

**New Mexico State Library
Commission Report
January 23, 2025
Fiscal Year 2026, Quarter 2 (October to December 2025)**

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ADMINISTRATION

Eli Guinnee, State Librarian

Personnel

- Our Budget and Finance Supervisor has transferred to the Department of Finance and Administration, and we are currently hiring the position, applications closing January 18, 2026.
- We are also currently hiring a vacant Cataloging Librarian position, closing February 9.
- Joseph Angelo has been promoted from Technical Services Bureau Chief to Deputy State Librarian, effective January 3.
- Susanne Caro has been promoted from Librarian to Librarian Supervisor in the Public Services Bureau, effective January 3.
- We will be seeking to fill the positions vacated by the promotions: Technical Services Bureau Chief and Government Documents Librarian. TSB Bureau Chief is now posted through February 4.

Federal Funding

We continue to watch for LSTA Federal Fiscal Year 26 (LSTA26) funding in the congressional budget. IMLS has opened tribal library Basic and Enhancement grants, as well as competitive grants for all libraries. Multiple state libraries have received 25% partial awards for LSTA26. These are all a good



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sign that IMLS expects full LSTA26 funding. NMSL will continue its normal annual process of awaiting official allocation of LSTA funding, which commonly comes in the spring.

Legislative

- The Executive Budget Recommendation includes a 3.4% increase in operational general funds for NMSL and a \$5M special request for addition to the Rural Libraries Endowment. The Legislative Finance Committee recommendation also has a 3.4% operational increase but no recommendation for additions to the Endowment. Secretary Garcia y Griego has requested to the House Appropriations and Finance Committee that they add \$2.5M to the Endowment.
- Representative Cates is sponsoring HB26, an anti-book banning bill, which was prefiled. As this is a short budget session, it is not yet clear if the bill will be heard. Senators Pope and Sedillo Lopez are sponsoring similar bills for Academic and School libraries.
- Senate Bill 61 would fund one-time grants to rural libraries of \$2.5M in FY27 and FY28 (\$5M total)
- Senate Bills 62 and 99, would increase the Rural Libraries Endowment by \$29.5M.
- Friday, January 30 is Library Legislative Day at the Roundhouse.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED (LBPD)

John Mugford, Regional Librarian

CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Duplication circulation for this quarter was 35,314, about an eight percent increase from the same quarter in 2024. FY26 circulation has averaged 11,360 per month, which projects to a possible annual total exceeding 136,000.

Fourteen Scribe Mini duplication units are situated at public libraries in Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Clovis, Gallup, Hobbs, Las Cruces (2), Los Alamos, Portales, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Silver City, and Taos as well as at the Santa Fe Community College. Three units are available for further deployment with the possibility of adding a fourth from the Santa Fe Community College as it has not seen duplication activity since its placement more than three years ago. The current goal is to eventually deploy four units strategically within the Albuquerque Public Library system. This goal would achieve full deployment of available units (18 in total). Activity continues to be sporadic with the Silver City site being the most active, followed by Los Alamos and Rio Rancho.

Although affected by the six-week federal government shutdown, the National Library Service (NLS) and affiliates succeeded in adding almost 6,000 new audiobook and braille title records during these three months. Of this total, more than one thousand were from varying braille sources (e.g., nationally distributed and network-produced digital braille). Additionally, the NLS added more than 3,000 audio book title records to the collection with network libraries adding more than seven hundred. The total number of book titles in the NLS collection now exceeds 175,000. Also, there are approximately 25,000 magazine issues available for download.



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November saw the effective transitioning of Liam Lockhart after an October hiring process into the state funded Reader Advisor's position vacated by Ursula McDaid in September. Previously, Liam was in a federally funded Reader Advisor's position (LBPD has two Reader Advisor's positions). Due to current funding uncertainties, the federally funded position will remain vacant until further notice.

APPLICATIONS

LBPD continues to process detailed applications at an average rate of less than 48 hours per application. 76 applications were completed during this period, a nominal decline of about two per cent from the previous fiscal year's second quarter. The New Mexico Commission for the Blind continues to provide about one-half of all applications received with the Department of Veterans' Affairs the second highest provider at nearly twenty per cent of total. Overall, a total of 282 new applications were processed in 2025.

OUTREACH LIBRARIAN

From October through December 2025, the Outreach Librarian, Jennifer McGill, attended and represented the New Mexico State Library (NMSL) in the following ways:

October

- Exhibited at Teacher's Night Out @ MOIFA with NMSL Youth Consultant, Kelly McCabe.
- Tabled at Governor's Fall Festival
- Attended and presented at New Mexico Library Association Conference.
- Exhibited at National Federation for the Blind Conference.

November

- Installed Scribe Mini at Portales Public Library and presented to staff and community leaders on LBPD and NMSL programs for the elderly.
- Exhibited NMSL & LBPD literature at the opening of the historic site at Mesilla.
- Traveled to Gallup, Zuni and Grants with Amy DiBello to share NMSL resources.
- In coordination with Public Services Bureau's Southwest Librarian, Marcy Botwick, we presented to the Santa Fe Newcomer's Club on the resources of NMSL and all were also provided a library card.

