



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY

**MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY
COMMISSION**



www.mlc.lib.ms.us

VISION

The vision of the Mississippi Library Commission is that all Mississippians have access to quality library services in order to:

- Achieve their greatest potential,
- Participate in a global society, and
- Enrich their daily lives

MISSION

The Mississippi Library Commission is committed —through leadership, advocacy, and service— to strengthening and enhancing libraries and library services for all Mississippians.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 1, 2021- JUNE 30, 2022

Jolee Hussey	Oxford
Ann Marsh	Brandon
Stephen Cunetto	Starkville
Lori Barnes	Hernando
Becky Wright	Banner

In accordance with the requirements set forth in the Mississippi Code of 1972, §27-101-1, the Mississippi Library Commission respectfully submits the 2022 Annual Report for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION

BY ANY MEASURE

By any measure, the past year for the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) and the public libraries of Mississippi has been challenging, ambitious, stimulating, progressive, imaginative, persuasive, and unique. Indeed, while the past year could be represented by a thesaurus of words designed to portray the work of libraries, the year just concluded featured actions that were a strong follow-up to the prior pandemic year.

Despite the challenges faced during the year to support the educational needs and lifelong learning activities desired within the cities, towns, and communities of Mississippi, a lot on the local and statewide level was accomplished. Included in these accomplishments was the expansion of materials available in the MAGNOLIA database collection; the development of remote services like book clubs, speaker enrichment, and remote story times for the young children of the state; and the continuation of IT connectivity to all public libraries in the state.

Often, the adaptability of MLC was required to support the need to modify traditional services and to introduce new ways to fulfill the needs of the library patron. The proficiency shown enabled the continuation of all types of services both in the library building and remotely.

These many accomplishments required MLC to fully embrace synergistic actions. By definition, such actions provide for the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.

Working with MLC, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was a partner providing to the state ARPA and CARES funding to be combined with the monetary support of the State of Mississippi. In turn, the public libraries of the state used the funding provided by MLC and combined such with local dollars. The result of this cooperation in the year allowed for a continuation of success as goals were accomplished and standards of service were met.

Educators use the term “covariate adjusted approach” to denote the growth of services that are measured by comparing expected achievements with the achievements that are accomplished. By any measure, in view of the circumstances, the year was a success for MLC and the public libraries of Mississippi.

Hulen Bivins
Executive Director
Mississippi Library Commission



LIBRARY SERVICES BUREAU

The Library Services Bureau provides direct and indirect services to Mississippi's public libraries by providing materials, answers to reference questions; library management software so libraries can catalog, borrow, and loan books to each other; books in alternative formats for patrons with disabilities; and advise, support, and training to public libraries in order to improve library operations and develop staff knowledge.

Information Services

MLC strives to meet the information needs of all Mississippians through a variety of professional services. In FY22, MLC staff received 24,337 information requests--whether they were requests for materials, in-depth research questions, requests for genealogy assistance, information on patents, or support for school projects, Mississippians were able to receive professional assistance for their information needs.

In FY22, Mississippi's public libraries saved \$333,200 by borrowing books from each other through interlibrary loan.

Using cataloging software provided by MLC, Mississippi's public libraries cataloged 114,896 books.

The MAGNOLIA suite of databases is provided to every Mississippian through the Mississippi Legislature since 1997. In FY22, Mississippians searched MAGNOLIA 37,025,449 times!

MLC offers a variety of non-traditional items curated to enhance public library programming. In FY22, Mississippi public libraries used 124 of MLC's Book Club Kits, costumes, STEM kits, puppets, storywalks, and other specialty items at 75 events involving 2,400 people.





