**Manatee County Library Data Dashboard Project**

**Overview:**  
This project, led by intern **James Ocampo** under the supervision **of Tammy Parrott** at the Manatee County Library, focused on developing a **comprehensive Data Dashboard** to improve how the library system views and interacts with performance data. This replaces the time-consuming manual processes with a centralized, dynamic, and user-friendly tool.

**Why This Project Matters:**  
Previously, library staff relied on manually searching folders and entering data into static templates to assess monthly and annual performance. While functional, this process was inefficient and limited in its ability to reveal insights quickly. The new dashboard streamlines access to vital statistics and supports **deeper data analysis**, improving both decision-making and transparency.

**Key Features of the Dashboard:**

* **Centralized Performance Overview**
* **Interactive Filtering and User Guidance**
* **Five Informative Tabs**:
  1. **Library by the Numbers** – Key data by branch.
  2. **Collection Data** – Circulation, inter-library loans, digital/physical collection usage.
  3. **About Our Patrons** – Registration and visit patterns.
  4. **Top Performers** – High-performing branches.
  5. **Library Material Usage** – A refined version of a previous internal dashboard.

**Technical Approach:**  
To ensure data compatibility with **Power BI**, James created a **custom Python program** to clean and restructure data from the library’s statistics folder. This automation means updates can be integrated quickly and accurately by simply running the script and refreshing the dashboard.

**Public Engagement:**  
A **public-facing version** of the dashboard (excluding sensitive internal data) is planned to be embedded on the Manatee County Library website. This step reflects the library’s commitment to transparency and showcases the value of its services to the community.

**Conclusion:**  
This project not only improves internal efficiency but also enhances public accountability and insight into the library’s impact. The Data Dashboard is a modern, scalable solution that reflects the evolving role of libraries in the digital age.