



Annual Report Northland Library Cooperative

FY 2023-24

Organizational:

- Reviewed and approved Plan of Service
- Updated website, list of services, spreadsheets to track services, mailing lists, contact lists
- Participated in LCM (Library Cooperatives of Michigan) meetings and projects
- Created LCM Annual Services document/shared with LM, MLA and MCLS
- MiClass Investment option approved by NLC board
- UEI # assigned and validated.

Consultant Services:

- Answered 248 questions from directors, board members and Friends
- Made annual update calls to all 24 libraries
- On-site visits to 12 member libraries
- Helped in organizing director searches for Fife Lake and Crooked Tree
- New Director Orientations for Fife Lake Library and Crooked Tree (Interim Director)
- eRate: USF Category 1 application was maintained to fund internet connectivity for 12 member libraries for three years. USF application filed for Category 2 eRate funding for 8 additional libraries. Hardware delivery and installation to be completed in 2025. Signed contract with eRate consultant: Sound eRate.
- Focus on communication to members via emails, director reports, website, and Facebook Group
- Monthly newsletter via Mailchimp: Northland News
- Attended MLA Annual Conference and hosted LCM booth
- Attended University of MI Cohort C sessions
- Attended MLA, LM, ALA, and other organizational webinars.

ILL/Melcat: Resource Sharing:

- Provided three libraries with OCLC ILL subscriptions
- Those three libraries handled individual ILL requests for the rest of the members
- Updated and renewed reciprocal borrowing agreements with 19 libraries

Delivery:

- Supported the cost of delivery (RIDES) for member libraries based on size. Reimbursed one local library system for the actual cost of local delivery between branches. Paid postage for all resources to the Beaver Island District Library.

Continuing Education:

- With LCM, sponsored Trustee Training and Ensuring Digital Equity workshops
- Held 2 NLC Virtual Chats with directors on the following topics: Digitization Options and Unemployment Insurance Navigator Training
- Established quarterly meetings of regional circulation staff, youth staff and directors to discuss issues of interest and build networks of support
- Two library board training courses
- Book Doctor Workshops – Demco representative conducted two on-site trainings on book repair
- Rural broadband buildout has created several grant opportunities: ROBIN, MITTEN, and Digital Devices. Director participated in regional collaborative planning with several organizations.
- Federal ROBIN Grant was awarded to Great Lakes Energy. NLC, as a partner, will receive \$5,000 for each of three libraries to enhance digital literacy training for patrons in 2025.

Library Enhancement Program:

- Sponsored Library Enhancement Grants to all 24 libraries: \$123,923. Grants were used to purchase materials, provide for programming, add technology (software and hardware) and to enhance facilities to meet the mission of the library. Grant was also used to support continuing education opportunities.

Discount Programs:

- Shared discount opportunities

Overdrive Consortiums:

- Coordinated services and billing for Overdrive Services to nineteen member libraries. The service provides better pricing, collection development teams, and consolidated billing.
- Provide eMagazine subscriptions to Up North Digital and the TADL consortium libraries

Added Services:

- Consumer Reports Online (started October 2021)
- Book Page – print book review resource for patrons (2500 copies per month)
- Talk, Text and Learn via MCLS (started January 2024)
- Amazon Business Prime (started October 2021)

Advocacy:

- Attended multiple webinars and MLA Advocacy Day in Lansing
- Shared and responded to advocacy alerts.
- MLA Advocacy Day: Five directors attended and met with two legislators

Other:

- Libraries continue to participate in the distribution of Covid test kits provided by the MDHHS
- More libraries have Narcan available for patron emergencies