

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Photo by
Dan Blakeney

2025 opened with eager anticipation. YDL-Michigan Avenue staff returned to their home base to prepare for eventual reopening, and with a grant award from Washtenaw County Community Mental Health millage funding, we began the search for our first Library Social Worker.

In April, the downtown branch reopened at last, welcoming very happy patrons with lots of new amenities and a clean, classic look. The Library Care Coordination Program was born when our social worker arrived, helping connect patrons struggling with life challenges to local resources and support.

Lisa Hoenig
Library Director

Change was in the air as new managers at both YDL-Michigan Avenue and YDL-Superior brought a fresh perspective and focus. Whittaker's vacant cafe space was transformed over the summer into a cool, comfortable lounge area with convenient vending machines, and the youth storyroom became a multi-purpose activity room full of energy.

Read on to learn how these highlights helped shape a year of remarkable growth and community service.



LIBRARY CARE

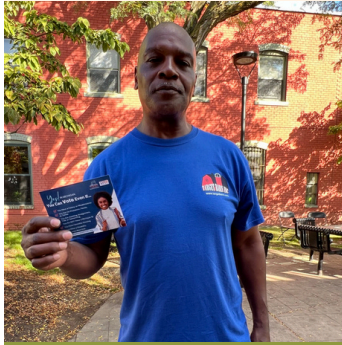
KEY PARTNERS

- MI Department of State
- Shelter Association of Washtenaw County
- LEAF Harm Reduction
- Voting Access for All
- Wolverine Street Medicine (368 total services)
- FedUp Ministries (2,199 meals served)
- AAATA
- EMU Professors Margaret Ann Paauw, Chelsea Muto, and Sarah Shea

Thanks for being right there with me. YDL.
- Jeremiah, YDL patron

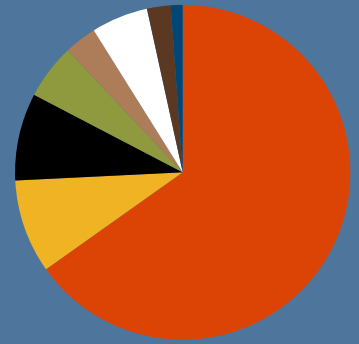
YDL'S FIRST SOCIAL WORKER

Using Washtenaw County Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation Millage funding, YDL hired its first Social Worker. With the help of EMU social work students, the Library Care Coordination Program strengthened our connections with other service agencies. This has transformed how patrons can find and use social services in the community and provided staff with tools and support to help process difficult situations.



INDIVIDUALS
SERVED

528



SERVICES BY TYPE

- Transportation assistance - 65.2%
- Supply Distribution - 9%
- Case Management Support - 8.4%
- Document help - 5.3%
- Government Phone Program - 3.1%
- Application help - 5.5%
- Other Support - 2.3%
- Health Referrals - 1.1%

FINALLY OPEN...

**YDL-
MICHIGAN
PATRON
VISITS**

Building closed
due to flooding

Remediation
work finished

**BUILDING REOPENED
FOLLOWING RENOVATIONS**

July 1, 2023

Sept. 14, 2023

April 14, 2025

**MORE TO SEE AT THE
DOWNTOWN BRANCH**



- ✓ New study rooms
- ✓ Laptop lounge area
- ✓ Refreshed youth space
- ✓ More room to spread out upstairs
- ✓ Open design
- ✓ ADA compliant vestibule
- ✓ New furnishings
- ✓ More places to charge your devices while you recharge

2022: 58,669

2025: 62,928*

***Reopened
April 14, 2025**

WELCOME BACK!

crystakcoburn What an incredible transformation. ❤️

**SUMMER
CHALLENGE
KICKOFF
ATTENDANCE
AT YDL-
MICHIGAN**

**2025 (With our
Back on the Block
Celebration): 350+**

2022: 200

T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!

For the first time, the Friends of YDL sold t-shirts as a fundraiser. The shirts featured a commemorative design by Nathaniel Roy to celebrate the reopening.



Access eduroam at YDL

Education roaming (eduroam) allows users from participating institutions to securely access the Internet. From August to December 2025, 875 users accessed it from YDL each month.

Grab more from the Seed Library

The Seed Library at YDL-Whittaker now includes a Propagation Station with rooted houseplant cuttings. This, plus a larger selection of seeds, helped usage more than triple.

MORE TO DO

Visit the new Bookmobile Routes

Following careful analysis after the addition of YDL-Superior, the Bookmobile added three busy new stops to replace three that had flagging attendance.

