I contacted Wendy at the Eugene Public Library (EPL) 541/682-8319). She oversees the Access and Home Delivery projects.

- They currently provide books to approximately 12 facilities.

- Books are sent and retrieved/swapped every 4 months.

- Some facilities get audio books as well.

- Majority of books sent are hardcover, mostly fiction.

- Paperbacks sent are normally those to be 'weeded.'

- They try to send current fiction.

- Approximately 1/3 of books sent are large print.

- EPL custodians make the deliveries.

I also spoke with Terry Kelly at Waterford Grand Assisted Living. The EPL program works well for them. They have never been charged for lost books, and stray books often are rounded up eventually by staff.

I have identified seven assisted living facilities in Springfield, listed below. Please let me know if I missed any. There are many private foster care homes that I didn't include.

Bayberry Commons
Gateway Living
The Rawlin @ Riverbend
Brookdale/Briarwood
Sweetbriar Villa
Marquis Springfield
Timber Point/Woodside

Here are some thoughts if SPL is to consider adopting such a program:

-How many books could SPL spare/shipment?

- Deliveries could be made every three or four months.

- What is retrieved from one facility could be rotated to the next facility, etc. with the last box returned to the library.

- Facilities could send *their* custodian to SPL to return/pick up loaned books (my preference), or we could have volunteers move books every three or four months.

- Request that each facility designate a separate bookshelf specifically for SPL materials, hopefully marked as such.

Other thoughts? How would inventory/record keeping be done from the SPL side of this? What kind of additional burden would this put on library staff? Does SPL have enough books to support this?