LIBRARY SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY ACT

MICHIGAN REPORT FOR 2018

Randy Riley, State Librarian | Karren Reish, LSTA Coordinator & Editor

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

MICHIGAN Department of Education

INFORMATION PARTNERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN'S MISSION

The Michigan Legislature created the Library of Michigan to guarantee the people of this State and their government one perpetual institution to collect and preserve Michigan publications, conduct reference and research, and support libraries statewide.

The Library of Michigan supports all Michigan communities and residents through the use of federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA). The programs and resources supported with these funds fulfill the Library of Michigan's mission and the federal LSTA goals. Michigan's LSTA program focuses on statewide services to provide a base level of access to information, and assistance and training for librarians throughout the state so all residents may use quality resources. This focus puts a premium on programs and resources that are available regardless of geographic area, age, or information need. The statewide projects are designed to be worthwhile for, and available to, individuals, public library users, K-12 students and teachers, higher education students and faculty, government officials and businesses. The Library of Michigan strives to support all Michigan residents with LSTA funding.

2018 LSTA OVERVIEW

Last year in 2018, Michigan's $4,347,464 in LSTA funding supported resources and services for public, academic, K-12 and special libraries and the public. The majority of LSTA funds coming to Michigan supported the Michigan eLibrary ("MeL" at mel.org), which included:

- **Licensed databases with quality published information ranging from general information to specialized research**
- **K-12 and higher education test preparation, occupational tests and job training**
- **Subject area and age specific gateways with recommended resources, including Jobs, Business, Kids, Teens, Government, Health, Legal and Books & Literacy**
- **"Michigana," a collection of digitized primary historical resources on Michigan**
- **MeLCat, a statewide library catalog and patron-initiated interlibrary loan service**

Other statewide services included summer reading programming; the Ready to Read Michigan early literacy program; continuing education for librarians and library trustees through workshops and training; website support for small and rural libraries; programming grants for public libraries; and collaborative community services grants.

These projects provided ready access for state residents to a wide range of information. They also are significant cost savings for individuals, municipalities and educational institutions. The collaborative nature of the projects and the cost savings from statewide purchasing allow the Library of Michigan and libraries throughout the state to provide residents a wealth of quality online materials and shared print resources for a minimal cost.

2018 KEY FACTS ABOUT LSTA IN MICHIGAN

- **Ready to Read Michigan, the statewide early literacy program for children's librarians, encourages use of the five elements of the nationally recognized early literacy program Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) – Talking, Singing, Reading, Playing, Writing. The program provided materials, training and support to all public libraries with materials based on *I Got the Rhythm* by Connie Schofield-Morrison.**

- **Michigan residents borrowed almost 1.1 million books, audiobooks, and other library materials through MeLCat. Local libraries saved over $38.2 million dollars by sharing these items.**

- **471 libraries are MeLCat members, including 91% of public libraries, as well as academic, school and special libraries, giving much greater access to their patrons.**

- **A range of quality early literacy resources are available at no cost to parents, caregivers and libraries. These include MeL content and a range of early literacy professional development.**

- **Use of LearningExpress by job seekers and those practicing educational and occupational tests continued to increase to over 68,000 sessions at no cost to users.**

- **People searched MeL databases 27.2 million times and downloaded 24.7 million documents, which is more than two items for every person in Michigan.**

- **Michigan small businesses are supported by MeL staff working with groups such as SCORE, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), SBA-Michigan and Library BizConnect and our suite of MeL business resources.**

- **Public libraries received $102,791 for quick summer program grants for technology programs, children and teen programs, or literacy programs.**

- **Several thousand public, school and academic library staff received training on a wide range of programming, evaluation and management topics at minimal costs in 2018 through workshops, webinars and the conferences.**

- **Youth librarians across the state learned how to do age appropriate space science programs in their communities, increasing the outreach and impact of their teen programming.**

MICHIGAN LSTA PROGRAM GOALS

The new LSTA Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2017 through September 2022, addresses the needs of Michigan residents for information and library services with four goals. These goals were determined through an evaluation of the previous Five-Year Plan and community needs assessments, which included input from residents and library staff from rural and urban areas across the state.

A specific focus of the goals is to bring services directly to residents by assisting local libraries in communities across the state.

Goal 1: Michigan residents will have equal access to information resources in various formats for lifelong learning.

Need: Users need equitable access to materials, both print and digital, on a range of topics at their point of use. To address this, libraries need a consistent and stable source of materials to meet this need, especially in underserved urban and rural areas.