December

- Met with Alice Baker-O'Reilly of the National Library Service to coordinate NLS summer reading program (SRP) and agreed to prepare a 45-minute presentation on Outreach for the SRP for the Network Libraries during the Spring of 2026.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY



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While the extended federal government shutdown delayed the uploading of locally produced, volunteer-based audio narrations, local activity remained consistent. Among recently completed recordings that became available via duplication or download near the end of December are the following:

- DBC10474—*The Arches Reader* by Jeffrey Nichols and read by Ken Collins.
- DBC10481—*Taken by the Shawnee* by Sallie Bingham and read by Sheila Brown.
- DBC10482—*Pablo Abeita: The Life and Times of a Native Statesman of Isleta Pueblo, 1871-1940* by Malcolm Ebright and Rick Hendricks and read by William Scheer.
- DBC10487—*Hispano Bastion* by Michael J. Alarid and read by Bruce Herr.
- DBC10492—*The Three-Two Pitch* by Wilfred McCormick and read by John Pound.
- DBC10497—*Becoming Willa Cather* by Daryl W. Palmer and read by Ken Collins.
- DBC10499—*Murder on the Largo* by Eleanor Williams and read by John Pound.
- DBC10504—*Doctor Franklin & Spain* by Thomas E. Chavez and read by John Pen La Farge.
- DBC10516—*Pause: Two Minutes to Tranquility: Discover Your Quiet Place Within* by Patricia Bonham and read by the author.
- DBC10517—*Douglas Fir: The Story of the West's Most Remarkable Tree* by Stephen F. Arno and Carl E. Fiedler and read by Bruce Herr.

Library Development

Carmelita Aragon, Bureau Chief

For the first time in my almost 11 years at the NMSL, the Library Development Bureau is fully staffed! It was a busy quarter for the bureau.

Highlights

- Onboarded new State Data Coordinator, Ursula McDaid.

Site Visits

- Baldwin Cabin Public Library to confirm developing library status as of FY26.
- Villanueva David F. Cargo Library to meet library board to explain requirements since they are going through a director transition.
- Espanola Public Library to meet with the fairly new director to discuss NMACs and other compliance issues, etc.
- Participated in library programs at Albuquerque Public Library to contribute articles to The Hitchhiker newsletter.

Meetings, Conferences, Webinars, and Other Programs

- Attended *Steady in the Storm* workshop, which was encouraged by Cabinet Secretary.



- Attended 2025 NMLA conference.
 - Presented 2 sessions with LDB staff, *Chats & Conversations: Public Library Directors Meeting*, and *More than a Chore: Plans and Policies*.
- Participated in online demo from Novus Insight and Counting Opinions to evaluate which would be best to replace the Bibliostat CollectConnect annual reporting platform.
- Presented the *More than a Chore* presentation on Zoom for library directors, and library staff.
 - The recorded presentation and slides are available on NMSLs website.
- Attended 2025 NM Data Users Conference.
- Attended the 2025 Broadband Summit.
- Attended December NALSIG meeting held at Zia Pueblo Enrichment Library.
- Hosted 4th quarterly library director's (Zoom) meeting December 18, 2025. LDB will continue quarterly library director's meetings in 2026.
- Attended the open house information meeting for the Office of Mitigation.

Rural Libraries Program (RLP) Grant

- FY26 Rural Library Program Library Establishing (RLPLE) Grant
 - \$5,000.00 to 3 public libraries for expenditure by June 30, 2026: Ojo Sarco Community Library, Baldwin Cabin Public Library, and Smith Memorial Library in Timberon.
- FY26 Rural Library Program (RLP) Grant Agreement packets sent to 59 eligible libraries via DocuSign.
 - Eligible libraries will receive \$24,893.41 if a signed grant agreement is returned to fully expend before June 30, 2026.
 - Irene Sweetkind in Cochiti Lake has declined this grant since they don't think they can fully spend this grant in addition to the HB2 One-Time Grant before June 30, 2026.
 - Pinedale Community Library does not have a fiscal agent to send any payments to and will not receive this grant.
 - Emailed library directors corresponding copy of the grant expenditures tracking sheets to complete and return to us by June 30, 2026.
 - Fielded and responded to inquiries about the RLP grant as well as the HB2 RLP grant and state grants-in-aid.

Upcoming

- State Data Coordinator Meeting in January.
- Work with Ursula to "clean up" FY25 data for the IMLS, transfer Annual Report data into new platform, and prepare for FY26 Annual Report.

Continuing Education Coordinator

Ada Negaru

Continuing Education and Professional Development

- Posted the monthly professional development calendar on the Hitchhiker blog. In addition to the national calendar of live webinars, the post now includes the sections “New to Niche” and “Read This Now!” with Continuing Education Coordinator’s recommendations for library and information science trainings and readings.
- Facilitated the live online presentation on GALE Resources in El Portal by GALE Senior Trainer.
- With the Library Development Bureau, presented the live online session
- With the Youth Services Coordinator, planned and promoted the new monthly workshop series “Learn @ Lunch” to start in January 2026.
- Added new trainings and tutorials to the NMSL Professional Development Academy in Niche Academy.
- Updated the Professional Development Resources informational sheets

Librarian and Librarianship Certification

- Administered Grade I and Grade II certification exams on 10/06, 11/06, and 11/19. The exam will be offered on demand on an individual basis starting in January 2026.
- Conducted three exam overview sessions and guided candidates in the process of exam preparation.
- Processed paperwork for Grade I and permanent professional certifications.

Site Visits (with other Library Development Bureau staff)

- 11/12-11/14: Sunland Park Community; Las Cruces Public Libraries – all three branches; City of Anthony Library
- 12/11: Española Library

Meetings, Conferences, Webinars, and Other Programs

- 10/07: attended the COSLA Library Futures meeting
- 10/08 and 12/10: attended the COSLA CE monthly meetings
- 10/20: “Archival Oddities: Misfits and Mysteries in Collections” – staffed NMSL table with Southwest Librarian
- 10/22-10/24: New Mexico Library Association Conference
 - With Library Development Bureau: presented during the sessions: “More Than a Chore: Why Library Policies are Important and How to Write Them and “Chats & Conversations”
 - Presented lightning talk: “Wait, Is There an Exam?!!! Librarianship Certification in New Mexico.”
 - Attended pre-conference workshop and conference sessions.
- 11/04 and 12/03: attended Telehealth training meetings with libraries that have or are planning to adopt the Telehealth program.
- 11/14-11/15: attended Border Regional Library Association (BRLA) 2025 Fall Conference, Las Cruces, NM.



