Pennsylvania Integrated Library System hosts and supports the open source SPARK ILS which runs on Evergreen. Currently, PaILS has 144 members. 120 are live on SPARK and 24 are waiting to go live. In 2018 we added the Huntingdon County Library which gave us the entire Altoona District, all ten libraries in the Potter-Tioga Library System which are sharing an ILS for the first time, and ten libraries in Carbon and Lehigh Counties. These libraries, previously unaffiliated, are, through SPARK, adopting uniform circulation policies, a “one library card” program, and are beginning to share resources. This latter group also includes a previously unautomated library, the Public Library of Catasauqua. In 2019 we will migrate all of the Clearfield County Libraries, the Clymer Memorial Library (which is eager to to share resources with two other Monroe County libraries in SPARK), the Degenstein Memorial Library in Sunbury, the Adams County Library System which will give us the entire York District, and the libraries of Wayne and Pike Counties which will give us the entire Northeast District. Even though these libraries have not yet migrated, they are considered full members which enables them to serve on committees, join email lists, and attend User Group and other meetings.

In 2018 we focused on deploying the new Evergreen web-based client, providing training to our members on-site and remotely using contract trainers from member libraries and Equinox, and improving communication through bi-monthly “Virtual Town Hall” meetings and other means. The SPARK User Group now has officially charted committees and conducted our annual User Group meeting which drew a record 103 attendees. A newly instituted resource sharing initiative between the Lackawanna County Library System, Cambria County Library System, and the Blair County Library System was a success and has garnered over 17,000 circulations since beginning in October 2017. In addition, we revamped the PaILS Membership Agreement to bring it in line with services currently offered by PaILS and expectations that come with membership. We also updated our membership fee structure so it is more equitable and sustainable. Finally, PaILS has become an internationally recognized contributor to the Evergreen community. We funded or co-funded five development projects, the PaILS Executive Director is vice-chair of the Evergreen Oversight Board, and we are hosting the 2019 Evergreen International Conference at the Valley Forge Casino and Resort on April 24-27, 2019. In 2019 we also plan to add a support person and conduct an assessment of our hosting situation.