

Director's Report for Board Meeting May 21, 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.
 - From Circulation Reports to Analysis: Consider cost per use + turnover rate. Digging deeper into what is actually being used within the collection.
 - The Library of Things collection is helping show the community that the library is more than just physical books. Over 1,000 items have been checked out since the start of FY.
 - Library has looked into the costs and procedures involved in potentially implementing a homebound book mail delivery service for patrons unable to physically visit the library, as an initiative for the next fiscal year
 - Digital audiobook and ebook borrows have increased by 33% since 2022.



Enriching Programs

- ★ Provide opportunities to create, learn, be entertained and come together.
 - [Adults](#) : Increased adult programming budget by 28% = grew attendance by 25% = Created meaningful experiences that brought neighbors together and reinforced the library as a space for personal growth and social connection
 - [Teens](#): Partnered with Advia Credit Union to offer teens financial literacy workshops, including credit reviews and the opportunity to open a savings account.
 - [Children's](#): The library user as a co-creator. This is done by welcoming patrons to share their experiences and helping to shape the narrative of what the library offers.
 - Library staff have increased programming offerings by 50% since 2022.



Broad Outreach

- ★ Expand meaningful partnerships with local organizations to strengthen community inclusion.

- On May 21, GLCS first graders visited the library for a field trip. Children's Librarian, Carrie Dunn, led activity stations, including a read-aloud, library bingo scavenger hunt, and arts and crafts.
- Summer 2025 newsletter dropped off at GLCS and local businesses
- Read Local, Save Local: Participating Richland businesses have offered incentives to library card holders in honor of RCL's 50th Anniversary.
- 50th Anniversary Exclusive Library Cards offered to RCL patrons. In the first three weeks of May, approximately 75 cards have been issued.
- Garden Refresh Service Project with GLARC and Gateway Academy done. Fifteen volunteers spent two hours enjoying the sunshine, spreading mulch, and planting flowers.



Strong Operations

- ★ Ensure sustainable funding sources for operating hours, collections, services, programs and staff.
 - Friends of the Library awarded RCL with \$1,500 in grants.
 - Between 2022-2025, Friends of Library have designated over \$14,000 to support our library.
 - Between 2022-2025, GLARC has provided \$4,693 in grants to support our library.
 - In May, Lions Club donated \$500 towards improving our Large Print Collection



Additional Information outside the scope of the RCL Strategic Plan.

- Summer Reading Staff meeting will be Friday, June 6, from 9-1pm
- 50th Anniversary timeline hallway display will be up for viewing for the remainder of year
- Friends of the Library Booksale week of May 20th
- Director presented at the UMSI/LoM "Strong Connections, Strong Libraries" Conference on the topic of "Sharing your Library's Story"
- Patron Services staff member, Ann Weltevreden, will be attending MCLS training in Lansing on how to use the new upgraded MelCat system.