim Kiesewetter



Tom Klement



Lisa Marten



Melissa McLimans



Rebecca Rosenstiel



Nick Smith

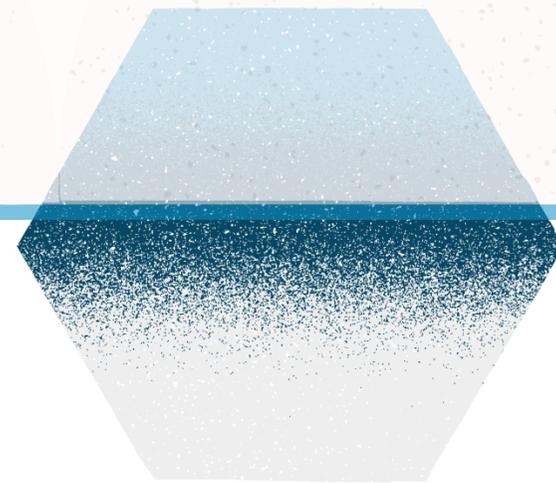


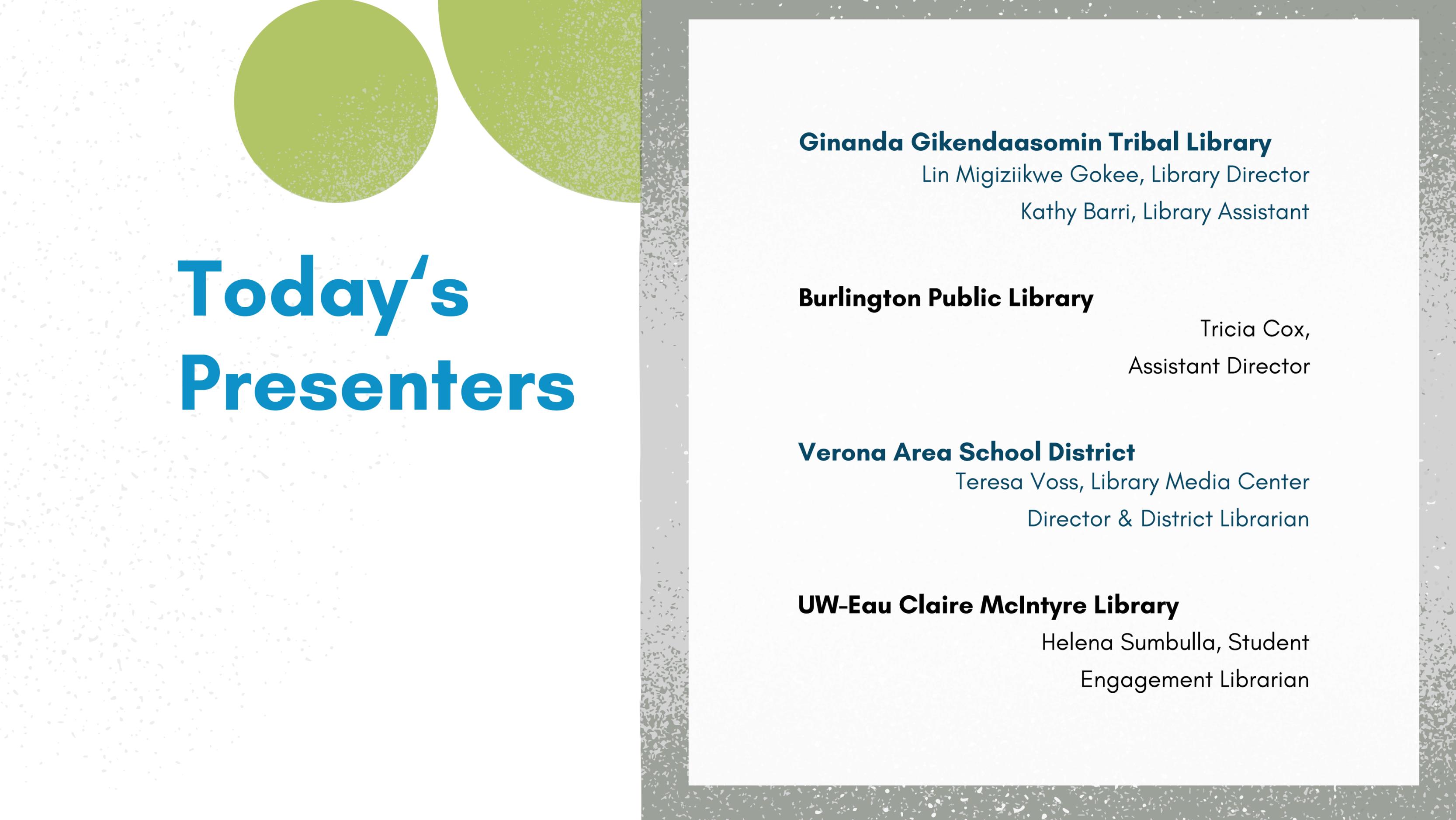
Kristen Whitson



Some housekeeping

- Feel free to step away as you need to.
- The meeting follow up will include contact info for panelists for questions you may have.
- You can turn captions on by clicking the Show Captions button.
- This meeting recording and slides will be shared with all registrants via email and posted to WiLS' website, and the recording will be added to WiLS' YouTube channel.