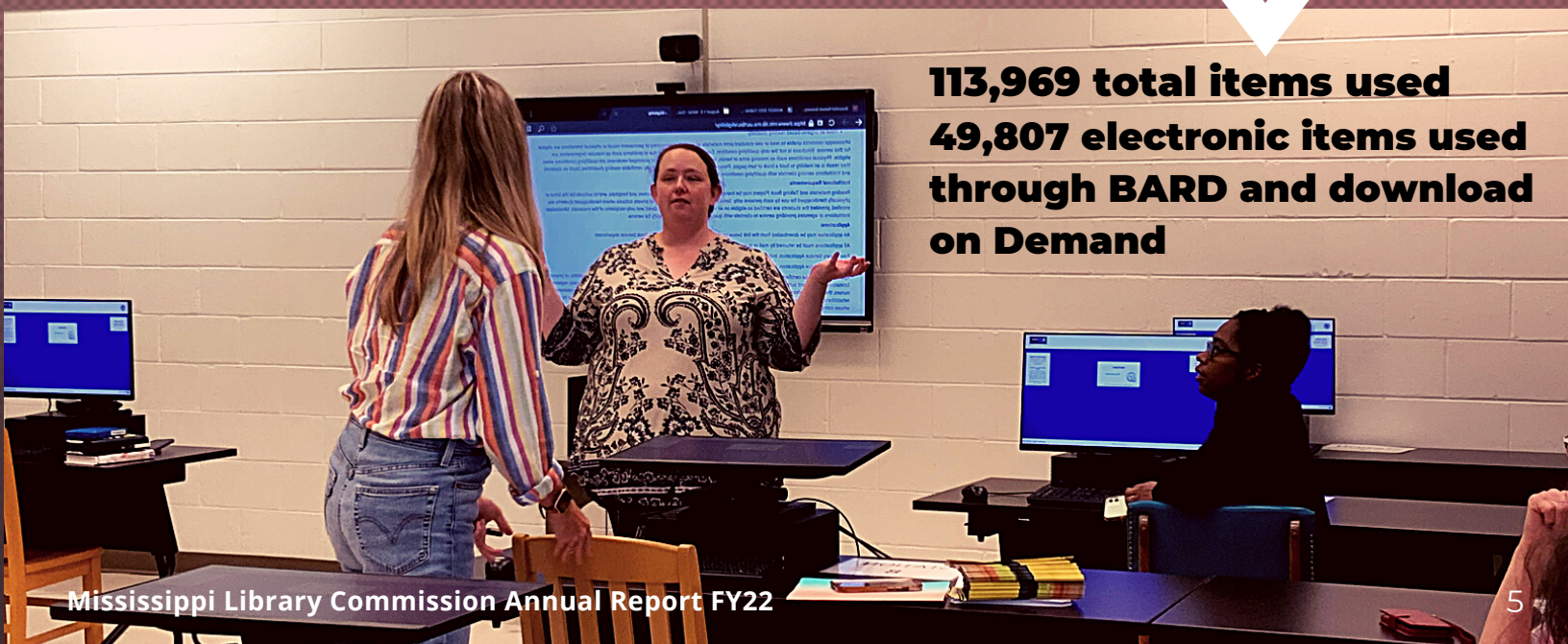
Talking Book Services

TALKING BOOK SERVICES (TBS) provides statewide access to library materials in specialized formats to individuals with disabilities. Individuals eligible for this free program include adults and children with visual impairments (blindness or an inability to read standard print), physical limitations (unable to hold a book or turn a page), and reading disabilities from an organic dysfunction, such as dyslexia.

Talking Books patrons checked out 113,969 items in FY22. Usage of BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) and Download on Demand service increased 5% from FY21 to FY22. This service allows TBS patrons to download materials directly to their personal devices so they can immediately access books and magazines in audio and braille formats.




113,969 total items used
49,807 electronic items used
through BARD and download
on Demand





Continuing Education

Continuing Education (CE) programs at MLC strengthen public library services by increasing the skills, knowledge, and expertise of public library staff members. Continuing education workshop subjects in FY22 included starting a virtual reference service, storytime for beginners, family programming, using primary sources, Friends of the Library training, digital literacy, telling your library's story, genealogy, and a variety of readers' advisory trainings

- 
- 19 live workshops/trainings with 368 attendees
 - 20 recorded webinars with 3124 views

MLC staff made 192 site visits to libraries in FY22 and welcomed 2254 visitors to MLC .