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- 11/18: attended NALSIG field trip to the UNM Health Sciences and Informatics Center Library
- 11/20: presented during the “More Than a Chore” live online session (with Library Development Bureau).
- 12/09: attended NALSIG meeting at Pueblo of Zia Enrichment Library.
- 12/12: attended the Office of Mitigation, Prevention & Resolution open house event in Albuquerque.

Professional Service

- NMLA Education Committee. Member.
- Society of Southwest Archivists: member of the Professional Development Committee and the Programming Committee for the 2026 Annual Meeting.
- Academy of Certified Archivists. Member.
- Society of American Archivists. Member and part of mentor in mentorship program.

GO Bonds Program Coordinator

Patricia Moore

2022 GO Bonds

The current 2022 GO Bond allocation (\$7,000,000) provides \$6,000,000 for public libraries and \$1,000,000 for tribal public libraries. The libraries have until April 1, 2026, to send in final reimbursement requests. This allows for time to review all the paperwork and to contact libraries regarding any issues such as accounting errors, missing documentation, confusion on the part of the GO Bonds Program Coordinator, etc. Any unspent funds revert to the State on June 30, 2026.

- As of this report, the State Library has received 120 reimbursement requests (and counting) totaling \$1,777,160 from 54 public libraries. Seven public libraries (Belen, Columbus, Espanola, Eunice, Moriarty, Red River and Jal/Woolworth) have spent all their 2024 allocations. Seven Tribal public libraries have submitted 17 reimbursement requests totaling \$104,147. With only 3 months before the deadline, the number of reimbursement requests are increasing as expected. The State Library provides oversight into the GO Bonds process through a documented review process of approved purchases and proof-of-payment for all purchases submitted. There is a lot of paper which crosses over my desk!
- The 14 non-profit libraries proved the State Library with updated Memorandums of Understanding for this fiscal year at the request of the Department of Finance and Administration. (However, the library in Villanueva lost its fiscal agent midyear 2025 and has yet to find a replacement.) Copies went to the Department of Cultural Affairs, Finance Division in December. The MOUs are valid until the end of FY 26 (June 30, 2026); each library will need to get new/updated MOUs to have access to the 2024 GO Bond allocations.

2024 GO Bonds



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The upcoming 2024 GO Bond allocation (\$7,000,000) provides \$6,000,000 for public libraries and \$1,000,000 for tribal public libraries, the same amounts as the 2022 GO Bonds. The 2024 GO Bonds were approved in the November 2024 election with 530,807 (65.70%) yes votes.

- Public libraries' allocations are much the same as their 2020 GO Bond amounts. Slight changes to the individual allocations occurred due to county population fluctuations when updating the final dollar amounts. However, tribal public libraries' individual 2024 GO Bond allocations are reduced from the 2022 GO Bond allocations. The tribal public libraries share the \$1,000,000 equally among themselves (a decision made prior to the 2008 GO Bonds). The reason for the reduction - the 2022 GO Bonds were divided among 18 tribal public libraries, with each library receiving on average \$55,444.00, while the 2024 GO Bonds are divided among 22 libraries, with each library receiving on average \$43,390.00.
- 2024 GO Bond Funding will include allocations for four Developing public libraries: Hillsboro Community Library in Sierra County, Nambe Pueblo Library in Santa Fe County, Picuris Pueblo Library and Taos Pueblo Library, both in Taos County.
- A decision was made by the Department of Finance and Administration to sell the Bonds in two batches; one sale occurred in June 2025, and the other sale which includes the public library GO Bonds is now scheduled to be sold sometime in January 2026. Customarily, the 2024 GO Bonds would be available until June 30, 2028. Because of the delay in the sales date, the 2024 GO Bonds will now be available until June 30, 2029.

State Data Coordinator

Ursula McDaid

Site Visits

- November 12: Sunland Park Public Library
- November 13: Las Cruces Public Library System
 - Thomas Branigan Memorial Library
 - Sage Café Branch
 - Munson Branch
- November 14: Anthony Public Library
- December 11: Española Public Library

Professional Development, Conferences, Workshops, etc.

- October 22–24: Co-presented and volunteered at the 2025 New Mexico Library Association (NMLA) Conference in Albuquerque
 - Co-presented two sessions with the Library Development Bureau:
 - *Chats & Conversations: Public Library Directors Meeting*
 - *More Than a Chore: Plans and Policies*
 - Attended pre-conference workshop and multiple conference sessions
- November 15: Attended the Border & Regional Library Association Conference in Las Cruces
- November 18: Participated in NALSIG field trip to the UNM Health Sciences and Informatics Center Library



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- November 19: Attended the 2025 Data Users Conference in Albuquerque
- November 20: Co-presented during the live online session *More Than a Chore* with the Library Development Bureau
- December 9: Attended NALSIG meeting at the Pueblo of Zia Enrichment Library
- December 18: Participated in the Library Directors' Meeting

State Grants in Aid

Provided administrative and technical support for the FY26 State Grants in Aid program.

- Prepared and distributed FY26 SGiA agreement packets to eligible libraries via DocuSign
- Processed grant payments for libraries that returned completed agreements
- Responded to library inquiries regarding SGiA requirements and timelines
- Assisted libraries with questions related to SGiA reporting and the Annual Report

Annual Report

- Met with representatives from NOVUS and Counting Opinions to determine the most suitable new platform for the Annual Report after Baker & Taylor's sale.
- Began preparing FY25 data for submission to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Public Library Survey portal.