Today's Presenters

Ginanda Gikendaasomin Tribal Library

Lin Migiziikwe Gokee, Library Director

Kathy Barri, Library Assistant

Burlington Public Library

Tricia Cox,

Assistant Director

Verona Area School District

Teresa Voss, Library Media Center

Director & District Librarian

UW-Eau Claire McIntyre Library

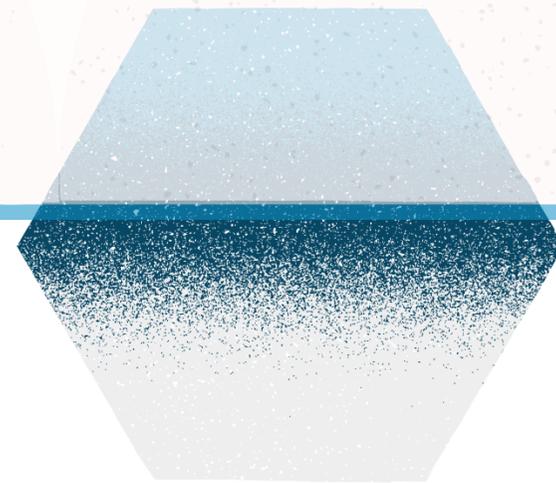
Helena Sumbulla, Student

Engagement Librarian

Ginanda Gikendaasomin

Red Cliff Tribal Library

Lin Migiziikwe Gokee, Library Director
Kathy Barri, Library Assistant





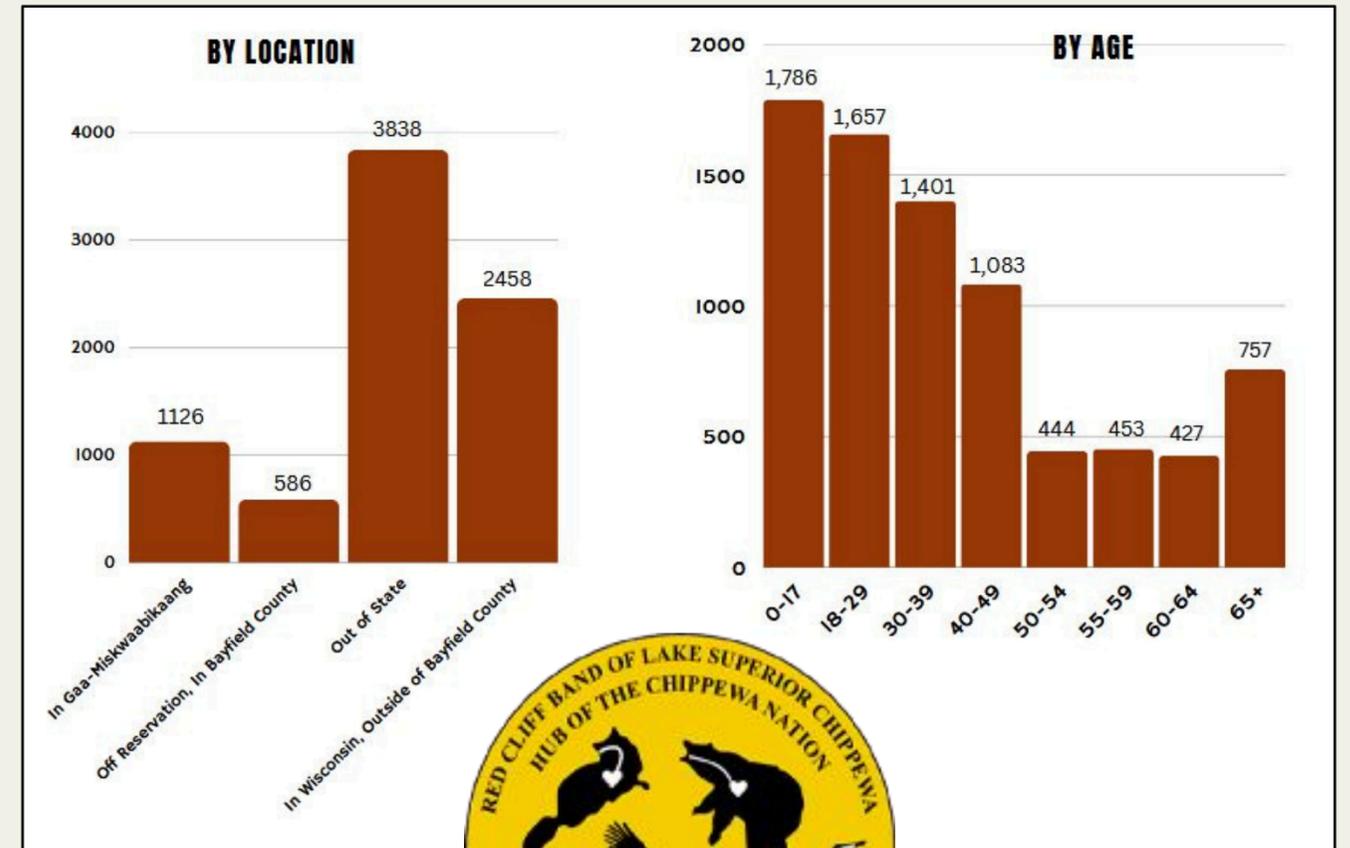
Ginanda Gikendaasomin

(“we seek to learn”)

Red Cliff Tribal Library⁺

Gaa-Miskwaabikaang/Red Cliff

- + Northern most Tribal Nation in Wisconsin
- + On-reservation population: 1,353
 - + Most Tribal citizens live off the reservation
- + One of Wisconsin's smallest Tribal Nations
- + Largest employer in Bayfield County



Ginanda Gikendaasomin (*“we seek to learn”*)

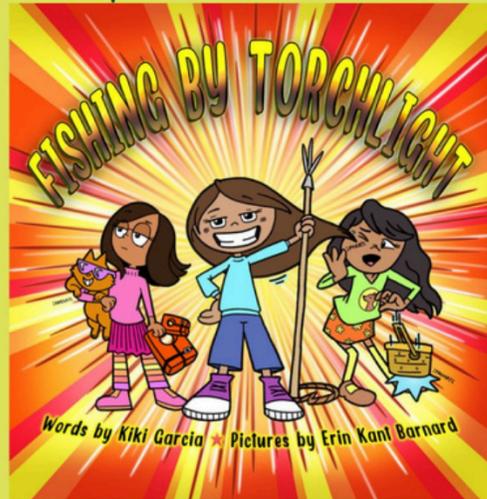
Red Cliff Tribal Library

- + In our current location since 2021
 - + Previously at the former Health Center/current Administration building
 - + Before that, in the former Head Start building
- + Focused collection: primarily Indigenous North American authors with a special emphasis on Ojibwe-authored books
- + Programs include Agindaasodaa! (Let's Read!) Book Club, a women's hand drum group, Crafters' Niche, author talks, and small business networking events.
- + Member, Northern Waters Library Network

Ginanda Gikendaasomin

Meet & Greet Author

Kiki Garcia



A beautifully written book by 9 year old author Kiki Garcia, Bad River Tribal member. Follow Kiki and her friends as they go spearing walleye in springtime, exercising their treaty rights.

First 10 families will receive a free copy!



WHEN: Saturday, June 7, 2025

WHERE: Ginanda Gikendaasomin Library
36750 Hwy. 13 N, Bldg. #2, Red Cliff, WI

TIME: 10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

INFO: kathy.barri@redcliff-nsn.gov
PH: 715-779-3766



Protecting our Past for the Future: Archaeology & Tribal Monitoring

Learn about archaeology as a field that impacts and involves Indigenous communities, and get to know some of what a Tribal Monitor does!

TWO
events!



Thursday, March 20
5-6:30 PM
Evening Presentation
(light refreshments)



Friday, March 21
12-1 PM
Lunchtime Lecture
(lunch provided!)

Both events are at the Red Cliff Library:
36750 State Highway 13, Building #2 (next to the Powwow Grounds)

Archaeologist Dr. Heather Walder will discuss findings of past archaeological digs in Red Cliff as well as what careers in archaeology and Tribal Monitoring can look like. Join us!



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Ginanda Gikendaasomin Agindaasoowigamig
"We Seek to Learn" Red Cliff Library



Agindaasodaa! "Let's Read" Book Club



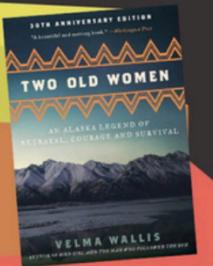
February Host:

Anishinaabekwe, Forest Forager, Birth Worker, Mother

Savanna

FEBRUARY 2026 BOOK:

Two Old Women
by Velma Wallis



WHEN: Thursday, February 26th, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM
WHERE: Ginanda Gikendaasomin
VIRTUALLY: Follow QR Code



Ginanda Gikendaasomin Agindaasoowigamig
"We Seek to Learn Library"

36750 Hwy 13N #2, Red Cliff, WI. 54814
INFO: kathy.barri@redcliff-nsn.gov - 715-779-3766



GAA-MISKWAABIKAANG/RED CLIFF COMMUNITY
**SMALL BUSINESSES
 & ENTREPRENEURS**

NETWORKING EVENT

SNACKS · CONNECTIONS · RESOURCES & INFORMATION

**RAFFLE PRIZE:
 WAL-MART GIFT CARD!**

**OPEN HOUSE:
 COME & GO AS
 YOU PLEASE**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 · 4-6 PM
 AT THE RED CLIFF LIBRARY
 (36750 STATE HIGHWAY 13, BUILDING #2)

**OPEN TO ALL CURRENT AND ASPIRING SMALL
 BUSINESS OWNERS, ENTREPRENEURS, OR ANYONE
 WHO'S CURIOUS ABOUT SELF-EMPLOYMENT.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
 E-MAIL LIBRARY@REDCLIFF-NSN.GOV
 OR CALL 715-779-3766.**



This project was made possible in part by the
 Institute of Museum and Library Services.



GAA-MISKWAABIKAANG

WOMEN'S WELLNESS GATHERING

EMPOWERING WOMEN TO PURSUE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

FEB 6-8, 2026

WHERE: LEO LAFERNIER SR. "BEZHIGOGAABAW" CULTURAL CENTER
 88989 NUZZO RD, RED CLIFF, WI

TIMES: FRI: 4P-8P; SAT: 7A-8P; SUN:8A-2P

FREE
Open to all
Women

Back to Nature

SA Presentation

Drum Making & Teachings

Cultural Crafts

Dementia Memory Care

Suicide Awareness

Red Teapot

Creative Writing

Knowledge Keepers Panel

Traditional Games

Healthy Life Choices

Reiki & Healing Hands

Pelvic Health

INFO: KATHY.BARRI@REDCLIFF-NSN.GOV
 LINDA DUNBAR; LINDAD@NDSHELTER.ORG

Ginanda Gikendaasomin Agindaasowigamig

Sharing
CIRCLE

With LINDA DUNBAR



Sharing Circle is an opportunity to find support in a
 confidential and respectful manner

WHEN: Monday, January 12th & 26th, 2026

TIME: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Ginanda Gikendaasomin
 37650 Hwy. 13N, Bldg #2, Red Cliff, WI

INFO: kathy.barri@redcliff-nsn.gov
 Library: 715-779-3766



GINANDA GIKENDAASOMIN
AGINDAASOOWIGAMIG

OPEN DRUMMING

OPEN TO ANYONE WHO WISHES TO LEARN
ALL AGES WELCOME!

