

## Director's Report for Board Meeting September 17, 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.
  - RCL library totes distributed one per Richland household, reducing damage of materials and lends to borrowing more items.
  - Staff are developing a “Library Behind the Scenes” social media info post to show the journey of a book from purchase to shelf.



#### Enriching Programs

- ★ Provide opportunities to create, learn, be entertained and come together.
  - Teen Tuesday weekly gaming resumed for the school year, fostering socialization and encouraging book checkouts by attendees.
  - Children's Services continues to offer storytime 3 times a week and has added Saturday sessions, supporting families through programs and strong book expertise.
  - Friends of the Library awarded \$400 in grants for adult and teen programming this fall.
  - Anna Merritt and Desiree Mills attending the Michigan Library Association Conference; Anna presenting on DIY Adult Programming.

#### Broad Outreach

- ★ Expand meaningful partnerships with local organizations to strengthen community inclusion.
  - Library attended the last 4 weeks of the Farmers Market at RACC, averaging 25 interactions per visit,
  - Social Media & email info campaign launching September 23 to inform RCL cardholders about the upcoming millage and answer questions.
  - Our *50th Anniversary* celebration drew approximately 500 attendees; patrons praised the well-planned event. Press Release by WZZM and NowKalamazoo have helped amplify the milestone. Friends of the Library gifted food vouchers to staff in appreciation.



### Strong Operations

- ★ Ensure sustainable funding sources for operating hours, collections, services, programs and staff.
  - Library carpets scheduled for cleaning September 22 by Newhouse Cleaning.
  - Annual Insurance Meeting completed with EMC's Geoff Lansky.
  - Desiree Mills promoted to Patron Services Lead.
  - Director applying for \$10,000 ALA grant for small, rural libraries.



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

- State Librarian Randy Riley toured our library, praising the “magic” of a smaller library delivering high-level personalized service.
- “*We Love Our Library*” yard signs have been ordered to celebrate this year’s anniversary and increase library visibility out in community.