

## Director's Report for Board Meeting March 19, 2025

**Vision:** *Welcoming, Inspiring and Connecting our Community.*

**Mission:** *We serve as a community hub by connecting our patrons to all forms of literacy, lifelong, learning and growth.*

### [RCL Monthly Calendar](#)



#### Robust Collections

- ★ Provide barrier-free access to resources for the community that are most in demand.
  - Our library provides a valued learning space that continues to be used throughout the day by homeschool and virtual students.
  - Feedback cards and comments from patrons are checked weekly to help answer the questions of: “What is this telling us? What do they want that we don’t have? How can we improve? What should we keep doing?”
  - Buying recommendations can be submitted by library members.
  - SMLC is voting whether to join the statewide Michigan Reciprocal Lending program for Overdrive/Libby. This would increase patron Libby/Overdrive digital collection access from the current amount of approximately 25,000 to over 100,000.



#### Enriching Programs

- ★ Provide opportunities to create, learn, be entertained and come together.
  - [Adults](#) : The need to help build human connection and neighborly interactions can be witnessed through adult programming at our library.
  - [Teens](#): The teen librarian continues to plan programs, while also making more of an effort to bring in outside community experts to offer a wider variety of programming.
  - [Children's](#): We have created a welcoming library environment where parents and caregivers feel comfortable bringing their children without the worry of being too loud or feeling embarrassed. This is evident daily in our children's service area and playroom.



### Broad Outreach

- ★ Expand meaningful partnerships with local organizations to strengthen community inclusion.
  - Bookbug & this is a bookstore at MMA events
  - Carrie Dunn attended Richland Elementary Literacy STEM Night March 5, 2025.
  - Advia Credit Union contacted us offering financial literacy programs.
  - Received \$500 grant from GLARC for 2024-2025 MMA series
  - RCL partnered with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) - IRS trained and certified to offer no-cost tax preparation assistance



### Strong Operations

- ★ Ensure sustainable funding sources for operating hours, collections, services, programs and staff.
  - \$10,000 awarded by ALA to our library for the Libraries Transforming Communities Grant.
  - Created Patron Services Priority List to better help frontline staff understand where they should be focusing their time and resources. Well received by staff, further reviewed and revised by the Patron Services team for commitment.



### Additional Information outside the scope of the RCL Strategic Plan.

- Events for the 50th Anniversary are being planned for rollout throughout the year.
- Next month, we'll be celebrating Library Week with an art contest themed "Drawn to the Library." Patrons of all ages are invited to draw, sketch, or paint the library, their favorite spot within it, or what the library means to them.
- "Just needed the internet and a place to sit and didn't want to spend money at a coffee shop." - Patron feedback
- "I just wanted to write and say thank you for doing this Kid Librarian activity and, again, for helping compile the list of books. She was so excited to be part of something like that at the library and is wondering if anyone will check out some of the books. You and the staff at RCL are just amazing and I just wanted to note that all of your extra effort on everything is recognized and appreciated." - Patron feedback

