



LEADING THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALL
MICHIGAN LIBRARIES THROUGH ADVOCACY,
EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

May 10, 2022

MI Library is NOW!

NOW a workspace, NOW a tech hub, NOW a health information center – NOW better than ever!

The Michigan Library Association and two of our regional cooperative libraries, The Library Network and Lakeland Library Cooperative, are proud to announce the receipt and distribution of \$2.25M through two American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan.

Since the beginning of 2022, these dollars have been expended at our public libraries in all 83 Michigan counties for two distinct purposes:

- to increase digital eContent (including eBooks and audiobooks on workforce development, job-seeking skills, health, mental health, and general educational needs); and
- to offer technology tools/equipment (laptops including Microsoft Surface Pros and Chromebooks, online program kits, and outdoor public address systems).

Michigan libraries have always been essential, and now even more so as the place to develop new skills, take a job interview, or learn more about health and wellness. This is a great example of how our Michigan libraries are helping to facilitate recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the pandemic.

We continue to reiterate our message that Michigan libraries are more than just books, and I know you've heard this from us before – but NOW we have a great statewide campaign and website helping to share our message.

We hope you will visit the library in your community soon to check out all the great new items that have been delivered and check out the new website: MiLibraryIsNow.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Deborah E. Mikula'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Deborah E. Mikula, Executive Director