

By: Kathleen Degyansky  
Dept.: Assistant Director  
Subject: Monthly Report for January 2020  
Date: January 29, 2020

## OUTREACH AND COLLABORATION

- Met with the volunteers of the AARP Foundation Tax Aide program on January 15 to discuss final preparations and logistics for the tax preparation assistance program which begins February 3.
- Met with representatives from Volunteer New York to discuss ways we might collaborate on referring prospective volunteers to their opportunities and recruiting volunteers for our larger events. Learned how to navigate their online database.
- Had preliminary talks with Westhab Homeless Services to place a hotspot on a three month temporary loan to the Coachman Family Center.
- Working with the Heart Association of Westchester to begin loaning blood pressure monitoring devices. Yonkers Library is piloting this program. A meeting is planned at Yonkers to learn about the mechanics of bringing this service to White Plains.
- Scheduled Aging in Place Steering Committee Meetings, a monthly current events discussion group, and speaker events through February.

## PROGRAMMING AND GRANTS

- Scheduled a program “The Original Coupon Queen” (Susan Samtur), for May 13.
- Prepared a grant for funds to support a Caribbean film festival in June. The project, “Unsung Narratives of the Black Caribbean Diaspora”, will bring several short original documentaries by local filmmakers for screenings followed by discussions led by the filmmakers. The funding will potentially come from the American Library Association’s, Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant program. The grant deadline is February 3.
- Participated in preliminary discussions and drafted partners’ letters of support for NEA’s “The Big Read”. It was determined that a grant will be submitted for the 2021 competition. We still plan to do a community read project in 2020.

## STAFF AND TRAINING

- Meeting scheduled with Kristy Bauman, new programming librarian for January 30.
- Vetted and deployed two new volunteer who will help out with the Black History month film series.