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April 11, 2022

TO: RAILS Consortia Committee
FROM: Deirdre Brennan, Anne Slaughter
SUBJECT: Find More Illinois and Verso update

There has been a lot of activity with Find More Illinois recently, as you have all no doubt seen from various emails and from our E-News. Fifteen libraries have joined so far in 2022, and we have serious interest from at least twelve others. This activity is a result of the first phase of promotion, which was Deirdre reaching out individually to directors of mostly larger standalone libraries.

Newly joined or joining libraries:

- Skokie Public Library
- Helen Plum Library
- Highwood Public Library
- Ohio Public Library District
- DeKalb Public Library
- Wheaton Public Library
- Knoxville CUSD 202
- Waukegan Public Library
- Antioch Public Library District
- All six members of the Pinnacle Library Consortium (Fountaindale Public Library District, Joliet Public Library, Lemont Public Library District, Plainfield Public Library District, Shorewood-Troy Public Library District, and White Oak Library District)

We have just completed the transition to a union catalog for searching library holdings, which resolves several user experience issues with the display of search results. With this major improvement complete, we will begin widely promoting the current incentive program that waives all setup fees for new participants, and annual fees for all participants until July 2023.

Additionally, we have had multiple meetings with Auto-Graphics staff, including the President Paul Cope. We asked specifically for their product Verso, which is their ILS, to be made available free of charge to nonautomated and under-automated libraries that join FMI. This consortial implementation is designed for small libraries with no ILS software, or that are using circulation software that isn't fully-featured. We do not yet have a timeline for promotion or implementation, but are moving forward with planning.

With the inclusion of Verso, FMI can now provide the complete solution that we have been searching for:

- Resource sharing/interlibrary loan
- Bibliographic records
- ILS/online catalog