MS Book Festival

The 2021 Mississippi Book Festival was virtual. With an award-winning series of “virtual exhibits” to show off our services and serving as moderator for the Windows to the Past historical fiction panel (featuring authors Kristin Harmel, Ariel Lawhon, and Marisel Vera), MLC still found a way to connect with readers and booklovers.

Consulting Services

Professional library staff provides advice and guidance on library services, policies, planning, and management to strengthen and enhance public library service throughout the state. In FY22, the consultants made 99 visits to public libraries in order to provide consulting advice, to attend programs, and to provide trainings. MLC's consultants provided 2,700 hours of consulting to Mississippi's public libraries in FY22.



Library Development

In order to strengthen and improve public library service across the state, professional library staff offers advice and direction on library services, policies, planning, and management. The consultants offered individual library staff trainings in storytime, Friends groups, trustees, collection development, readers' advisory, and customer service in addition to consulting and site visits.

Summer Reading Program

In FY22, 137,762 Mississippians attended summer reading programs in Mississippi's public libraries. The theme, Oceans of Possibilities, was implemented in early literacy, children's, teens, adults, and family programming across the state.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Administrative Services Bureau has six divisions that provide planning, direction, and coordination of supportive services. Business Services oversees fiscal management, purchasing, and inventory control. Human Resources guides recruitment and retention of staff, performance development assessments, employee benefits, compensation assistance, and staff development. Operations maintains the MLC facility and grounds, as well as fleet management. Grant Programs administers and reports on both state and federal subgrant awards to libraries. The Technology Services department works with public libraries to provide technical assistance, training, consulting on technical concerns, E-rate, and network services. Public Relations assists libraries and MLC with their marketing and advocacy needs as well as being available to the agency.

Technology Services

The Technology Services department offers assistance in troubleshooting any technical issues that agency or public library staff may have with hardware such as computers and servers, software, email, and internet connectivity. In addition, Technology Services offers website hosting, Office 365 for staff, spam email filtering, E-rate assistance, network monitoring, training, serving as liaisons between technical vendors and library staff, and onsite consultation to public libraries in assessing their current network and making recommendations for future needs, serving as a liaison between technical vendors and library staff.





Public Relations

In FY22, MLC received a 2022 PR Xchange Award for the video created by the PR department called *Beyond the Virtual Table: MLC's Resources at a Glance*. Winning entries were on display at the PR Xchange Event at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Washington, DC.



Grants

To improve the library services offered to Mississippi residents, MLC administers federal subgrants made possible by IMLS to public library systems. State funded grants reimburse public libraries for full time staff. State funding also allows MLC to fund the PIGP, created in 1971 which allows public libraries to better serve the citizens of Mississippi with qualified staff members.

MLC received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants funds which allowed additional funding for both statewide and individual library systems to complete projects to further services to all Mississippians.

