**Reduce Waste, Build Community: Hosting Repair Events at Your Library Learner Guide**

https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/hosting-repair-events.html

**Event Description:** Libraries around the world are hosting repair events, inviting people to bring damaged household items and clothing to be repaired instead of throwing them away. Repair events can help your library reach diverse communities, teach and maintain valuable repair skills, and engage with skilled volunteers and invested community partners. Help your patrons save money on electronic, mechanical or sewing repairs and divert waste from the landfill with fix-it fairs, repair cafes and U-fix-it clinics. Join us for this webinar to learn everything you need to know about hosting a repair event, from finding partners to recruiting fixers, and from getting management approval to effectively getting the word out.

**Presented by:** Tom Watson, Laurie Finlayson, and Steven Bailey

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| **What are your goals for viewing this webinar?** | |
| **Personal Goals** |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |

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| **Making the Case for Repair Events** |
| If you’re just getting started with repair events, you may need to first get buy-in from your staff and administration. Consider the ways that this new programming will:   * Align with the library’s mission * Provide STEM related programming * Lead community in diverting waste from the landfill (“More than 50 tons of household waste is thrown out every second, globally” -- [FIXED!](https://www.facebook.com/tvodocs/videos/545805555888847/) A short documentary about a Repair Café in Toronto) * Build and grow social capital in the community * Provide barrier-free access to skilled repair people * Attract people who may not come to the library otherwise * Expose fixers, partners, city officials to services the library offers * Other: |
| **Key Repair Event Stakeholders** |
| Identify those in your community who are key to the success of your repair events:   1. Look for others already hosting repair events in your area and find ways to collaborate. Offer library space to host. Help promote those events. 2. Find potential partners/collaborators for new repair events. Brainstorm potential local partners and identify staff or volunteers who will make those connections: 3. Find Fixers for your event using local potential channels identified in webinar.    * Channels for recruiting Electronic Fixers    * Channels for recruiting Mechanical Fixers    * Channels for recruiting Sewing Fixers 4. Name your repair event, with input from your collaborating organizations and fixers. |
| **Logistics for Success** |
| Now you’re ready to get ready for your repair event! Here are the important logistics for your checklist.  **Space:**   * Library space * Partner space * Consider outside space, if possible, as well as inside   **Set-up:**   * Enough tables and chairs * Adequate power sources * Trash cans and recycling containers in repair area * Space for attendees to wait * Space for children to stay engaged   **Supplies:**   * Will fixers bring their own tools? Will the library or other host organization provide some tools? * Have water for fixers, bake sale hosted by local scouts or school? * Have a bell to ring when something gets fixed and a "FIXED" sign for attendee to hold up in photo (take lots of photos! You can use in promoting your next event) * Have liability/release form ready for attendees   **Other:** |
| **Promoting the Repair Event** |
| Now it’s time to spread the word far and wide! Consider all the following channels as you develop your marketing plan.  Traditional Media (ideally free!)   * Newspaper * Radio * TV/Cable   Social Media   * Facebook * Twitter * Instagram * YouTube   Online Resources   * Library Website * Library calendar * Community calendar   Print Materials   * Newsletter * Posters * Postcards * Materials for inside and outside library   Remember to ask programming partners to repost your marketing efforts on their social media channels and on their websites and calendars, and leave printed materials at their locations! |
| **Action Plan:** (include some simple next steps, along with who, when, etc.) |
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