

**Coordinator's Report**  
**Tamarack Federation**  
**Fall 2025**  
***Abbi Dooley, Coordinator***

I just returned from the October Montana State Library Commission meeting, in which I and the other five federation coordinators presented our FY2025 reports. The commissioners were eager to hear about how we spent the additional \$4,000 earmarked for trustee training and development. Of course, our annual spring retreats with training fulfill this requirement. Other federations were inspired to hold in-person trainings with their funds and have found it to be very beneficial. The coordinators will present again at the June meeting to report on our FY2027 Plans of Service.

On a very sad note, we learned during this summer that Amanda Richter who was the director of the St. Ignatius library passed away. Amanda joined us briefly at the spring meeting despite her illness. Daniel Thompson, who had previously been the director there, has stepped in to fill the role.

Thank you for getting your FY2025 spending entered in Counting Opinions (<https://mt.countingopinions.com>). The checks for FY2026 should be arriving soon and the portal will open for FY2026 reporting in the coming months. Overall spending has been relevant to the Plan of Service, but occasionally an item is questioned. Please remember as you plan to spend your funds, that it is ideal to use federation funds for collaborative projects or purchases that directly benefit patrons. However, we do not use federation funds for things like collection purchases, or staff use only computers or machines. If you have any questions on what is and is not a good fit for Tamarack Federation spending, please reach out to me. Also, be sure you are spending the full amount and entering the full amount in the reporting software.

After expenses for the spring retreat were paid, there was \$653.25 remaining, which I sent to Overdrive for Montana Library2Go. Costs for the retreat have increased, so the additional \$500 for FY2026 will help with that. We will once again hold the spring retreat at the Polson Library on April 24 and 25. Room reservation information will be sent out in January. If you already know that you will need rooms, feel free to email me with the names.

Have a safe and fun winter and we will see you when we thaw out in the spring!