



MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERAL LIBRARIES

Currently, there are 12 Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) Main Libraries; 16 Branches; a Bookmobile; 3 Brig Libraries and 4 Reading Rooms on the East and West Coasts, Hawaii, Japan and Korea. FY19 saw an increase in library usage and all statistics – 1,844,969 patrons walked through our doors, over, 1,077,156 items were circulated, computers were used over 808,117 times, virtual resources were accessed 2,032,290 times and over 5,794 programs were planned and presented, with a total attendance of 130,283. Even as digital content offerings and usage continues to grow, the installation libraries provide a well-used Quality of Life program.

The 2018 DoD MWR Customer Satisfaction Survey findings showed that all MWR Libraries achieved a score of 75. Once again, all MWR Libraries were rated the highest of the nine MWR programs surveyed.

There are now 10 MCCS installation libraries designated DoD Premier Libraries meeting all Core and Premier Standards. They are Camp Foster, Okinawa; Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Iwakuni, Japan; MCB Camp Lejeune-New River, NC; MCAS Cherry Point, NC; MCAS Miramar, CA; MCAS Beaufort, SC; MCB Quantico, VA; MCB Camp Pendleton, CA; MCRD San Diego, CA and MCB Hawaii. Achieving Premier status requires substantial funding support from the installations.

MCCS Libraries welcomed four new Directors this year. Holland Kessinger is Director of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego; Rachel Arizaga is Director at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan; Devin Farmer is Director of Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan and Luke Herbst is Director at MCAGCC Twentynine Palms, CA.

In 2015, HQMC embarked on a five year renovation plan for the entire MCCS Library system, to include paint and carpet and expanded electrical capabilities; new lower, mobile shelving; display units; new comfortable seating; collaborative areas and new signage. In conjunction with the renovations we are converting the non-fiction collections from the Dewey Decimal system to Semper FindIt!, a subject based bookstore model of classification. Twenty one of our libraries have completed their renovations and conversions to Semper FindIt! Our non-fiction



circulation numbers have increased greatly due to the bookstore model classification.

MCCS Library services extend beyond brick and mortar facilities to online resources and support. "Bricks to Clicks" offers an online Library Catalog and a Google-like multimedia search engine that provides access to databases anytime, anywhere. We provide over 100 educational and recreational digital resources that are USMC; Department of Navy and DoD funded, for installation library patrons and for Marines and families stationed and deployed throughout the world. These resources also support Voluntary Education needs of Marines everywhere.

The MCCC Libraries have greatly expanded library programming beyond the traditional story time and book clubs to promote the library as an installation community center. With the installations of Makerspaces in 2016 we now offer spaces and programs to encourage innovative and creative pursuits; 3-D printing; robotics; circuitry and coding; astronomy; Lego and other construction projects; arts and crafts and photography. In FY19 1,130 Makerspace programs with attendance of 16,804 were offered and 94,921 prints were made on our 3-D printers. We also offer video gaming, board gaming and Escape room events for all ages. The libraries have also begun an Early Literacy initiative providing programs, for the youngest military children from birth to toddler and their caregivers.

The 2019 MCCS Library Program's annual Summer Reading Program "It's Showtime at Your Library" has been the most successful ever with increased participation reported everywhere. The MCCS Libraries registered 11,908 participants; they read a total of 8,653,417 minutes (144,224 hours). Libraries planned and presented 555 programs and events. Camp Pendleton once again had the largest participation in all DoD MWR Libraries with 3,141 participants.

The HQMC Library Program is also responsible for providing library support to deployed and remotely stationed Marines. We provide magazines and paperbacks to Marine Security Guards at 180 embassies and foreign missions and Marines serving in combat and humanitarian missions around the world. The HQMC Library Program also serves as the point of contact for access to all of the digital resources.

The MCCS Libraries look forward to another exciting year serving Marines and their families.



Cynthia Shipley
USMC Library Program Director