New Mexico State Library
Strategic Plan
2020-2022

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Nmstatelibrary.org

Adopted by the New Mexico State Library Commission February 5, 2020
Our Mission

The New Mexico State Library’s mission is to support the wellbeing and self-managing capacity of New Mexico’s communities, leveraging statewide resources for local benefit, and ensuring all have the opportunity to contribute to community success.

About the State Library

Founded in 1929, the New Mexico State Library fulfills its promise that every New Mexican deserves access to robust library services. It does this in three ways:

1. First, with its extensive research collection, the State Library plays a critical role in telling New Mexican stories and helping individuals find their places in these stories. Staff expertise and encouragement supports the work of diverse researchers as they create new knowledge that benefits us all.

2. Second, it provides direct support to public libraries, offering professional development, mentorship, and statewide advocacy. This helps libraries and librarians support social wellbeing, resiliency, and positive change within their communities.

3. Third, the State Library provides services that are specifically tailored to the needs of populations that do not have ready access to a library, such as remote rural families, the blind, and differently abled New Mexicans. In these ways, the State Library is both a partner and resource to New Mexico’s diverse communities.

The New Mexico State Library comprises a Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, a Public Services Bureau, three Rural Bookmobile Offices and a Books by Mail service, a Technical Services Bureau, a Library Development Bureau, and Administration. Our research library in the Carruthers Building, 1209 Camino Carlos Rey, in Santa Fe, houses an excellent Southwest Collection, Federal and State Documents and other research resources, and is open to the public. The State Library is a Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, which oversees state arts and cultural heritage agencies.
Process

The intent of the strategic planning process has been to frame the work of the State Library within the larger mission of fostering the character and success of New Mexico’s communities. A Strategy Team of 15 staff members representing all units of the State Library met monthly in 2019 to identify primary user groups, engage stakeholders, develop concepts, and establish shared internal beliefs.

As a group the staff discussed strategic direction, overarching goals, and specific objectives. Three-year goals were developed based on shared goals for improving services to primary user groups.

The ultimate goal is to cultivate a regenerative mindset within the library and spread that mindset to the libraries and communities we serve, mindful that our primary goal is to help New Mexico communities to thrive and have control over their own future.

Structure

The Strategic Plan 2020-2022 comprises six concepts, each linked to a user group and a specific goal. Each goal has time-bound, “stepping stone” objectives, in time-line order, followed by stakeholder engagement priorities.

Reporting

Progress towards Strategic Plan goals and objectives will be reported internally at staff meetings and externally at Library Commission meetings, with meeting minutes posted online.

The Strategy Team

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Acknowledgements

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- Ben Haggard, Regenesis Group, for his guidance through this process
- The New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, particularly Secretary Debra Garcia y Griego and Deputy Secretary Nick Schiavo, for their support of this strategic planning process, and ongoing support, including moral support, of the work that we do
- The Staff of the New Mexico State Library who provided critical feedback, ideas, and expertise
- To the researchers, librarians, state agencies, and all who are our partners in improving the lives of New Mexicans.
The State Library will help New Mexicans tell their own story

Goal 1: NMSL will lead coordination and collaboration around statewide historical, archival, and genealogy resources

- By June 30, 2020, form Committee focused on Historical Resources and Research Information
- By December 31, 2020, do an environmental scan of existing genealogy collections in libraries statewide, assess the needs of genealogy researchers, and make recommendations for coordination or improvement
- By December 31, 2020, include the Indigenous Digital Archives in El Portal and provide regular workshops on its use
- By December 31, 2021, facilitate collaborative meetings with other DCA Divisions on coordinating digital collections, exploring options and making recommendations on digital preservation and accessibility
- By December 31, 2021, hold annual workshops for high-school history teachers on using state library resources for research projects
- By December 31, 2022, facilitate regional archives, historical collections, and genealogy workshops for public and tribal libraries

The State Library will ensure that our commitment to providing library services to all New Mexicans includes electronic materials and the infrastructure to access those materials

Goal 2: NMSL will improve Digital Services to Rural Areas

- By June 30, 2020, an Outreach and Marketing Committee will meet regularly
- By December 31, 2020, we will have a new user-friendly and accessible website to improve access to state library resources and services
- By June 30, 2021, every Bookmobile stop will have a dedicated liaison
- By December 31, 2021, rural patrons will have access to ebooks and downloadable audiobooks
- By December 31, 2021, develop and implement a plan for delivering customized genealogy, historical, and state agency service information to rural and print-disabled New Mexicans
- By December 31, 2022, 90% of NM rural libraries will provide access to high speed broadband, via the Broadband for Libraries project
New Mexico State Library will be a trusted educator and guide for the libraries we serve

Goal 3: NMSL will be a trusted resource for Public Libraries in professional development training focusing on improved self-determination, community knowledge gathering, and regional peer networking

- By June 30, 2020, develop a Professional Development Committee to determine needs and develop live and recorded online trainings
- By December 31, 2020, provide monthly webinars designed for public libraries
- By December 31, 2021, host regional in-person workshops statewide to teach core librarian skills, community engagement and community resource activation, partnership development, and peer networking
- By June 30, 2022, provide a statewide ILS option with cataloging support
- By December 31, 2022, develop partnerships with other statewide library organizations to coordinate and co-brand NM library/librarian Continuing Education opportunities

New Mexico State Library will connect the homebound and print disabled to their local library and the wider world

Goal 4: NMSL will improve awareness of and access to the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled resources

- By December 31, 2020, workshops, webinars, and marketing materials will reach all public libraries to improve awareness of LBPD resources
- By June 30, 2021, LBPD will facilitate book discussions for adults and a Summer Reading Program for youth
- By December 31, 2021, LBPD kits will be delivered through Development Bureau site visits and bookmobiles
- By December 31, 2021, LBPD will establish communication with other state agencies serving a common audience
- By June 2022, LBPD will provide customized local content, such as New Mexico culture podcasts and Poet Laureate readings, to LBPD patrons
- By December 31, 2022, LBPD will raise awareness of LBPD patron needs and contributable skills in their local community
New Mexico State Library will connect New Mexicans and celebrate our cultures

Goal 5: NMSL will increase access to cultural events, and awareness of NM History through partnerships with bookmobile communities, libraries, other state agencies, history-focused non-profits and national library organizations.
- By June 30, 2020, NMSL will create a Culture Committee to partner with other Divisions in DCA and the Department of Tourism, to identify and plan for celebrating and/or interpreting upcoming historical milestones, including the celebration of the 200th anniversary (in 2021) of the Santa Fe Trail focusing on northeast NM libraries and their communities
- By December 31, 2021, the New Mexico Poet Laureate will visit rural communities in every county
- By June 2022, Bookmobiles will provide customized information to connect rural communities to services that will help them tell their own stories
- By December 31, 2022, the Technical Services Bureau will play an important national role in the development of culturally appropriate library subject headings and name authorities
- By December 31, 2022, NMSL will develop a courier service to libraries across NM

New Mexico State Library will facilitate a collaborative effort to celebrate and support creative expression, authors, books, and literacy

Goal 6: NMSL will coordinate statewide support for programs that celebrate books, poetry, writers, and literacy.
- By December 31, 2020, NMSL will establish a Center for the Book committee to explore a distributed multi-organization Center for the Book.
- By December 31, 2020, a space within the Carruthers State Library building will be designed and implemented for Poet Laureate program and the Poetry Center, which will collect published and unpublished writings of New Mexicans, and encourage creative expression
- By December 31, 2021, NMSL will implement at least one statewide writing program for students
- By December 31, 2022, NMSL will develop partnerships to provide robust adult literacy services through local public libraries