Bring your own hand
drums or rattles, we will
learn from each other!

MONDAY, FEB 2 & 16, 2026
TIME: 5 - 7 PM

ADDRESS: 37650 Hwy 13, Bldg#2
Red Cliff, WI. 54814



"The Red Cliff Library is a fragrance-free facility.
Please avoid using strongly scented products before your visit. Miigwech!"



FOR MORE INFO: KATHY.BARRI@REDCLIFF-NSN.GOV
LIBRARY PHONE: 715-779-3766



Free and open to the public! All are welcome!

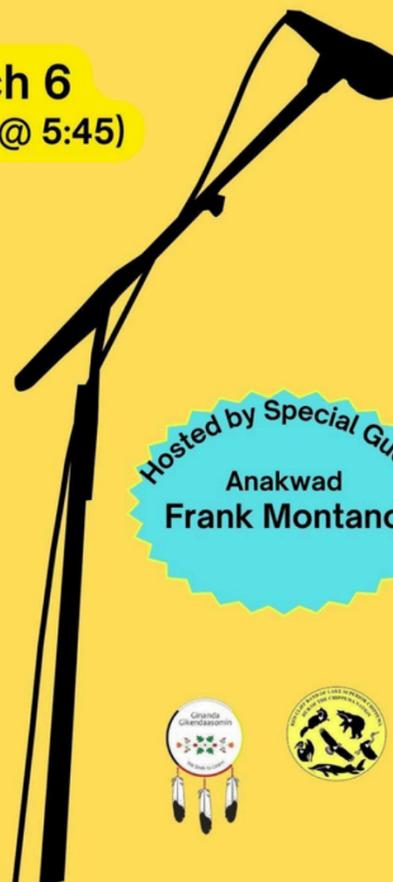
Open Mic Night

at the Red Cliff Library

36750 State Highway 13, Building #2
(near the Red Cliff Cultural Grounds)

Thursday, March 6
6-8 PM (sign up begins @ 5:45)

Sign up to share music, poetry,
comedy, etc. -- or just stop by
and enjoy the show! Light
refreshments will be served.



Hosted by Special Guest
Anakwad
Frank Montano



This project was made possible in part by the
Institute of Museum and Library Services.



EZHI-NISIDOTAWENINDIZOYAANG ENANJIGEYAANG

"THROUGH FOOD WE KNOW OURSELVES"

A RESTORATIVE COOKBOOK BY DEREK NICHOLAS

Ginanda Gikendaasomin Agindaasoowigamig
and Mino Bimaadiziwin Gitigaanin

Invite you to join us as Derek creates one of his recipes
from his newest cookbook!

GROUSE WILD RICE SOUP

WHEN: Saturday, November 1, 2025

WHERE: Mino Bimaadiziwin Gitigaanin
36735 Aiken Rd. Bayfield, WI

TIME: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Derek will also teach us about a few of the
medicines that can be found inside of the grouse



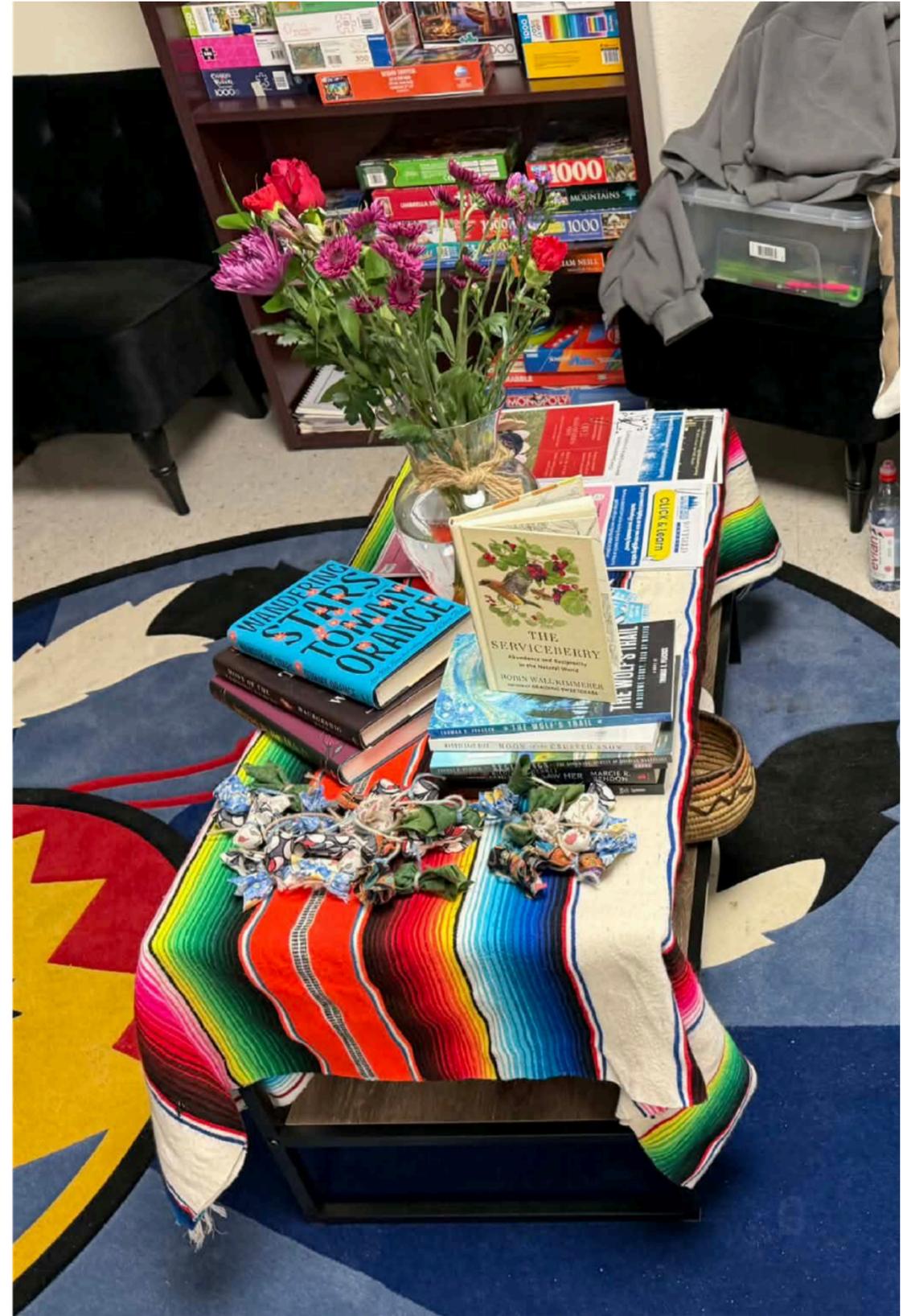
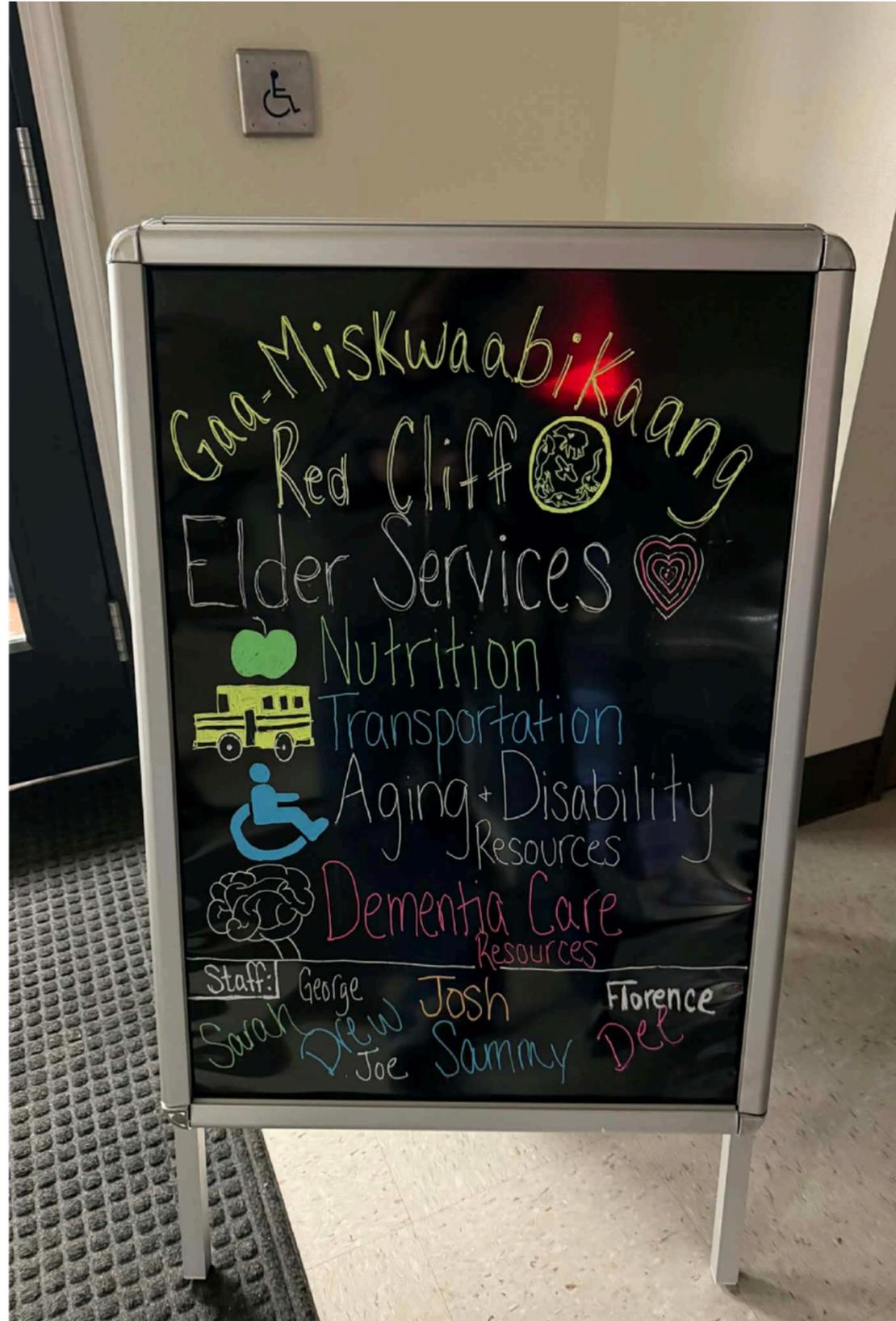
DEREK NICHOLAS
Red Cliff Ojibwe

