Goal 1: Ensures that all Memphians have access to technology needed to increase knowledge, learning, and access to the economy.

Goal 2: Reaches beyond its walls with creative partnerships that make a difference in people’s lives.

Goal 3: Communicates in ways that move libraries from a supporting player to a leadership role that is highly valued in today’s public space.

Goal 4: A platform for three overriding purposes: literacy, education accelerator, and jobs center.

Goal 5: Advances a culture of excellence in operations and outreach.

January & February Programming Overview

Program #    Attendance #
Business Assistance          13             254
Citizenship Preparation / ESL 10             104
Culture / Recreation          40             1,097
Education                   41             524
Government Assistance        60             1,341
Health and Safety            10             81
History / Genealogy          21             577
Job & Career                 32             719
Legal Services               5              305
Literacy / Literature        171            3,510
Personal Finance             3              34
STEAM                       16             118
Technology                  63             447
Other                       3              71

Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle
In partnership with the National Civil Rights Museum, the Library hosted two out of four scholar-led documentaries / discussions held weekly in February.
The Loving Story brought forth dialog of the challenges to interracial relationships. Attendee’s emotions ranged from shocked that these difficulties ever existed to anger due to personal experiences. Over 110 people attended these two programs.

January & February FY15 YTD & TOP 5

Customer Count
TOT: 1,120k
CEN: 336k
WHI: 133k
BAR: 107k
RAL: 62k
COR: 62k

Program Attendance
TOT: 40.9k
CEN: 15.6k
COR: 6.0k
BAR: 3.4k
WHI: 2.9k
RAL: 1.7k

Computer Use
TOT: 583k
CEN: 194k
WHI: 48k
BAR: 38k
COR: 33k
ESB: 21k

Circulation
TOT: 927k
CEN: 188k
BAR: 183k
COR: 148k
ELIB: 94k
PWS: 61k

Cossitt Library Connecting Today’s Youth to History
Cossitt hosted two events in February that brought in over 260 attendees.
Carnita Atwater spoke about her “Sammy Davis Jr. – The Truth” exhibit, housed at Cossitt Library for the month of February.

“The Strike That Brought Dr. King to Memphis” introduced today’s youth to some of the 1968 strike organizers and participants. Stories were told, questions were asked, and autographs were given.

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The Future is Bright in Cloud901
The community showed up in force to celebrate the groundbreaking and naming celebration of the new Cloud901 Teen Learning Lab.

Cloud901 Fund-o-Meter Update

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250 New Citizens
600 people attended two Naturalization Ceremonies at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library. Over 250 candidates from over 50 countries became U.S. citizens that day.

Benjamin L. Hooks Exhibit
The Lobby of Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library is forever transformed to honor the building’s namesake.

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The Library, Partnerships, and Business Assistance FY15
First Tennessee Foundation recently donated $50,000 to the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library Small Business Center, an invaluable collection to those starting their own business.

Tennessee Small Business Development Center has offered 6 programs on starting your own business for 175 attendees.

Start Co. has offered 12 programs, giving one-on-one assistance to those starting their own business, for 103 attendees.

SCORE has offered 7 programs on developing a business plan for 160 attendees.

The Small Business Administration has offered 2 programs on managing benefits under the Affordable Care Act and also obtaining business loans for 16 attendees.

Junior Achievement has offered 5 JA Company programs for teens, developing career and business skills.

"This session drew a 'sell-out' attendance. Obviously the SCORE Program is doing what its intended mission is."

"The program was very informative. It provided indepth information for generating and implementing a business. The course let me know I was headed in the right direction."

"Mr. Colgate gives great details to give a better understanding in how the business plan will help determine how a business comes together successfully."