

Lakeland Library Cooperative



PROVIDING SERVICES TO OUR MEMBER LIBRARIES

About Us

The Lakeland Library Cooperative is organized under Michigan Public Act 89 of 1977, which provides for the establishment of cooperative libraries. Lakeland's members include 42 public libraries in 81 locations across Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Ottawa counties.

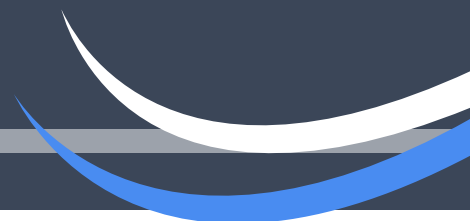
The mission of Lakeland Library Cooperative is to strengthen member libraries in eight west Michigan counties by providing the means to share resources, services, and expertise for the benefit of individuals and communities. Lakeland policies are set by the membership as a whole and govern inter-cooperative activities. Individual member libraries are governed by policies set by their local boards.

The primary funding for the Cooperative is State Aid to Public Libraries including the Cooperative's 1/3-share and the member libraries' indirect 1/3-share. Yearly, before annual budgets are finalized, member libraries choose from a menu of services offered by Lakeland. Members' costs are reduced by economies of scale through group purchasing.

How Did Lakeland Library Cooperative Get Started?

In 1971 the Grand Rapids Public Library began a federally funded pilot project that offered free reference services and borrowing privileges at Grand Rapids to libraries in Kent, Ottawa, Ionia, and Montcalm counties.

When federal support ended in October 1973, a way to maintain those services, and to add others, was sought. Through a series of meetings and the drafting of a charter for a new library system, that way was found: The Lakeland Library Federation. In 1977 the Michigan Public Act 89 of 1977 established *cooperative libraries*, which is when the current governance of the Lakeland Library Cooperative replaced the Federation.



Board

A board comprised of representatives from member libraries governs the Cooperative. There are nine board members:

- Group E: Kent District Library—2 permanent members
- Group D: Grand Rapids Public Library, Herrick District Library (Holland) and Muskegon Area District Library—1 permanent member each
- Group C: Allendale Township Library, Georgetown Township Public Library (Jenison), Hackley Public Library (Muskegon), Howard Miller Public Library (Zeeland), Ionia Community Library and Loutit District Library (Grand Haven)—1 elected member for a two year term
- Group A and B: remaining 32 libraries—1 elected member from Group A, Group B and a third member from either A or B for two year terms each



Services

- Integrated Library System software which provides a public catalog, a patron database, and circulation of materials functions
- Cataloging of collection materials for entry into the public catalog
- Data lines for access to the Integrated Library System
- Web content filtering
- IT and wide area network VPN support
- Delivery of materials between Lakeland libraries and the statewide MeLCat delivery service called RIDES
- Continuing education
- Training and hosting of state training opportunities
- Advocacy coordination
- Liaison to state library agencies
- Group purchases of supplies
- Consulting to member libraries
- Research and development
- Mobile training lab for in-library training
- Coordinate service contracts for online periodicals, eBooks/eAudiobooks, and movie licensing

Allegan

Dorr Township Library
Fennville District Library
Henika District Library
Hopkins District Library
Leighton Township Library
Salem Township Library
Saugatuck-Douglas District Library

Barry

Freeport District Library
Hastings Public Library
Thornapple Kellogg School & Community Library

Ionia

Alvah N. Belding Memorial Library
Ionia Community Library
Lake Odessa Community Library
Saranac Public Library

Kent

Cedar Springs Public Library
Grand Rapids Public Library
Kent District Library
Sparta Carnegie Township Library

Muskegon

Fruitport District Library
Hackley Public Library
Muskegon Area District Library
White Lake Community Library

Montcalm

Carson City Public Library
Flat River Community Library
Home Township Library
Tamarack District Library
Timothy C. Hauenstein Reynolds Township Library

Newaygo

Croton Township Library
Fremont Area District Library
Grant Area District Library
Hesperia Community Library
Newaygo Area District Library
White Cloud Community Library

Ottawa

Allendale Township Library
Coopersville Area District Library
Gary Byker Memorial Library
Georgetown Township Public Library
Herrick District Library
Howard Miller Library
Loutit District Library
Patmos Library
Spring Lake District Library



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