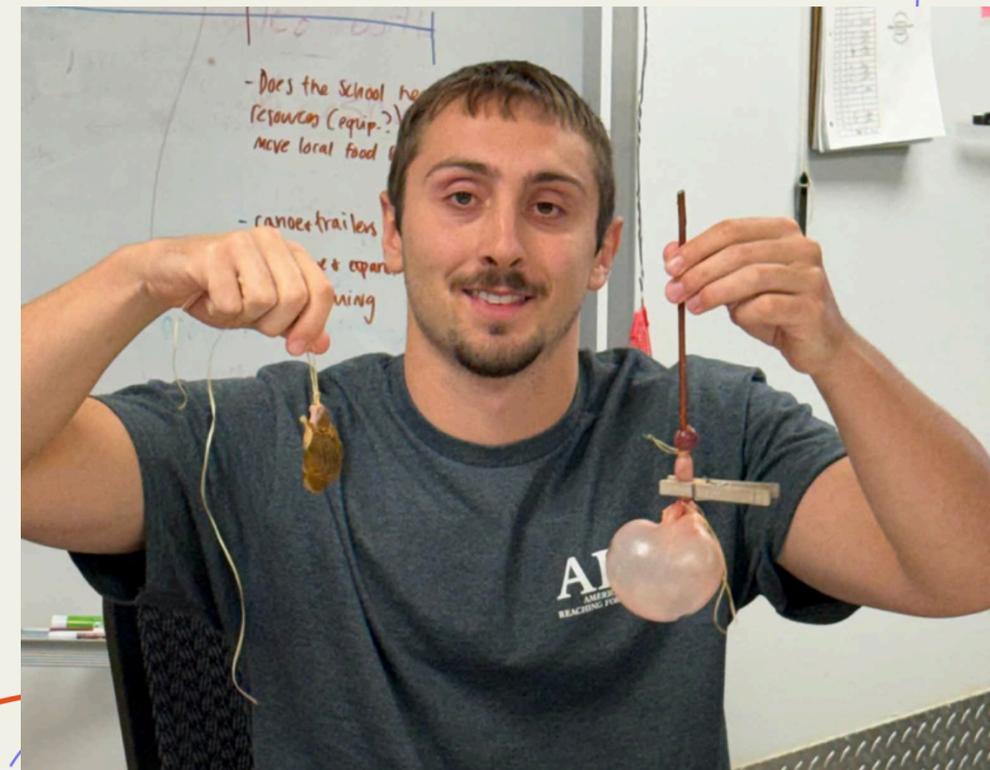
Traditional Foods Nutrition
Program Coordinator at Division
of Indian Work; Founder of
Wiising LLC; Author, Through
Food We Know Ourselves



For more Info:
kathy.barri@redcliff-nsn.gov
Library: 715-779-3766













Burlington Public Library

Tricia Cox, Assistant Director





Made possible
by the



WILS Ideas to
Action Fund

COMPASSION KIT SUCCESS GUIDE



**BURLINGTON
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

HOW IT ALL STARTED

We started by putting together the little food pantry you see on the left.

We quickly realized we needed to make it bigger and did some collection shifting that allowed us to use a bigger shelf.



THE LIBRARY IS A PLACE OF SAFETY AND BELONGING

Vision

The vision for this project is a community where kindness is actionable and no one who walks through the library doors feels unseen, unsupported, or alone.



**COMPASSION
YOU CAN
CARRY, FROM
THE LIBRARY
TO THE
COMMUNITY!**

Mission

This project reflects the library's commitment to meeting people where they are, offering immediate, practical support rooted in dignity and respect.



WHAT ARE COMPASSION KITS?

Compassion Kits are backpacks containing essential items to address immediate needs. Each kit includes hygiene products, basic supplies, resource guides, a laundry coupon, and a Casey's gift card. BPL will help support individuals in our community experiencing homelessness by assembling and distributing these backpacks to those in need.



Compassion you can carry, from the Library to the Community.



Did you know the library is more than just books? We're a safe, welcoming space open to everyone.

No library card needed to come in and ask questions. Our reference librarians would be happy to help answer or research any of your questions.

Our Library offers: Food Pantry, restrooms, charging station, open Wi-Fi, tech help, computers, programs, and so much more!

166 E. Jefferson St
Burlington, WI 53105

262-342-1130

Compassion Kit Resource Guide

Made possible by the **WILS** Ideas to Action Fund



What is a Compassion Kit?

Supplied by the Burlington Public Library with a grant from WILS Ideas to Action Fund. Compassion Kits are backpacks containing essential items to address immediate needs. Each kit includes hygiene products, basic supplies, resource guides, a laundry coupon, and a Casey's gift card. BPL will help support individuals in our community experiencing homelessness by assembling and distributing these backpacks to those in need.

