



Organization Name: **PaILS – the Pennsylvania Integrated Library System Consortium**

Organization Mission:

- PaILS provides access to information resources by offering a collaborative, high quality, open-source integrated library system that is equitable, cost-effective, and promotes resource sharing among libraries statewide.

Organization Contact Information:

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Elevator Speech (brief introduction to your organization for those who may not be familiar with it):

Join our consortium and be part of something special. Pennsylvania Integrated Library System (PaILS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing an ILS created for Pennsylvania libraries and library systems. PaILS strives for results-focused customer support and building personal relationships with all our clients, who are together known as the “SPARK” consortium. We work to support our libraries in improving service to PA library users through initiatives such as resource sharing between unaffiliated libraries.

Top 3 Things Pennsylvania Libraries Should Know About Your Organization’s Work:

- SPARK is the state’s largest consortium of libraries – our shared bibliographic database gives all members access to quality records, while still allowing libraries to choose if they will share materials with unaffiliated libraries.
- We work primarily with open-source software – so all the improvements that we make are available to Evergreen and Aspen users around the globe.
- PaILS is committed to Pennsylvania public libraries and library systems – offering dedicated support for the annual report and customized training solutions for our clients.

Notable Accomplishments in 2024 and 2025 so far:

- 1.1 million currently active patron accounts had their addresses geocoded so that we could correctly assign municipalities and school districts – we now have nightly updates for new and edited accounts so our libraries can have accurate on-demand reporting.
- So far in 2025 we have added 2 locations and had expansions to 2 major resource sharing projects.

Plans for 2025, 2026 and beyond:

- 20 new locations coming on board in 2026, as well as more expansions to resource sharing projects between existing members
- Aspen Discovery is now available for all libraries in the consortium, and we are showcasing its features here at the Pennsylvania Library Association conference.

Exhibitor Showcase

Aspen Discovery for Evergreen Libraries!

Come see what Aspen Discovery can do for your libraries - we'll be showcasing the first two SPARK libraries using Aspen Discovery to showcase all their libraries have to offer - from physical collections to events to electronic books, databases and more!

October 21, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Panel Presentation

Leveraging Technology to Drive Library Card Signups

We'll discuss how PA libraries have used specific technologies that can drive card signups, as well as ways to leverage lower-tech solutions to reach outside of the library building to get more folks registered for library cards.

October 22, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM



SPARK & Friends *breakfast*

RSVP:



<https://bit.ly/SPARKandFriends2025>

@ PaLA 2025

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

October 22, 2025

Bayfront - Erie