Upcoming

- January 2026 New Orleans State Data Coordinator Annual Meeting

Tribal Libraries Program Outreach Program Support Specialist - Crownpoint

Raeshelle Largo

I visited 48-chapter houses on the Navajo Nation. I delivered books for community members to pick up, coloring books that chapters give out during chapter meetings to keep kids busy, bookmarks, brochures of Brainfuse JobNow, Brainfuse HelpNow, El Portal, Gale resource, Books by Mail, Library for the Blind & Print Disabled, and NM eReads. I provide outreach support for chapter coordinators and chapters who have new hires in the position. I identify community needs in reminding them that I am available to help plan and develop workshops, attend their chapter meetings if needed and continue to visit chapters and provide supplies for their community members. Chapters have been appreciative for the new computers, the library's support and are grateful for the free online resources available to them. I coordinate and assist the Tribal Libraries Program Coordinator in developing community libraries on the Navajo Nation. The beginning of November I delivered only books to chapters that give out supplies to their community during the holidays.

Conference attended

NMSL Conference – October 21 – 24, 2025

NALSIG meeting – October 23, 2025

NALSIG meeting – December 9, 2025

Upcoming



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NM 5-Actions Program – January 13, 2026

NALSIG meeting – February 10, 2026

Tribal Libraries Program (TLP) Coordinator

Cassandra Osterloh

Overview of Tribal Library Landscape and Support Needs (Since September 2021)

Since beginning my role as Tribal Libraries Program (TLP) Coordinator in September 2021, I have had the opportunity to work closely with tribal libraries across New Mexico through site visits, ongoing conversations, and day-to-day support. Based on this experience, I would like to highlight several key realities that shape the current landscape of tribal libraries in the state:

- Growth of new libraries. Six new tribal libraries have been established since my arrival, each requiring intensive, individualized support for their initial setup, policy development, funding eligibility, and overall library infrastructure.
- Significant leadership turnover. Among the 24 tribal libraries, there has been significant leadership turnover. Excluding newly established libraries, *12 libraries have hired a total of 18 new library directors* during this period, including *five libraries that have experienced multiple director changes*. In addition, there has been frequent turnover among library supervisors, financial staff, and tribal administrative leadership, further affecting continuity and operations.
- Ongoing training and technical assistance needs. With each new library director—and often with newly appointed supervisory staff—I provide individualized training and ongoing support related to state statutes, funding requirements, allowable expenditures, reporting expectations, and compliance processes. To date, I have worked directly with *32 individuals across 15 libraries*, including library directors, education directors, and other supervisors responsible for overseeing library operations.
- Complex and varying tribal governance structures. Tribal governance differs significantly among Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations. Many experience annual changes in elected leadership, others every two years, and some every four years. This level of turnover can create instability for libraries, often resulting in shifting policies and procedures, limited institutional knowledge of library operations, and changing priorities that directly affect library sustainability.

Library Visits and Support

- Completed five site visits to tribal public libraries, offering hands-on assistance with materials selection, policy development, budgeting, and overall library planning.
- Delivered Library Board training at Zia Enrichment Library.
- Met with newly appointed library directors at Pueblo of Pojoaque Public Library and Jemez Pueblo Community Library to provide orientation and support.
- Prepared and distributed FY25 TLP grant award letters and processed associated purchase order requests, check requests, and related documentation.

TLP Initiatives and Community Engagement

- Helped coordinate and participated in a TLP field trip to the UNM Health Sciences Library.
- Launched and began facilitating a new monthly online series, *Ask an Archivist: How to Care for Indigenous Materials*, which brings together archival professionals to discuss respectful care of Indigenous materials, relationship-building, and culturally responsive cataloging and description practices for library and archives staff across New Mexico.
- Met with staff from Santo Domingo Pueblo Library and the NASA@ My Library program coordinator to plan and develop community-based programming for 2026.
- Met with co-curators of *Restorying Our Heartplaces: Contemporary Pueblo Architecture* at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center to explore adapting the exhibition into a traveling exhibit with accompanying programming for tribal libraries.
- Facilitated monthly TLP director meetings and book club discussions to strengthen connections, collaboration, and peer learning.

Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings Attended

- Attended the MPLA Tri-Conference (North Dakota Library Association, South Dakota Library Association, and Mountain Plains Library Association) in Grand Forks, ND; participated in MPLA board meetings and presented a session titled *Developing Community Engagement and Partnerships for Strong Programming*.
- Attended the International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Cherokee, NC, where I presented a half-day preconference workshop, *Developing Community Engagement and Partnerships for Strong Library Programming*.
- Attended the New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference in Albuquerque; participated in board meetings and presented two sessions: a half-day preconference, *Respectful Representation: Acquiring and Displaying Native American Art and Artifacts in Your Library*, and *Beyond Inclusion: Building Library Collections That Center Native Voices*.
- Attended the New Mexico Broadband Summit in Albuquerque.
- Organized and facilitated NALSIG (Native American Libraries Special Interest Group) meetings at the NMLA Conference in October and our final 2025 meeting in December at the Zia Enrichment Library.

Other Highlights

- Leading the national revision of the *TRAILS Tribal Library Procedures Manual* (5th edition), updating the 2017 edition to reflect current practices, priorities, and evolving needs in tribal librarianship.