Goal 2: Michigan residents will have access to current services and training support through their libraries.

Need: Users need access to current services and training, especially in rural and underserved urban areas of the state. Areas of need include workforce development, information and technology literacy, reading literacy, and assistance with a range of social and government services. To address this, libraries need professional development and resources to meet these needs.

Goal 3: Michigan libraries will continue to support their communities through collective impact initiatives and community engagement.

Need: Users need supportive communities where community groups and agencies focus on the collective impact for residents. To address this, libraries need training and assistance to participate in these collaborative community engagement programs.

Goal 4: Michigan residents will be able to use Michigan's historical and cultural collections for lifelong learning.

Need: Users need easily discoverable access to library and cultural collections within and across their communities. To address this, libraries need resources and assistance to provide effective access to these resources.

Proposed programs and measures for outputs and outcomes for each goal are listed in the Five-Year Plan at www.michigan.gov/lsta. The Five-Year Plan for 2017-2022 is a guide for the Library of Michigan in assisting the Michigan library community to provide appropriate, quality services and programs in their communities.

STATEWIDE PROJECTS

SERVING ALL OF MICHIGAN'S RESIDENTS

MeL – The Michigan eLibrary

Mission: Michigan's virtual library, MeL, gives Michigan residents the information they need, when they need it, where they need it, and in the format they desire.

The Michigan eLibrary ("MeL," at mel.org) is Michigan's statewide virtual library, an essential tool for Michigan's residents. Through statewide subscriptions, MeL provides comprehensive topical information ranging from auto repair to zoos. Resources are available 24/7 and include full-text articles; interactive encyclopedias; eBooks; car repair manuals; interactive K-16 academic and occupational practice exams; digital history collections; genealogy and local history; free Michigan-focused Internet resources; and a variety of other quality commercially published information.

The MeL materials are designed to serve job seekers, entrepreneurs and business owners, workers seeking retraining, college, high school and elementary school students, parents, homeschoolers, educators, and lifelong learners.

MeL is a backbone of Michigan's library resources for students and other residents and a great return on investment. In 2018, people used the databases over 27.2 million times and downloaded 24.7 million documents and articles. This is nearly three searches and more than two documents per person in Michigan.

MeL databases and other eResources are a significant savings for K-12 schools, higher education and public libraries. For each $1 spent in federal and state funds, the Library of Michigan saves residents using the resources $24.05. Statewide contracts also save libraries and schools the effort necessary to negotiate with vendors and maintain the services.

MeL Components

Databases – Hundreds of thousands of subscription magazine and newspaper articles, reference book articles, art images, eBooks, historical documents and images, and other full-text materials. Content ranges from PreK-12 levels to professional and research levels in science, medicine, education, technology, humanities, arts, social sciences, law and genealogy. Spanish language materials are available for PreK-12 students. State funds also support significant business and early literacy resources.

MeLCat – The statewide library catalog and resource-sharing network. Users can search the catalog from www.MeL.org/melcat or directly from their participating local library catalog. Michigan residents are using MeLCat to easily identify and request convenient, quick and free delivery of materials from other participating Michigan libraries to their own library for pick up.

Michigana – Digitized local historical resources from Michigan libraries, including family papers, photographs, diaries, obituaries, newspapers, maps, archives and other local documents and commercial history resources. These materials illustrate Michigan's place in American history, especially in topics such as the Civil War and the automotive, shipping and lumbering industries.

eBooks – A collection of thousands of non-fiction and reference electronic books for academics and professionals. Topics include science, computers, business, education and humanities, among others.

Gateways – A balanced collection of quality subscription eResources and librarian selected Internet sites that are Michigan-related or especially useful to Michigan residents. MeL's Business Gateway, which is newly redesigned, supports economic development and small businesses. Gateways also support children, teens and teachers and point to job, health, legal, literacy and government information.

Tests, Tutorials & Workforce Development – A comprehensive, interactive site with occupational, licensing and academic practice tests and tutorials for K-16 and job seekers, from the GED to the GRE.

MeLCat - The Michigan eLibrary Catalog

MeLCat is a virtual statewide library catalog and resource-sharing network. Member libraries share both a catalog that library users can search and a commitment to sharing their collections. Books, DVDs and other materials are delivered via a fast statewide delivery service that is free to the library users. In 2018, MeLCat was a combined library collection of nearly 49 million items.