Made possible by the **WILS** Ideas to Action Fund

Local Food Pantry Resources

-Love, Inc. Food Pantry open Tuesday and Thursday 11am-4pm *ID Required 262-342-1130
-Burlington Public Library Food Pantry Open during all normal working hours.
Mon-Thurs: 9am-8pm
Fri: 9am-6pm
Sat: 9am-4pm
Sun (open only during the school year): 12pm-4pm

Non-Emergency Burlington Police Department
262-342-1100
Aurora Memorial Hospital: Burlington
262-767-6000

Racine County Resources

FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Impact 211 is a central access point for people in need throughout Southeastern Wisconsin.

Dial: 211

- Society's Assets.....1-800-378-9128
- Crisis and 24-Hour Line.....262-638-6741
- Adult Protective Services.....262-833-8777
- Social Security.....800-772-1213
- Resources for families.....262-767-2929
- Sexual Assault Services.....262-637-7233
- Women's Resource Center....262-633-3233
- HALO, Inc. Emergency Shelter..262-633-3235 ext. 233

There are many more resources to be found. Stop in and any BPL staff member would be happy to assist you!



OUR IMPACT GOAL

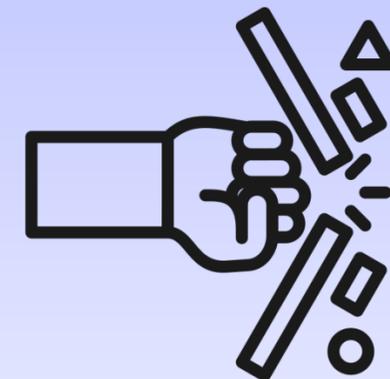
Help
people feel
seen and
respected



Offer
immediate
practical
support



Meet people
where they
are without
barriers



FROM GRANT TO ACTION

The WiLS Ideas to Action model allowed us to respond to a real, timely community need. Kits were available for those in need five weeks from grant award notification.



TIMELINE

Initial Submission	Grant Awarded	Kits Available
May 28, 2025	October 20, 2025	November 25, 2025



KIT COMPONENTS

Items were selected based on local needs.

Focus on comfort, dignity and usefulness.



BEYOND THE BACKPACK COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This project worked because it wasn't done alone.

SOLOMON'S CLOSET AT PATHWAY CHURCH

FREE CLOTHING FOR
OUR COMMUNITY!

HOURS:

TUESDAY 6-8PM

WEDNESDAY 2-4:30PM

FRIDAY 9AM-12:30PM



6919 MCHENRY ST
BURLINGTON, WI 53105
262-539-2383



ASSEMBLY & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Many Hands, One Purpose

We had two community groups, and multiple individuals volunteer to help assemble the bags.

We chose the homeschool group to help us. We were able to use it as an educational and volunteer opportunity for them.

They packed each bag with care and intention.



REAL WORLD IMPACT



Immediate relief through essential supplies



Increased community awareness and empathy



Meaningful civic engagement by volunteers of all ages

BUDGET & GRATITUDE

Project Funding

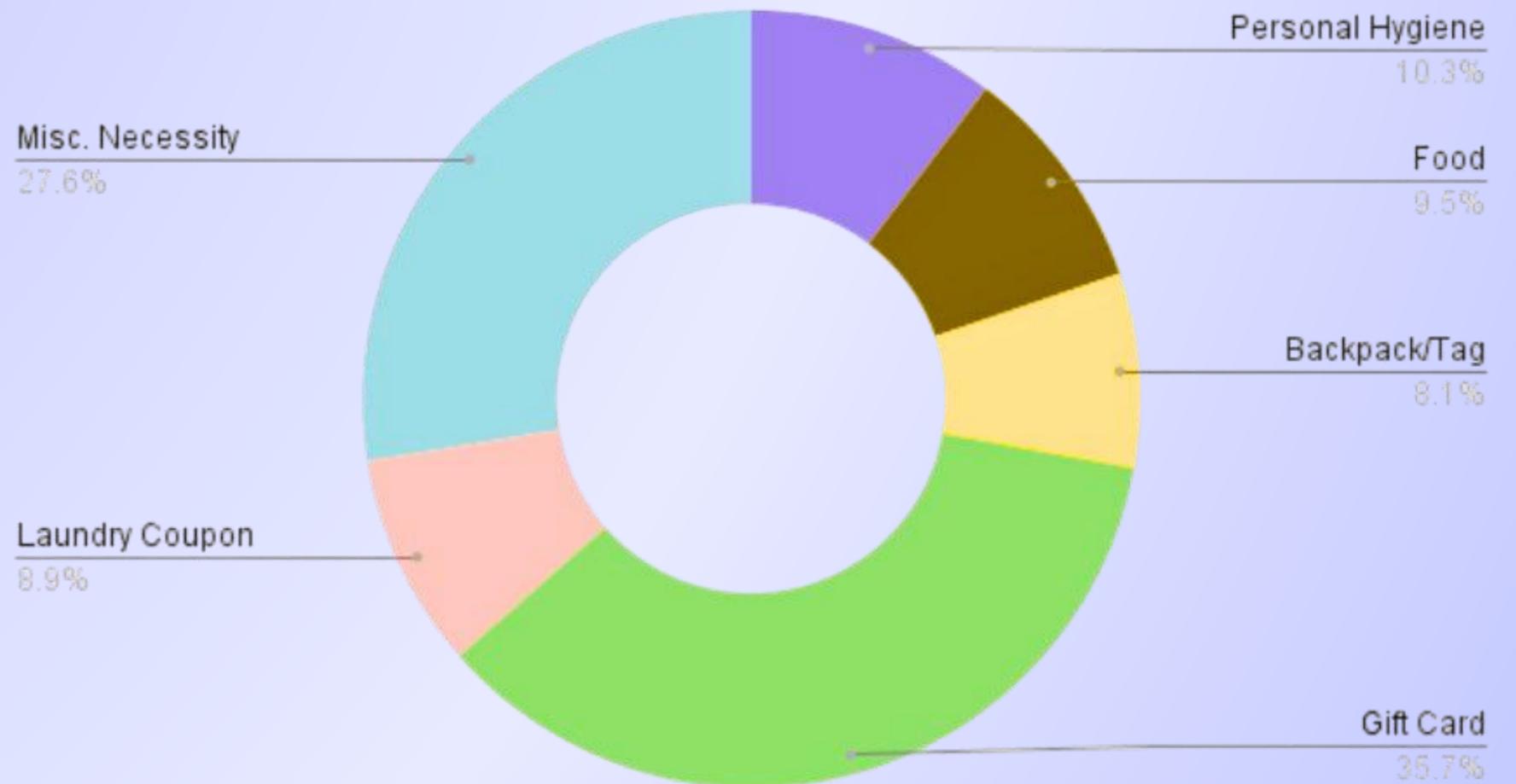
WiLS Ideas to Action: \$2,000

Scherrer Cares: \$681.79

In-Kind: \$200.00

Total: \$2881.79

Budget Breakdown:



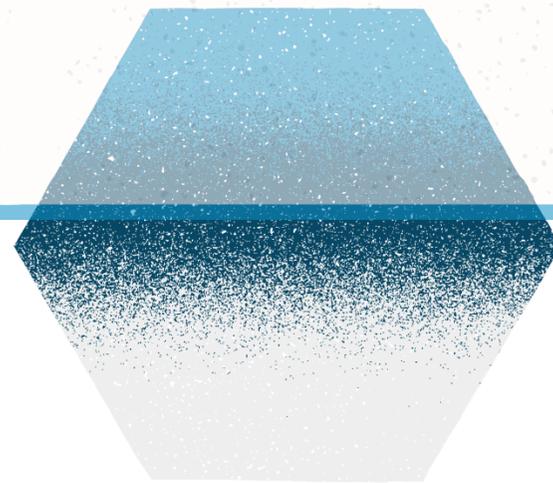
WHAT'S NEXT?

Compassion Kits are not just a program, but a model for how we can continue to respond to community needs with flexibility, partnership, and purpose.



Verona Area School District

Teresa Voss, Library Media Center Director & District Librarian



Verona Area High School

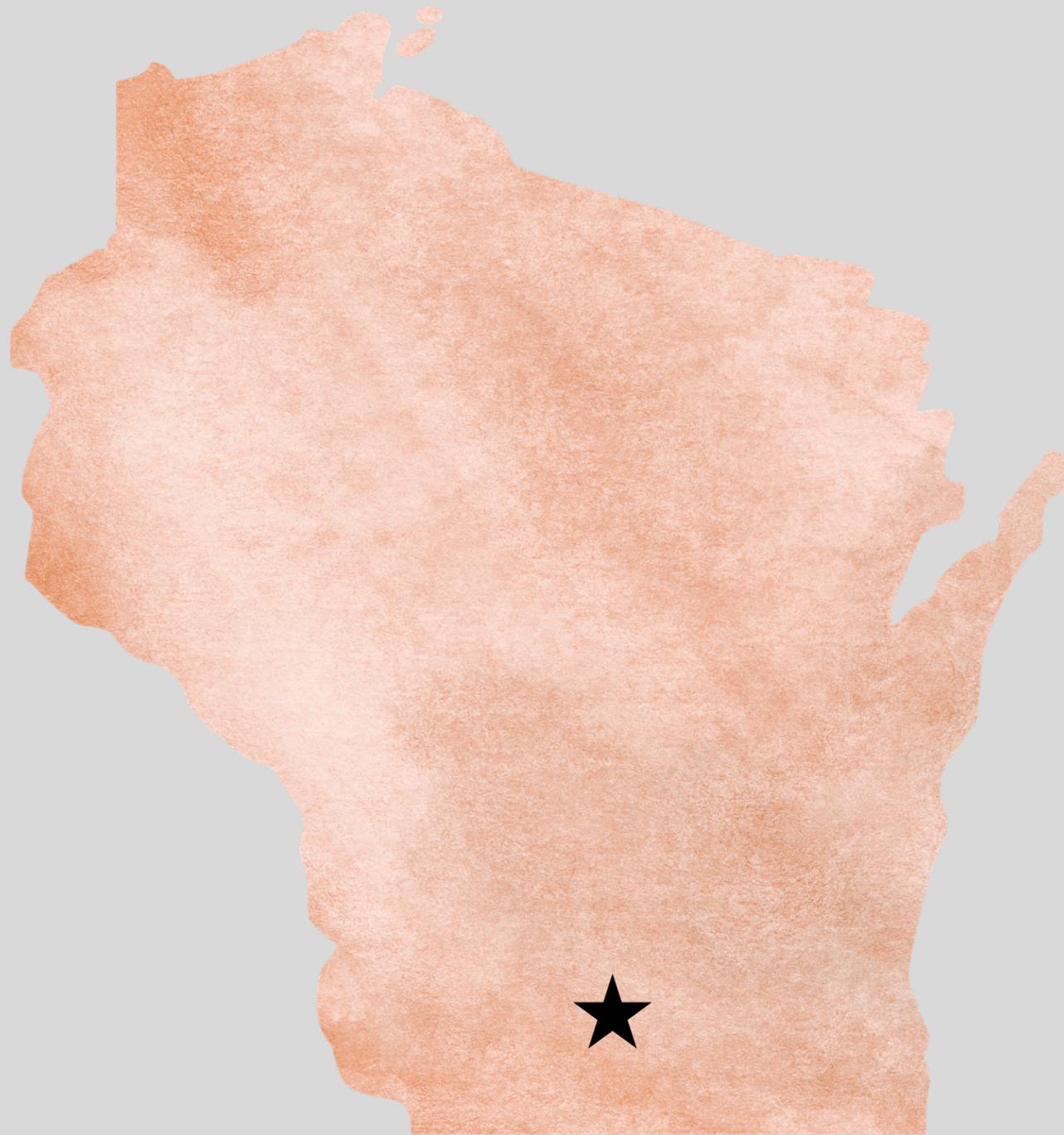


Wildcats . . .

- 1900 students
- 200 staff
- 50+ languages in the district

Library . . .

- Full time librarian
- 2.5 assistants
- Open entire day
- Over 35,000 people used library last year



Scholars come from primarily
2 communities:
Verona & Fitchburg.

Physical Space



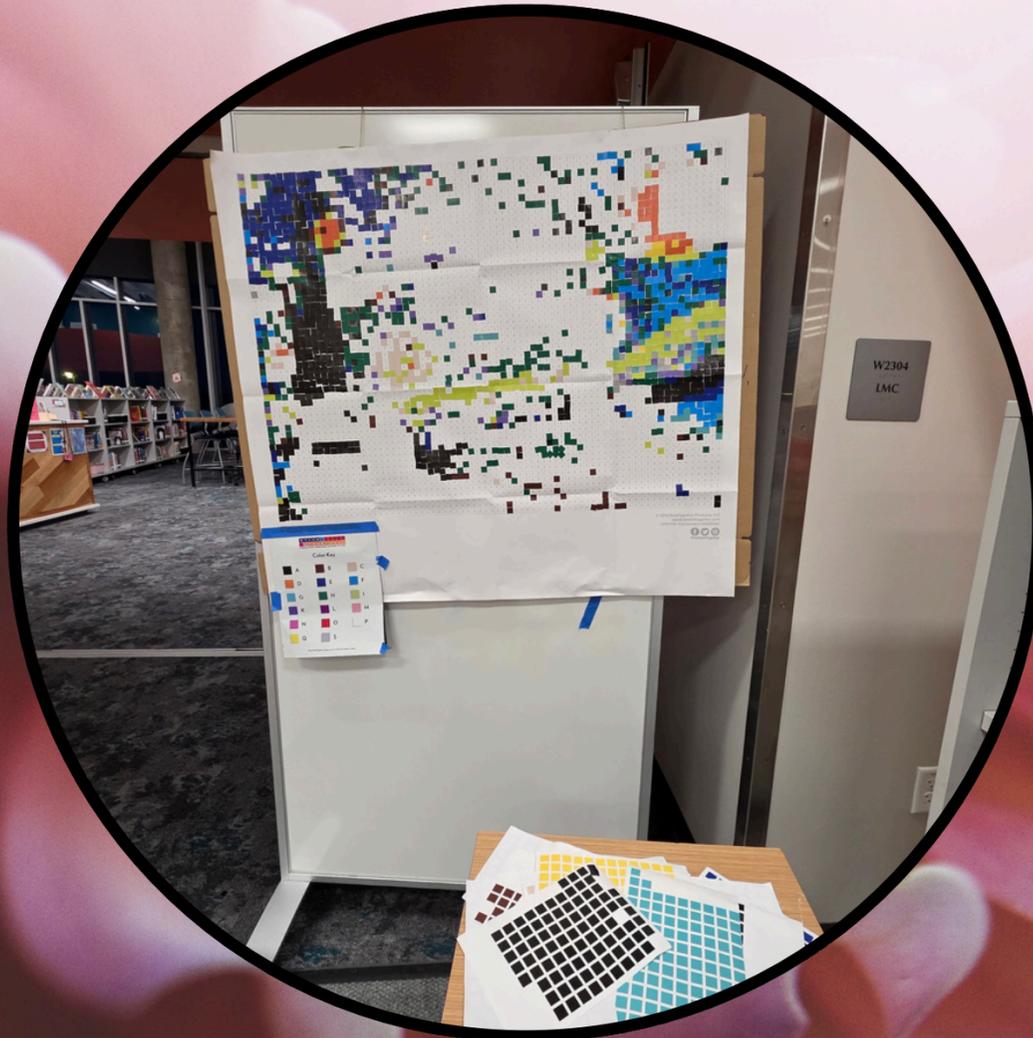
Games & Puzzles



MakerSpace



Activities to Connect

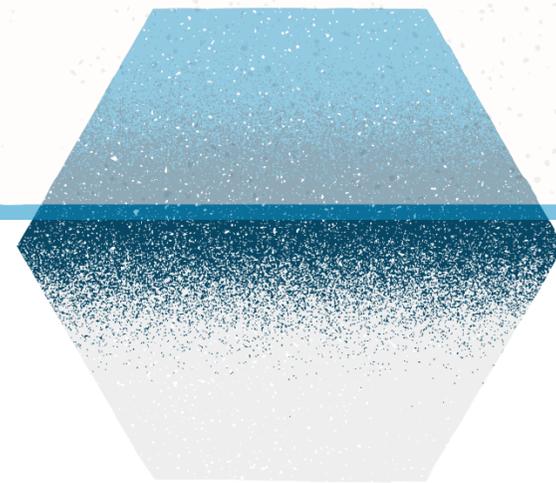


Activities to Connect



UW-Eau Claire McIntyre Library

Helena Sumbulla, Student Engagement Librarian





MCINTYRE
LIBRARY'S
MAKERSPACE:
BUILDING A
COMMUNITY OF
CARE

Helena Sumbulla (she/her)

Student Engagement
Librarian

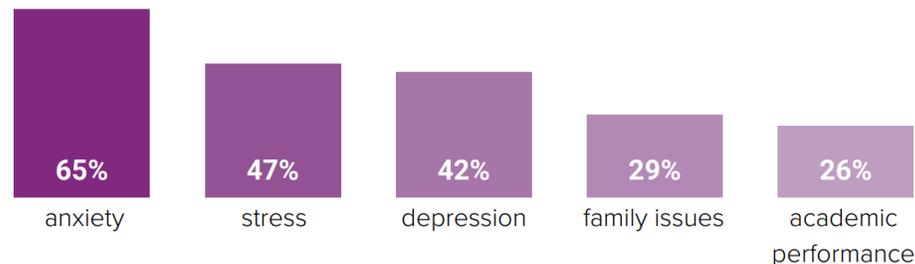
COLLEGE STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH BY THE NUMBERS

COLLEGE STUDENT LONELINESS



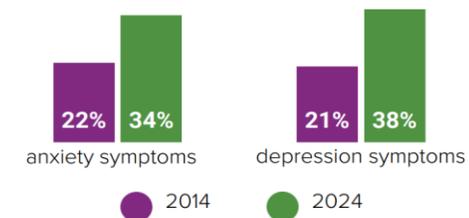
In spring 2024, about half (49 percent) of students reported that they had felt lonely.

TOP FIVE MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS OF STUDENTS SEEKING TREATMENT



ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION IN COLLEGE STUDENTS

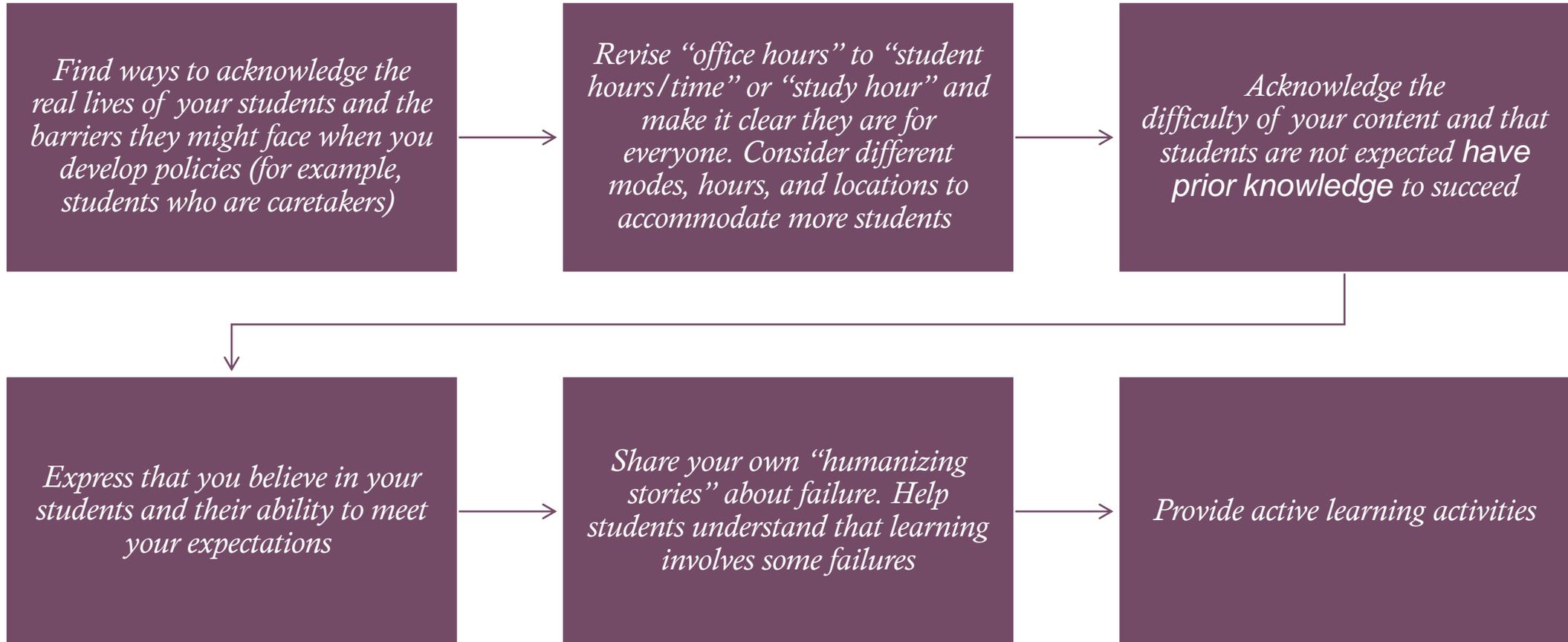
The number of students who screened as positive for symptoms of anxiety and depression increased between 2013–14 and 2023–24.



COLLEGE STUDENT STRESS

Over three-quarters (76 percent) of college students reported that they had experienced a moderate (50 percent) or high (26 percent) level of stress within the past 30 days.

STUDENT SENSE OF BELONGING



WORKSHOPS

Mending/Repairs, Electronics/Arduino, Paper flowers



REPAIR FAIR

- 111 attendees
- High quality conversations
- Multiple stations
 - Electronics repair
 - Board game repair
 - Mending/Patching
 - Lamp rewiring
 - Stuffed Animal Repair
 - Community Craft Swap
 - Kids' Table