Upcoming Conference Presentations

- “Centering Native Voices in Library Collections.” *CLiC (Colorado Library Consortium) Virtual Winter Workshop*. Virtual, February 2026.
- “The American Indian Youth Literature Awards: Celebrating Indigenous Voices in Children’s Literature.” *American Library Association Annual Conference*, Chicago IL, June 2026. (poster session) [co-presenter: Joy Bridwell]



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- “Respectful Representation: Honoring Indigenous Art and Culture in Libraries.” *American Library Association Annual Conference*, Chicago IL, June 2026. (poster session)

Professional Service and Leadership Roles

- American Indian Library Association (AILA): Member-at-Large; Co-Chair of the American Indian Youth Literature Award Committee.
- American Library Association (ALA): Chair of the Rural, Native, and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds (RNTLOAK) Committee; Member of the Public Policy Committee.
- Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM): Member, Tribal Library Council; Programming Committee for the 2026 International Conference in Spokane WA.
- COSLA: Chair, Tribal Library Coordinators.
- Joint Council of Librarians of Color 2026 Conference (Spokane, WA): Steering Committee Member (AILA representative); Chair, Concurrent Programs, Poster Sessions & Proceedings; Chair, Conference Planning, Logistics & Local Arrangements
- Mountain Plains Library Association: Recording Secretary.
- New Mexico Library Association (NMLA): Chair, Native American Libraries Special Interest Group (NALSIG); Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee.

Youth Services Coordinator

Kelly McCabe

Summer Reading 2025 – Surveys from the 2025 Summer Reading Program were compiled and analyzed, including the required Library Surveys and Parent/Caregiver surveys from across the state. We received feedback from 104 summer reading locations and 608 Parent/Caregivers.

- The surveys showed a total of 30,098 registered participants, 3,173 Summer Reading Events, and 85,015 event attendees statewide.
- 80% of Parent/Caregivers reported an increase in Reading Amount, Enjoyment of Reading, and Use of the Library through participation in a library summer reading program. Quotes:
 - “Great social interaction for kids of all ages”
 - “We had more family memories together reading!”
 - “We love the extracurricular activities and learning experiences!”

Summer Reading 2026

- Created and distributed new training materials and resources for Summer Reading 2026, *Unearth a Story*
- Administered the CSLP merchandise vouchers for 78 participating libraries.
- Ordered Summer Reading merchandise for use for statewide workshops and promotion
- Summer Reading Live, Online Trainings Offered:
 - *Summer Reading 101*: 2 sessions, 10/29/25 and 11/7/2025
 - *How to Use the Online Manual*: 11/19/2025
 - *How to Use the CSLP Voucher*: 10/31/2025

Site Visits



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- Baldwin Cabin 10/1/2025
- Sunland Park Public Library 11/12/2025
- Las Cruces Public Library (all 3 branches) 11/13/2025
- Anthony Public Library 11/14/2025
- Villaneuva Library/El Valle Community Center 12/10/2025

Professional Conferences/Workshops Attended

- Attended the New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference 10/22-10/24/2025
 - Co-Presented with Library Development Bureau
 - *Chats & Conversations: Public Library Directors Meeting*
 - *More Than a Chore: Plans and Policies*
 - Presented: *Summer Reading, Looking Back to Look Ahead*
- Attended the Border Regional Library Association Conference, Las Cruces, NM 11/15/2025; participated in a panel discussing types of librarianship.

Other Highlights

- Participated in Santa Fe Teachers Night Out event with Outreach Librarian to promote state library resources for students.
- Worked with Continuing Education Coordinator to plan and promote new Learn@Lunch online education series.

Professional Service

- Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) Board Member (At-Large) 2025-2026
- CSLP Vendor Committee, Summer Symposium Committee, Leadership Committee
- CSLP Mentor for new State Representatives
- Land of Enchantment Book Award Committee Member
- Member: ALA, NMLA, MPLA

Communication Initiatives/Responsibilities

- Monthly Youth Services Newsletter
- Youth Services Listserv
- Hitchhiker Posts and Hitchhiker Digest
- Social Media Manager for NMSL, coordinating with the DCA PR specialist as needed.
- Serve as Administrator for LibCal system for Events Calendar, Staff Appointments and Circulating Kits.

Public Services Bureau

Katherine Montoya, Public Services Supervisor

During the reporting period, significant progress was made across multiple areas of library operations, services, and professional engagement.

The process of hiring a new Supervisor, Library Services Librarian, has been completed and will ensure continuity and leadership within the department.

A new literary map was developed in support of NEA Read Across New Mexico and our 250 Reading List, strengthening statewide literacy initiatives. Following the closure of Baker & Taylor, efforts were undertaken to secure a new eBook platform, resulting in the successful migration of more than 700 licenses to Hoopla and the initiation of online library card application capabilities through Springhare's Verify system.

The library's weeding process was reviewed and clarified as not constituting Non-Records Destruction, allowing collection maintenance to proceed without additional administrative costs or procedures.

Required annual and interim staff evaluations were completed in accordance with policy.

Collaboration with NMHAM allowed us to provide guidance on book repair supplies and best practices to support preservation efforts. In addition, I was nomination to and acceptance a position on the New Mexico Library Foundation Board, which will allow me to help promote their professional services and library advocacy at the state level.

Research was initiated into online access for journals currently held in print, as well as the potential acquisition of new electronic journal subscriptions. Finally, the library received a section of the historic physical library catalog from the Library of Congress, which will be preserved and displayed as part of the library's public and educational programming.

Federal and State Government Publications

Susanne Caro, Government Information Librarian

I organized a panel, and presented at the virtual Depository Library Conference (a national meeting of the Federal Depository Libraries). The panel shared strategies for [Promoting Materials in a Digital World](#), such as the incorporation of QRL codes in displays, developing websites, and outreach to students. Over three hundred people attended the live session.