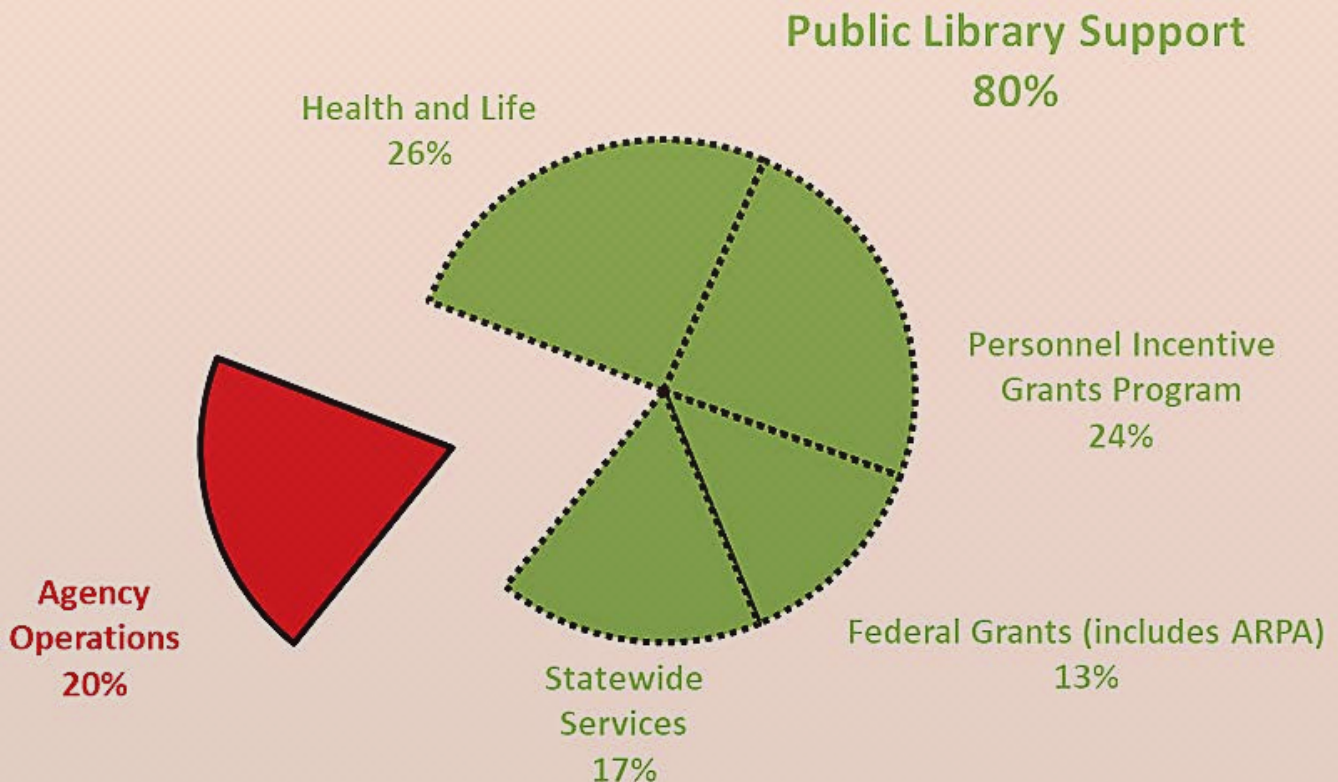


Agency Grant Expenditures

- Health & Life Insurance for public libraries - **\$3,498,821**
- Federal Grants to public libraries (includes ARPA)- **\$1,808,176**
- Personnel Incentive Grants Program- **\$3,252,223**

FY22 Expenditure

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY COMMISSION
FY2022 BUDGET-\$13,584,145 EXPENDED





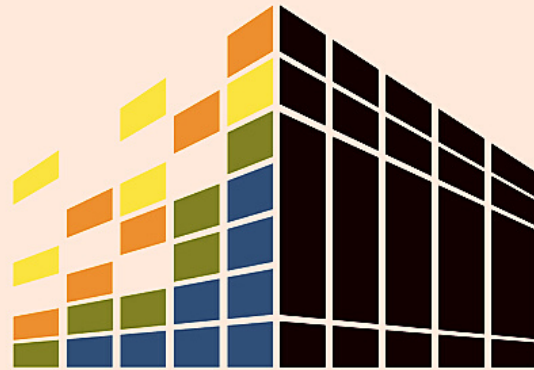
3881 Eastwood Drive,
Jackson, Mississippi 39211



601.432.4111



www.mlc.lib.ms.us



MISSISSIPPI
LIBRARY
COMMISSION

LEADERSHIP ADVOCACY SERVICE

This publication is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grants to States Program as administered by the Mississippi Library Commission.