Michigan residents use the catalog to easily find and request convenient delivery of materials to their home library. In 2018, they did so over one million times or 3,000 times per day. The requested materials were delivered in three to five days and a significant number of the requests were delivered in less time. Through this service, local communities did not need to purchase over $38 million dollars of materials needed by their residents.

The residents who request materials are students, educators, business professionals, rural and urban residents - all users with a participating library card have ready access from home, work or school to more sources than any individual library could own. In rural areas especially, the program has a strong impact.

Eleven new libraries joined the collaborative in 2018, while nineteen libraries completed a systems migration, and we are providing in-depth support and training of continuing members. At the end of the last fiscal year, 471 libraries were participating members. MeLCat includes libraries from every area of the state, making it a true statewide service. Public, school, academic and special libraries all participate in the statewide catalog and they do not have to convert to a common integrated library catalog system, saving local funds and staff time.

MeLCat is also a true collaboration. Member librarians participate in planning committees and user groups. MeLCat is a voluntary program with local delivery costs and local staff participation so the number of public, academic and school libraries that participate speak to the value it has for diverse communities.

LSTA funding has allowed Michigan's libraries and communities to reach out and share their expertise and their collections with each other.

Childhood & Family Literacy Support: Summer Reading and Ready to Read!

Summer Reading

Summer Reading programs at public libraries use materials from the national Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP). LSTA funds the Library of Michigan's participation in CSLP as well as an online Summer Reading book club service, Wandoo Reader. Membership in the collaborative allows the state library to provide high-quality, comprehensive summer reading manuals to all public libraries, saving the libraries both staff time and funds. These manuals include activities and materials for early literacy, children, young adults, adults and families reading together. Libraries used the 2018 *Libraries Rock* theme to teach children about music and movement. Using Wandoo Reader, public libraries are able to digitally support their summer reading program so that participants can login from virtually anywhere.

In studies, children who participate in summer reading maintain or increase their reading levels throughout the summer. This helps develop children's interest in personal reading and encourages them to improve their reading skills. Michigan's participation in this program allows local library staff to focus more on working with children rather than developing materials and provides greater access to programming for children.

Ready to Read Michigan Program

The Library of Michigan's Ready to Read Michigan is hosted by public libraries during March is Reading Month to promote the importance of reading aloud to young children throughout the state. The program includes a kit based on a picture book that brings public librarians together with parents, caregivers and teachers to highlight early literacy activities for children. The kit is updated annually with a new book and new programming materials.

In 2018, the book was *I Got the Rhythm* by Connie Schofield-Morrison. Materials included copies of the selected book, a poster and bookmarks based on the Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) practices and the selected book, and an electronic version of a programming guide based on ECRR practices and the selected book.

The program also includes professional development on early literacy education practices for children's librarians.

Library & Cultural Collaborations through Grants

The Michigan Activity Pass is a partnership between 638 public library locations and 443 arts and cultural organizations throughout the state. The Library Network coordinates the program, which provides discounted or free admission to cultural attractions to library card holders at their local public libraries. In 2018, activities were available in all counties, providing residents with greatly expanded opportunities to explore and learn about their state. The program continues to add partners and locations.

Through the Collaborative Library Services grant program, Library of Michigan supported six libraries in providing services or programs to underserved or underrepresented populations.

Dearborn Public Library is in year two of a three year project to bring materials to immigrant populations; Jackson District Library is working on a two year project to bring services and materials to populations with dementia; Ypsilanti District Library is in year two of a three year project to encourage early literacy with low income families; and Grand Rapids Public Library has begun a two year project to provide intensive entrepreneurship training to low income youth. Niles District Library is developing a social work program for rural public libraries. The project provides social work services and field instruction for social work interns at partner libraries in Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties.

The Collaborative Library Services grant also supports Wayne State University's digital collections project. The project is completing a set of activities in three areas: digital collection creation and hosting, digital discovery, and curricular development. The project involves working with documents from the Arab American National Museum, LGBT Detroit and the Housewives League of Detroit.

Improving Services through Continuing Education

The Library of Michigan uses LSTA funding to provide or sponsor continuing education for librarians throughout the state. Libraries are able to improve and expand services available to Michigan residents by learning from expert presenters and colleagues. The continuing education program also allows public libraries, especially small and rural libraries, to receive their state certification, which is required for public libraries to receive state aid to public libraries funds. Highlights include:

Library of Michigan Hosted Events and Resources

Youth and Children's Library Training

NASA @ My Library space science workshops, Summer Reading and Every Child Ready to Read early literacy webinars, and newsletters provided professional development and materials to children and youth librarians around the state to learn about new skills and new programming ideas.

