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COMMUNITY IMPACT: VALUE OF LIBRARIES: NELSON MANDELA AND NELSON MANDELA BAY LIBRARIES

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The purpose of the paper is to discuss the value of libraries and the role they should play in building and developing the communities and or society .The main thrust of the paper is on demonstrating some innovative projects implemented by these 2 library services to support the Nelson Mandela community to meet their information and cultural needs .The paper will showcase how the 2 library services endeavour to continue in future , to engage in initiatives and projects aimed at uplifting the disadvantaged and information poor communities of the Nelson Mandela Bay metropolitan municipality .To this end the paper will highlight the need for forging formalised partnership between the 2 library services whose aim is community engagement ,maintaining the collaborative approaches to service delivery . Such a partnership will help in the development and shaping library and information services .This is an opportunity for a dynamic library management to lobby decision makers to support libraries in their community engagement efforts.

Key words:

Community, impact, value of libraries, disadvantaged communities, innovative projects, collaborative approaches, partnerships, community engagement

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