

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020

Adopted May, 1994
Revised 1996, 2001, 2006, 2010
Revised September 2015

Vision Statement

Continue our commitment to the advancement of library service by assisting all members in providing and delivering valuable, cost effective services to their library communities.

This Vision Statement was drafted and adopted on March 17, 2001 by the librarians and trustees of the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative who met over two days at the Louhelen Bahai Conference Center in Davison, Michigan.

At meetings held early in 2006, the Advisory Council and MMLC Board agreed that the Vision Statement was still appropriate, and that the Strategic Plan needed minor adjustments that could be accomplished by a committee. A review committee was assembled on May 3, 2006 to review and update the plan.

The MMLC Board at the May 11, 2006 board meeting adopted the Vision statement and revised Strategic Plan.

In January 2010, the Strategic Plan Committee reviewed the Strategic Plan and made revisions that reflected the change in economic climate in the State of Michigan. The MMLC Board adopted the revisions at the March 11, 2010 Board meeting.

In May and June 2015, the Document Review Committee reviewed the Strategic Plan and changed the Vision and Mission Statements as well as making other edits to more adequately reflect current cooperative practice and intended future direction. The MMLC Board adopted the revisions at the September 10, 2015 Board meeting.

This Strategic Plan covers the period 2015-2020 and supersedes all previous plans.

Beliefs and Values

1. The Cooperative believes that resource sharing among all members will assist all libraries in providing the best service possible to their communities.
2. The Cooperative believes in open and unrestricted access to information and materials to all members of the public; recognizing, however, that all member libraries maintain governing autonomy over local policies and practices.
3. The Cooperative believes that members have entered into the cooperative relationship in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect, with each member, maintaining its individual integrity.
4. The Cooperative believes in equitable service to all of its members.
5. The Cooperative believes that it is essential that all members be informed of local and global issues such as legislation, technology, and potential services.
6. The Cooperative believes that its strength comes from the strengths of its members and that together they create a synergetic partnership and unified voice.
7. The Cooperative supports and affirms the:
 - a. Library Bill of Rights <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>;
 - b. Code of Ethics
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/proethics/codeofethics/codeethics>;
 - c. Ethics Statement for Library Trustees
<http://www.ala.org/united/sites/ala.org.united/files/content/trustees/orgtools/Ethics%20Statement.pdf>

Mission Statement:

The mission of Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative is to advocate for and to provide broad services and programs for multi-type libraries within its legal service area.

Definition of a Cooperative:

State Aid to Public Libraries Public Act 89 of 1977 Section 2(e) states “Cooperative library means the library or service center designated by the cooperative board to execute services established by the cooperative plan of service and provided to libraries participating in the cooperative”.

Purpose:

According to the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative Bylaws, adopted in August, 1992 and revised in September, 2004, “the purpose of this organization is to provide those services that can usually be performed more effectively and economically by a larger unit of service while at the same time permitting the smaller unit of service to retain its local autonomy and close contact with the people it serves. The Cooperative itself does not provide direct service to the public; rather it aids and assists member libraries in their endeavors to better serve their patrons”.

Summary of Cooperative goals and strategies:

Seven long-term goals for the Cooperative were identified and developed as key to the implementation of the Mission Statement.

Goal 1: Move the Cooperative forward by maintaining an effective structure.

Goal 1 calls for the Cooperative to maintain an effective organizational structure and program of services through regular evaluation and validation of services. Providing core and unit cost services are the focus of this effort.

Goal 2: Move the Cooperative forward by exploring and promoting alliances.

Goal 2 puts a high priority on cooperation and collaboration with other organizations, both within and outside of the Cooperative area. The search for partnerships is intended to encourage growth and development of services as well as to identify opportunities to increase funding.

Goal 3: Move the Cooperative forward by the promotion of libraries.

Goal 3 makes the promotion of library services to the general public a priority for the Cooperative. The purpose is to increase public awareness of libraries and public use of library services.

Goal 4: Move the Cooperative forward by strengthening member libraries.

Goal 4 reaffirms the role of the Cooperative in furthering its mission of strengthening the member libraries through communication, consulting services, assistance with fiscal management, Board development, and through all forms of resource sharing.

Goal 5: Move the Cooperative forward through leadership and innovation.

Goal 5 is a commitment by the Cooperative in support of leadership and innovation for the continual development of new services. The Cooperative will foster innovation through pilot projects that introduce new service methods, ideas and emerging technologies.

Goal 6: Move the Cooperative forward by encouraging and facilitating professional development.

Goal 6 is a broad effort to build the skills and knowledge base of the Cooperative by investing in its human resources through education of library staff and trustees.

Goal 7: Move the Cooperative forward by supporting advocacy and advocating for all types of libraries in the membership.

Goal 7 is a recognition of the Cooperative's advocacy role and the increasing importance of library advocacy in the 21st century as libraries respond to legal, financial, and legislative issues.

Annual Cooperative Work Plan

The Cooperative Director annually will develop a plan of action under each of the seven long-term goals. The Director's Annual Work Plan will be presented to the MMLC Board at the September meeting for adoption. An update of accomplishments will be presented at the May Board meeting. A final report will be submitted annually to the Board at the September meeting.

Addendum #1 Current Membership List as of September, 2015

Public Library Members

Almont District Library
Bay County Library System
Capital Area District Library
Chippewa River District Library
Coleman Area Library
Community District Library
Dryden Township Library
Flint Public Library
Genesee District Library
Goodland Township Library
Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
Holly Township Library
Laingsburg Public Library
Lapeer District Library
North Branch Township Library
Pere Marquette District Library
Public Libraries of Saginaw
Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library
Shiawassee District Library
Vernon District Library

School Members

Carman Ainsworth Community Schools
Fenton Area Schools
Grand Blanc Community Schools

Academic Library Members

Baker College
Kettering University
Mott Community College
University of Michigan - Flint Campus

Special Library Members

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library