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Florida Library History Project

Panhandle Public Library Cooperative System (PPLCS)

The Panhandle Public Library Cooperative System (PPLCS) was formed in October, 1992, through an Interlocal Agreement signed by the Boards of County Commissioners of Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties.

The four counties are located in the rural Panhandle of Northwest Florida. The PPLCS Administration is headquartered in Marianna, separate from the county libraries. Jackson County Public Library's main facility is in Marianna. Smaller communities in that county are served by a bookmobile. Calhoun County Public Library's main facility is in Blountstown, with branches in Atha, Hugh Creek, Kinard and Shelton's Park. Holmes County Public Library is located in Bonifay and there is a branch in Ponce de Leon. Washington County Public Library is in Chipley, with branches in Wausau and Vernon and a station in Ebro.

The Cooperative is governed by a twelve-member administrative board. Each county library is also served by an advisory board of local citizens.

For three years the Cooperative was the recipient of an LSCA grant, Family Learning Center, which developed collections and programming in the libraries. Recently, two county libraries participated in the REAP project. A total of eight Florinet grants will bring public Internet access to all other library outlets this year.

--June 1998