To promote reading and libraries, I printed out READ backgrounds for use as part of Legislative Day. These backgrounds allow participants to create their own READ posters to share. These posters have been used by libraries for years and often feature celebrities but when used by other public figures are a way to show support for libraries and communities.

I developed a banner last quarter that presented information on the effects of nuclear testing and uranium mining on New Mexicans. This was part of a National Endowment for the Humanities



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funded exhibit on how communities deal with disasters. As part of the exhibit a library guide was created looking at different facets of the nuclear age in the state. In the last quarter I worked with the State Archives and public librarians to add information to the site on the [Radiation Exposure Compensation Act](#). This part of the webpage now has many resources residence can use if they believe they have a claim. The site links to yearbooks, archives, and directories claimants need to prove residence.

At the end of the quarter, I was promoted to the position of Supervisor, Library Services. I will supervise the State Document Coordinator and Federal Documents Library Technician. I will direct the shifting of collections and obtain tangible and electronic publication from state and federal sources, while continuing with previous duties.

Interlibrary Loan and Circulation

Amy DiBello, MLIS ILLiad & Reference Librarian

On October 7, 2025, Jennifer Finley-McGill (LBPD) and I visited the Jemez Springs Public Library to meet with new director Andrew Adaryukov and librarian Amanda Lewis. We discussed interlibrary loan (ILL) and LBPD services. The library is satisfied with ILL and requested a spreadsheet of past transactions, which I later provided. I also shared information on Modest Means, LREP, and legal fairs. Andrew expressed interest in hosting a legal fair due to the community's older population. We discussed Zoom and phone legal clinics, and I noted that LREP serves patrons age 55 and older. We also toured the library and viewed local art.

On October 15, 2025, I met via Zoom with prison librarians statewide to present an overview of ILL and Articles Plus services. Using a PowerPoint edited with help from Katherine Miles, I explained ILL eligibility for NMDOC employees, request limits, costs, workflows, and available research support through NMSL, ALA ILL guides, and LibGuides. The session was well received and led to increased engagement from correctional libraries.

I attended Atlas and ILLiad training, *Concierge Connects: A Two-Part Online Projects Showcase*, on October 28 and 30, 2025, which focused on improving ILL workflows, reporting, and system efficiency.

Since Lori's retirement, I have attended New Mexico State Bar Access to Justice Commission meetings via Zoom. Topics include civil legal access initiatives, multilingual scribing services, assisted outpatient treatment programs, and free Zoom and phone legal clinics addressing housing, debt, wages, disability rights, family law, immigration, and elder resources.

I continue to promote the Modest Means Helpline and related events to public library directors, distribute flyers statewide, and maintain the AJT LibGuide. NMSL is set to be a beta test group for the New Mexico Internet Portal Project, which will help residents identify legal issues, access information, determine eligibility for free services, and obtain referrals to self-help resources or reduced-rate legal representation.



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Southwest Collection

Marcy Botwick, Southwest Librarian

October provided opportunities to go to conferences not commonly held in New Mexico. I attended the NM State Historic Preservation Conference at Highlands University for one day. The conference was returning after a 10-year hiatus. The sessions increased my understanding of various programs at private and DCA sites. I also had the opportunity to talk with preservation experts interested in resources at the state library, particularly the Candid Foundation Database and Southwest and State Documents collections. I attended three days of the Western History Association Conference, which was held in Albuquerque this year. The association is the premier organization specializing in scholarship of the North American West, including expansion, colonization, indigenous histories, and regional and borderland studies. The sessions provided invaluable information on the direction of Southwest scholarship and the connections formed with publishers and scholars inform ongoing planning for Southwest non-fiction collection development. I attended the New Mexico Library Association, reinforcing connections with librarians around the state and building relationships with colleagues newer to me. From these sessions and conversations, I am now in process in setting up tours for NMSL staff at Radius Books and at the Supreme Court Law Library. As a result of the conferences, I also revised two popular research guides, those on Native American Boarding Schools and on Native American Genealogy Resources.

Other outreach from October to December included:

- Visit from LDS Family Search managers Glenn Adamz and Jose Domingues to tour our facility and discuss Family Search Genealogy database
- Planning and attending a community event at Meow Wolf highlighting New Mexico archives and libraries
- Planning and conducting a 2-hour tour of the New Mexico State Library by 28(?) members of the Santa Fe Newcomers Club
- Meeting with Craig Bullough from Ancestry to discuss potential digital collaborations

A last important and time sensitive project in this period was beginning the transition of the NM State Library eBook/audiobook platform from Baker and Taylor's Boundless to Hoopla.

Rural Services

Joseph Angelo, Deputy State Librarian

Bookmobiles

Laura Gonzales, Bookmobile Staff Manager

During the second quarter of FY26, our bookmobile teams continued to serve their communities with flexibility and commitment, even as weather events and mechanical issues created



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unexpected challenges. Staff worked collaboratively to maintain service continuity, support community outreach, and prepare for a strong start to the new year.

- **Systemwide Updates**

All bookmobile staff participated in ongoing online professional development this quarter, focusing on emerging technologies, safety, and customer service. This training strengthens our statewide delivery service and helps ensure staff remain current on best practices as patron needs evolve.

- **East Bookmobile**

The East team had a dynamic quarter marked by innovation and operational challenges. The pilot “Magic Bookshelf” initiated at the Melrose Senior Center continues to be a success, with steady use from multiple patrons. Based on this positive feedback, the team is considering adding additional shelves to expand access to materials between visits.