Online Training

The Library of Michigan provides access to WebJunction and United for Libraries. These are respectively, a national service providing webinars, videos and online resources on a range of library management, programming and technology issues and a national service providing training and materials for library trustees. This service is available to all library staff and trustees in Michigan 24/7.

Continuing Education Stipends

The Library of Michigan is continuing a program to support library staff attendance at state, regional and national conferences and workshops, allowing more staff to attend high quality training and bring that knowledge back to colleagues through articles and presentations.

Rural Libraries Conference

Rural Libraries Conference is a specially crafted conference whose goal is to reach the informational needs of small and rural library staff members from every area of Michigan. The three-day conference features vendors, awards, keynote speakers and an array of sessions all geared to rural and small libraries.

Partner Hosted Events and Resources

Harwood Community Training (with the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services)

Library staff have had training and ongoing coaching in learning to turn outward to their communities and learn how libraries can participate in and support local community goals.

Michigan Library Association Conference (with the Michigan Library Association)

MLA Annual Conference is a three-day conference for public, academic and school librarians that provides training on a range of current programs and activities in libraries around the state. The fall 2017 conference sessions were based on the theme "Escape the Ordinary."

Mi-ALA Conference (with the Michigan Academic Library Association)

Academic librarians met for their spring 2018 two-day conference on the theme of "Sustainability in Academic Libraries." The conference includes juried presentations as well as keynote speakers.

Workshops (with Friends of Michigan Libraries)

The Library of Michigan sponsors occasional one day workshops for libraries and library trustees to provide training on current issues and programming and management topics.

Technology Support

Public Library Data Collection

The Library of Michigan uses LSTA funding to support the collection of data about public library services and the provision of state aid to public libraries. Through these activities, the library community can get a better understanding of local and regional library service trends and the Library of Michigan distributes state funds to local communities to provide increased services.

Programming and Professional Development Resources

In order to help and encourage libraries of all types to increase staff capacity and programming opportunities in their communities, the Library of Michigan has developed a Library Science and Programming Resource Collection in 2018. The collection includes a library science collection on a broad range of topics, Braille Enhanced StoryWalks® and programming kits.

The Library Science Collection is a circulating "Librarian's Library" of professional library science books and materials. The collection serves all librarians and library types in Michigan. With the Braille Enhanced StoryWalks®, we provide the picture books and storywalk kits with Braille sheets for libraries to use as outdoor signs for families to learn to read on a walk. The programming kits are kits that include all the materials necessary for a particular activity or outreach program. In 2018, the kits developed were based on NASA @ My Library space science programs.

Support for Rural Communitie: The Ploud Collaborative

The Library of Michigan supports rural libraries and their communities through improved access to online resources. As part of that support, the Library of Michigan maintains the Ploud program, which helps small, rural libraries provide online information through easy to maintain websites. The program provides software for modern, robust library websites that are simple and easy to update for small libraries unable to develop websites on their own due to staff knowledge or budgetary limitations.

Within Michigan, the Library of Michigan trains librarians on how to use the software and provides hosting and programming development for participating libraries. As of September 2018, over 100 communities have quality library websites, giving residents access to MeL materials and to information on local services. Rural area residents now have the same online library resources that residents in larger communities enjoy.

For questions or comments concerning this publication, please contact Karren Reish at 517-241-0021, or email reishk@michigan.gov.

Toll-free 1-877-479-0021

MICHIGAN RESIDENTS SPEAK

We regularly receive comments from people about how LSTA funded projects impacted them, including professionals, businesses, and teachers. The following are a selection from the last year.

MeLCat

"MeLCat is a Godsend. I use it every week for books and movies that I am unable to locate at our local library. Even cutting-edge resources just recently published can be accessed by signing up on the waiting list. I am home bound, and MeLCat is an oasis."

MeL

"Just wanted to say how awesome this is! It is a great tool for parents, teachers, and media specialists, and serves as a great training tool for public libraries. Thanks so much for all you and your team do to make our lives easier!"

"I hate to envision a world without MeL..... you are the cornerstone of our research here at BHS."

Library Science Collection

"A lot of my professional development comes from your collection and I greatly appreciate that these materials are available. I just stocked up for the semester break!"

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing MI 48915
www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan