

1A—Academic Librarians as Community Agents #1

Connecting Individuals with Social Services: The Academic Library's Role

Samantha Schmehl Hines, University of Montana, USA

As public libraries earn attention and kudos for connecting their communities to needed social services, the question arises as to the role of the academic library in connecting our campus community with resources on services for mental and physical health, food security, housing, child care, and other societal needs. Working with existing campus and community organizations can create many positive networks for our library users, our institutions, and our larger communities. This paper discusses the history of the trend to connect libraries and their user communities with social service providers and offers existing analysis from the perspective of librarianship and social service professionals.