On November 3, 2025, the East bookmobile experienced a mechanical failure south of Artesia and required towing. With quick coordination from staff, repairs were initiated promptly. However, the vehicle remained in the shop through November and December, and scheduled runs for those months had to be cancelled. The bookmobile was successfully repaired and retrieved on December 9, and staff are eager to resume full service in the new year.

- **West Bookmobile**

The West team participated in multiple outreach events this quarter, including showcasing the bookmobile at the ARSL Conference and attending the NMLA Annual Conference in Albuquerque. Their presence at these events strengthened statewide visibility of New Mexico’s rural library services.

Operationally, the Gila Hot Springs stop was cancelled on September 25 due to a gas and exhaust odor inside the vehicle; the issue has since been resolved. A winter storm led to an additional cancellation on November 20. Despite these interruptions, staff continued to receive strong positive feedback from patrons regarding their professionalism and outreach. With the development of new public libraries in Hillsboro and Datil, the bookmobile officially discontinued service to those stops as of December 2025. Additional outreach this quarter included radio engagement and participation in a school open house to introduce students to bookmobile services.

- **Northeast Bookmobile**

The Northeast team continued offering consistent, high-quality service throughout the quarter. Staff attended the NMLA Conference and added a holiday-themed display shelf to the bookmobile to encourage seasonal engagement with patrons. Their ongoing efforts in



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both the bookmobile and the library continue to strengthen patron relationships and service continuity.

Despite mechanical issues, weather-related cancellations, and schedule adjustments, all three bookmobile teams demonstrated strong commitment to serving their communities. Staff worked collaboratively, supported one another during route disruptions, and continued to enhance outreach efforts. Their dedication this quarter reflects the ongoing strength of New Mexico's bookmobile program and its vital role in connecting residents to library services statewide.

Delivery Office

Guillermo Martinez, Delivery Driver

During this quarter, the Delivery office checked out 13 circulating kits to public libraries across New Mexico. Large Print Deposit Collections were delivered to 14 participating public libraries. We currently have 34 libraries that participate in the Large Print Deposit Collection Program. I visited a total of 51 libraries over the quarter. We already have 21 requests for circulating kits for 2026. This is an increase compared to 2025. We already have 54% of our deliveries booked for 2026 through our reservation system. (<https://nmstatelibrary.org/circulating-kits/>)

The Delivery Office will not be traveling in January. I am using this time to prepare for the next round of deliveries. I am working with Berdina Nieto from the Books by Mail Program to expand the Large Print Deposit Collection from 65 sets to 91 sets. One of our delivery vans will be serviced in the next quarter. Moving forward into 3rd quarter of FY26, we are moving from visiting libraries 4 times a calendar year to 3 visits per calendar year. Deliveries for 2026 will begin on February 10th.

Books by Mail

Berdina Nieto, Books by Mail Rural Outreach Specialist

Rural Outreach Specialist, Berdina Nieto, presented at the NMLA conference in October regarding her best practices in mindfulness while working in a single staff member program.

In collaboration with Delivery Services, she's been actively working on structuring the Large Print Deposit program as it has increased from 29 participating libraries to 34. More sets were organized and will be processed in the upcoming quarter, increasing the number of sets from 65 to 91 sets.

Books by Mail currently serves 230 households across all 33 counties of NM. 46% of patrons are in rural areas, 34% require large print books, and 20% of patrons are homebound.

In October, the collections of the Bookmobiles and Books by Mail were combined to provide more reading material to the registered patrons across all four individual programs. Berdina drafted a how-to guide for the programs that patrons have found to be useful. One of the Books by Mail patrons told us:



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"I had always been hesitant to use the online catalog, but seeing visuals and clear step by step instructions have made it so much easier for me to see what books I can get. I feel spoiled being able to choose from so many books now!"

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Joseph Angelo, Bureau Chief

Changes in the Bureau

No staffing changes occurred during the quarter; however, I was promoted to Deputy State Librarian at the very end of December. I began the new position at the beginning of January. The long-vacant cataloger position will be posted in January, and I hope we will be able to hire someone before the end of the fiscal year. The Technical Services Bureau Chief position will also be vacant in the next quarter, and I hope we are able to fill that position as quickly as possible.

Our Library Technician who handles Federal Government documents and Serials, went on extended leave in November. This has created a significant impact on the Bureau's output as Federal Document processing has essentially ceased, and Serials processing has slowed down. The employee plans to be back in the Spring.

New Mexico State Library Activity

Despite our staffing challenges, the Technical Services Bureau has managed to take care of business and keep things moving. Some of our statistics have noticeably dropped this quarter due to lack of staff, people taking time off during the holidays and an unexpectedly long cataloging freeze that was part of our yearly Bibliographic Deduplication subscription. SirsiDynix, the company who hosts our ILS (Integrated Library System), offers a yearly bibliographic deduplication service as part of our customer service plan. The service requires a cataloging freeze while the deduplication work is in process. The entire process (as well as the freeze) was scheduled to take 10 days. Unfortunately, it took SirsiDynix staff almost a month to complete the service. As a result, NMSL, Rural Services and the SALSA Consortium were unable to catalog for the entire month of December. We are in communication with SirsiDynix about this frustrating issue and are making plans to prevent similar situations in the future.

Sarah Obenauf, our ILS Administrator, continues to work on strategies that will ease the burden of making the State Library website meet the new April 2026 Accessibility standards. We are currently waiting for input from DCA Communications and IT before moving forward with any major website changes.

PCC Activity

The [PCC](#) (Program for Cooperative Cataloging) is a Library of Congress facilitated international cataloging cooperative that promotes and produces extremely high-quality cataloging.