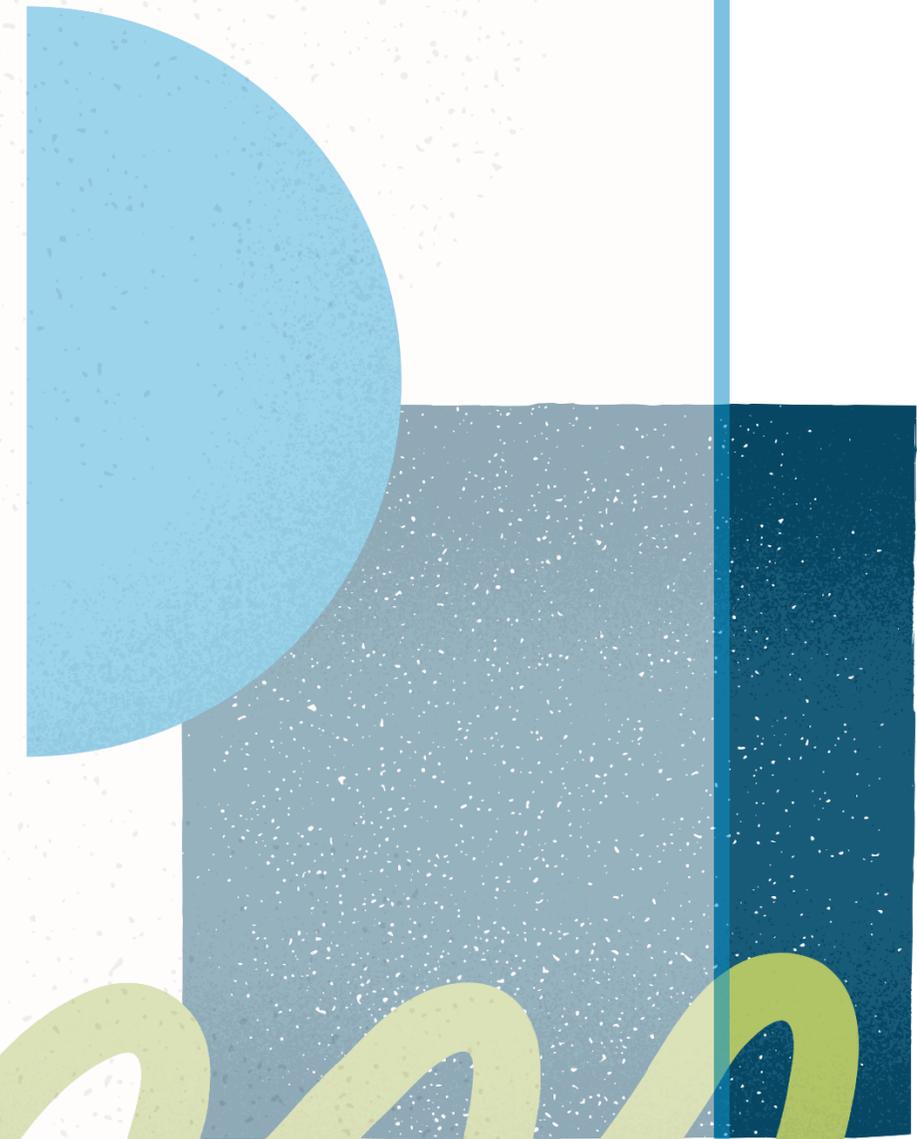
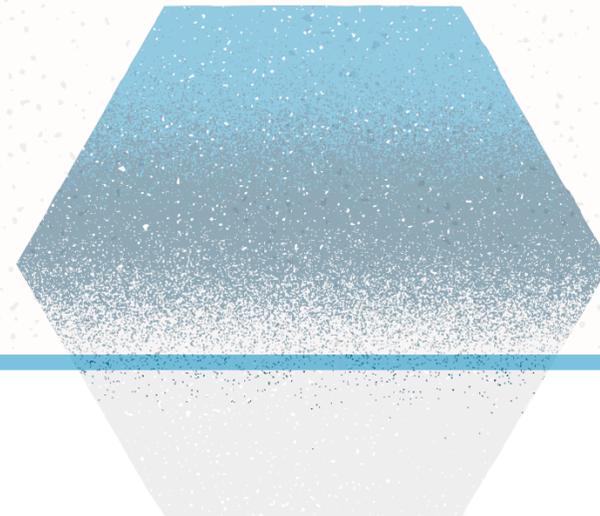
CLASSES

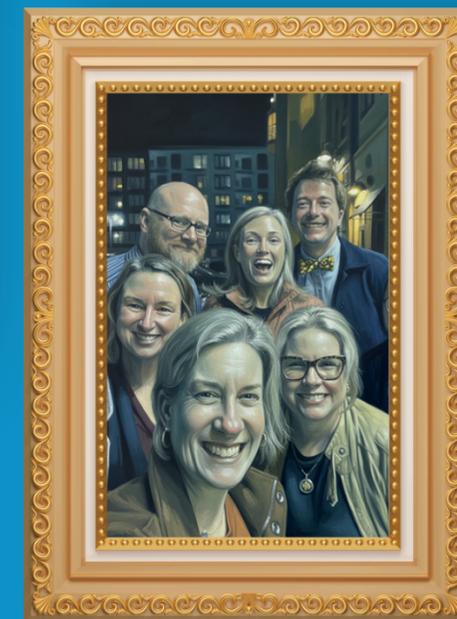


THANKS FOR YOUR TIME!



**Many Thank Yous
to All of Today's
Presenters!**





2025 Annual Report





Updates from WiLS



WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

from Dawn Haggerty, Gateway Technical College

Ginny & Tonic are both rescue pups! They are referred to as "the Twins" in Dawn's neighborhood. Both love cheese and napping.



Ginny & Tonic

Ideas to Action

Kim Kiesewetter



WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

from Rachel Fuller, Fond du Lac Public Library

Shadow: passionate about string cheese, ice cream, and snuggling

Scout: passionate about telling her side of the story, investigating, and snuggles



Scout & Shadow



Vendor Closures & WiLS Support

Sara Gold



WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

from Rebecca Rosenstiel, WiLS

The OG Ruthette (left) has survived through four generations, six homes, and a questionable-number of years of existing without any roots.



The Ruthettes



Academic Library Lunch & Learns

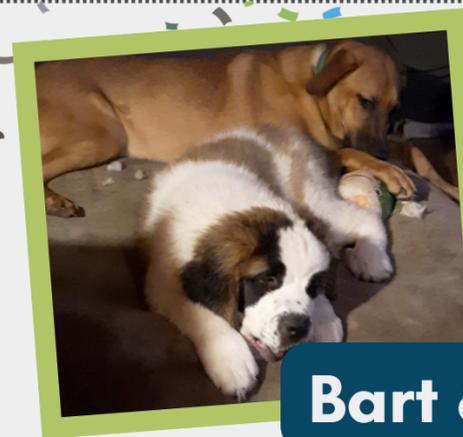
Andi Coffin



WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

from Beth Krebs-Smith, Edgerton Public Library

Bart (top) is a rescue who has earned his Canine Good Citizen title, but still needs an emotional support person. Phoebe is a "pretty, pretty princess" who is in love with the world and is certain the world loves her right back.



Bart & Phoebe



VTO & Pro Bono at WILS

Nick Smith



WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

from Jen Chamberlain, WiLS

Bean loves cheese, broccoli stems, and frisbee.



Bean

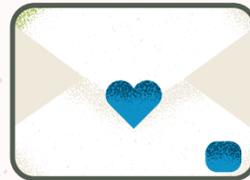


THANK YOU!

Connect With Us



608-218-4480



information@wils.org



wils.org



wils.org/newsletters

WiLS Member Pet & Plant Parade!

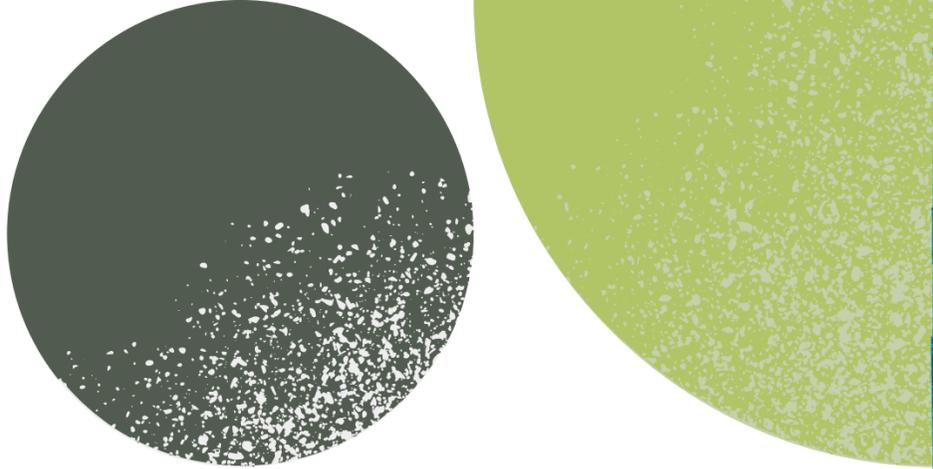
from Betsy Bleck, Brookfield Public Library

We say Nani was made with an extra cup of sugar, because she is the sweetest soul. One of Davie's quirks is that the "ding" sounds on Wheel of Fortune bother her, so her family hasn't watched The Wheel in years.



Nani & Davie Girl





Thank You!

WiLS 2026 Community Survey Sending Soon!

We want to hear your thoughts about WiLS and our services, both current and potential. Your feedback is critical to our work and our success at serving our community of libraries and cultural organizations.

The survey will open in March 2026. Please take a few minutes to respond.

You might even win coffee and donuts, hand-delivered by WiLS' Executive Director, Jen Chamberlain!



Thank you and have a great weekend!



wiLS 2026
**Member
Meeting**



fin