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Spring 4-4-2024

Graphic Medicine for Library Outreach

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Recommended Citation

Briggs, Chanda and Sharifi, Claire, "Graphic Medicine for Library Outreach" (2024). *Gleeson Library Faculty and Staff Research and Scholarship*. 45.

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Graphic Medicine for Library Outreach

by Chanda Briggs and Claire Sharifi



ESTABLISH THE NEED

At the University of San Francisco, librarians have had increasing requests to acquire resources about disabilities. Becuase graphic medicine is a powerful educational tool, we decided to intentionally expand our collection of graphic novels on topics related to disability.



The Library was awarded the Networks of the National Library of Medicine's Collection Equity grant. These grant funds were used to expand the disability awareness collection, with an emphasis on expanding the graphic novel collection.





CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS

We leveraged connections with the office of Student Disability Services and faculty members who teach classes with a focus on accessibility and disability justie in order to ensure our collection adequately met the need of students, staff, and faculty at the University of San Francisco.

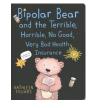
EVENTS AND DISPLAYS

The library created a Disability Awareness Week display with an accompanying library guide, and tabled at the Disability Awareness Resource fair. This ensured students, staff, and faculty were aware of the expanded collection, and helped increase the imapet.



FEATURED GRAPHIC NOVELS











SUPPORT FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

In the absence of direct support for these services, we felt compelled to provide educational resources that destigmatized sexual and reproductive health as well as encourage active knoweldge-sharing.



A sexual and reproductive health-themed display called "Love Your Heart and Other Parts" was assembled for February, which included information from USF's Title IX office about support for victims of sexual assault. We included books about sex and sexuality, identity, community support, reproductive issues and afffirmative consemt.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR STI TESTING

As part of our programming, we allied with USF Health Promotion Services and UCSF Health Alliance Project to bring STI rapid testing to the library on Valentine's Day. Students received confidential testing for HIV, HEP C, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia and Syphilis

FUTURE PROGRAMMING

Our partners were so pleased to provide services that we were assured partnership in the future. Talks about more frequent STI testing are in the works as we look forward to providing incoming and current students with access to knowledge and care in the future.





FEATURED GRAPHIC NOVELS