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The Federal Government shutdown in October and November impacted some of our PCC activity. Because the Library of Congress was closed during the shutdown, we did not receive any new CIP (Cataloging in Publication) assignments. The CIP program is managed by Library of Congress. Its purpose is to create preliminary bibliographic records for books before they are published. Often times this cataloging information is included on the title page verso of the book. Our CIP statistics quickly picked up once the shutdown ended, though the numbers are lower than in previous quarters.

Despite the shutdown, the Technical Services Bureau continued contributing bibliographic and authority records, subject headings and Library of Congress classification numbers to PCC throughout the quarter.

SALSA Consortium

We held our Winter SALSA Consortium meeting on December 17th at the Nuevo Mexicano Heritage Arts Museum. The Museum has recently opened their new library, and they were excited to show it off to the rest of the consortium. The Technical Services Bureau has been assisting the Museum with the creation of their library since the very beginning of the project in 2021. The finished library is great. It's been wonderful to see what was a crowded room full of loosely organized books transform into a functional and welcoming library.

Sarah and our lone cataloger, Bradley Carrington, have been helping Amy Boggess, the librarian at NMDOT, with their library catalog configuration and cataloging workflows. Sarah has been assisting the Martha Liebert Public Library in Bernalillo with troubleshooting various issues and embedding a library book carousel into their website. Sarah and Bradley have also been providing original cataloging for the Museum of International Folk Art library. Kyle Olmon, the librarian at Folk Art, inherited an extensive cataloging backlog. Many of the items are in an array of foreign languages and deal with very niche subjects. Both Bradley and Sarah are doing an excellent job tackling these cataloging challenges.

Bradley and I continued to cover shifts at the Laboratory of Anthropology library while the building was open. The Laboratory of Anthropology briefly closed in November, but Bradley resumed his shift once the building reopened. We are still planning on migrating the library to Symphony and bringing it into SALSA sometime in 2026.

NMLA Activity

Bradley, Sarah and I attended the NMLA Annual Conference and presented our "Copy Cataloging Demystified" Pre-conference workshop. Our workshop had ten attendees from libraries all over New Mexico. We helped them understand the intricacies of the MARC standard and showed them how they can find the best bibliographic record when they are copy cataloging. Sarah gave a lightning talk titled: "TSB is TCB: Helping You "Make Due" with What You Didn't Know You Had." We also hosted a Technical Services SIG meeting. After the meeting, Sarah graciously volunteered to lead the Tech Services SIG after I announced that I would be stepping down.

Outreach and Technical Services Consulting



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I accompanied Carmelita Aragon and Kelly McCabe from the Development Bureau on a site visit to Baldwin Cabin Library. Baldwin Cabin is near Datil, NM and recently became eligible for “Developing Library” status. I had been helping Baldwin Cabin select an ILS (Integrated Library System) for their library. It was a great opportunity to visit the library and meet the director and board members in person.

Sarah also advised the new director at Villanueva Public Library on selecting spine labels and a new spine label printer for their library. Sarah and Bradley are working on a presentation for the COSUGI 2026 annual conference in April.

STATISTICAL REPORT

	FY25	FY26 Q1	FY26 Q2	FY26 YTD
		July-Sep	Oct-Dec	
LBPD				
Duplication Circ (# books on cartridges)	127,277	32,847	35,314	68,161
Duplication Cartridges Out	18,106	4,642	4,321	8,963
Duplication Patrons (average monthly)	480	503	465	484
Bard Downloads	36,983	9,425	9,626	19,051
Bard Patrons (average monthly)	207	226	228	227
Number of Outreach Visits	49	10	10	20
Volunteer Hours	309	100	86	186
PSB				
Gate Count	5,431	1,273	1,037	2,310
Circulation	1,674	734	823	1,557
Databases	3,352,010	710,014	956,974	1,666,988
Reference Questions	5,339	1,341	1,282	2,623
ILL	6,301	1,718	1,418	3,136
Computer Usage	632	222	161	383
Technical Services				
new bibliographic records	37,982	2,356	475	2,831
new item records	41,489	3,233	1,130	4,363
new serial issues	3,589	720	557	1,277
Original Cataloging	744	80	86	166
Copy Cataloging	7,388	1,413	1,456	2,869
PCC Contributions (BIBCO, SACO, CIP, etc)	909	270	113	383
CIP records	41	27	19	46
Outreach/Sites Visits	11	7	4	11
Books by Mail				
Circulation	3,581	622	548	1,170
Number of Patrons	219	240	243	483
LP Deposit Circulation	1,772	680	700	1,380
Bookmobiles				
East Circulation	3,872	857	627	1,484
East Patrons	283	526	195	721
East Number of Stops	29	81	28	
Northeast Circulation	14,345	2,365	2,873	5,238
Northeast Number of Stops	33	87	87	
Northeast Patrons	777	1,452	1,509	2,961



NEW MEXICO STATE LIBRARY

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West Circulation	7,741	1,507	1,574	3,081
West Patrons	345	186	296	482
West Number of Stops	33	80	80	160
Delivery				
Number of sites delivered to	427	82	70	152
Number of items delivered	1,236	255	432	687
LibCal circulation	56	17	18	35
Library Development Bureau				
Number of Site Visits	202	21	40	61
Number of Participants at Site Visits	220	70	120	190
Number of Online Meetings	171	81	43	124
Number of Participants at Online Meetings	-	631	333	964
Number of Workshops/Trainings	-	4	35	39
Number of Participants in Workshops/Trainings	-	45	891	936
Number of Other Events	-	97	34	131
Number of Participants at Other Events	-	501	321	822
Number of Listserv Postings	-	102	94	196
Number of Listserv Recipients	-	10,359	11,227	21,586
Number of Newsletters Sent	-	4	3	7
Number of Newsletter Recipients	-	1,622	1,020	2,642