ADDED STOPS

- Ainsworth and Ferris
- Rue Vendome
- Wendell Holmes Park
(by the baseball diamond)

DISCONTINUED

- Perry School
- Oakbrook Park
- Christ Temple



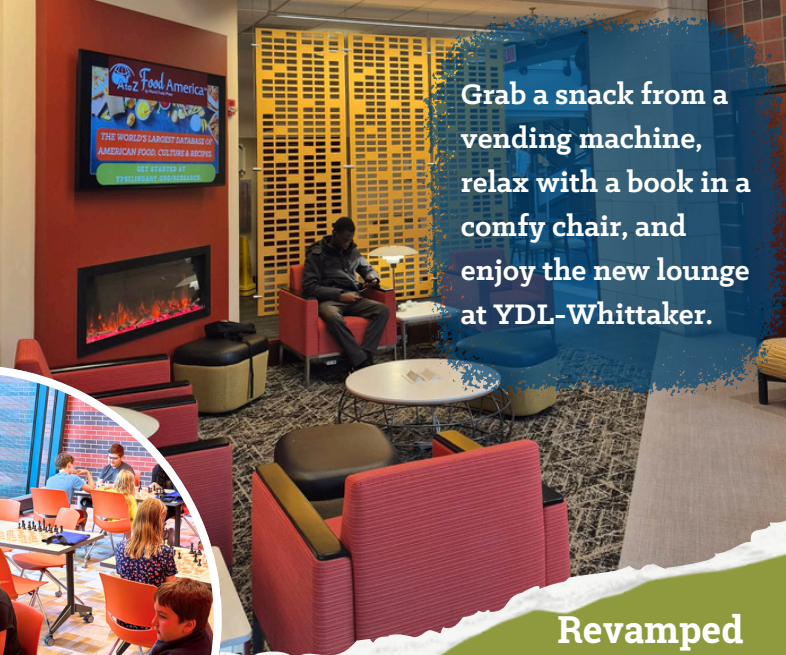
MORE TO SEE

A Garden for a Rainy Day

YDL-Superior has a new rain garden thanks to a grant from Ann Arbor Farm and Garden. It's filled with pollinator-friendly, native cultivars we can incorporate into YDL programming.



Grab a snack from a vending machine, relax with a book in a comfy chair, and enjoy the new lounge at YDL-Whittaker.



Revamped
Youth
Programming
room at YDL-
Whittaker



“ HANDS DOWN MY FAVORITE LIBRARY. WE READ A LOT AND YOUR CHILDREN'S AREA IS FANTASTIC. —JENN, YDL PATRON ”

THRIVING

YDL builds community through partnerships. Organizations throughout the area have helped us provide STEM equipment, free books, programming, and vital services for our patrons.

PROJECT STEM @ YDL

Presented by



2025 was the third year that Toyota supported Project STEM @ YDL. With the funds, we added VinciBots to help kids practice coding, a light wall at YDL-Superior, liquid floor tiles, a water table and Superspace building blocks at YDL-Whittaker, and more.

2025 supporters:

- Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
- Ann Arbor Farm & Garden
- Ann Arbor SPARK East
- Ann Arbor Thrift Shop
- Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill
- Beyond Choir
- Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor
- Gene Butman Ford Sales, Inc.
- Michigan Arts & Culture Council
- Rotary Club of Ann Arbor
- Toyota North America
- Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority
- Ypsi Real
- Washtenaw County Community Mental Health
- Washtenaw County Materials Management
- Youth Arts Alliance

PARTNERSHIPS



Gene Butman Ford Sales, Inc. helped us provide travel bags and beach balls to people who got their library cards in September for National Library Card Sign-Up Month.



Youth Arts Alliance brought Summer of HeART to YDL-Superior again, and added sessions at YDL-Michigan. Kids made art, had snacks, and learned to express themselves.

Ann Arbor SPARK East, the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority, and Ypsi Real helped us jazz up Halloween Downtown with a Black Men Read Storytime, a spooky STEM tent, free books and popcorn, and other goodies.

TURNING THE PAGE

In 2025, beloved managers at the YDL-Michigan and YDL-Superior branches moved on, and we welcomed two new faces who haven't missed a beat.

Bon voyage, and thank you!

Joy Cichewicz, YDL-Michigan Branch Manager for more than 16 years, stepped down in February. Mary Garboden left in April after nearly 18 years at the library and serving as the first YDL-Superior Branch Manager.

Katie Dover-Taylor

YDL-Michigan Branch Manager

- Facilitated branch reopening.
- Coordinated successful large programs, including the Back On the Block party, Summer Challenge Kickoff, and Downtown Halloween.
- Worked with library social worker to launch YDL's new Library Care Coordination program.

Reopening day was a true joy, with an outpouring of library love from happy patrons!



Kathryn Takach

YDL-Superior Branch Manager

- Oversaw projects to spruce up the branch.
- Helped coordinate summer programming with Youth Arts Alliance and social services with the Library Care Coordination team.
- Helped reorganize displays, expand seed library capacity, and install LiteZilla.



It's a privilege leading the team and maintaining the spirit of community at YDL-Superior.

By the Numbers

YDL-Michigan
70,117
(Reopened 4/14)

Up almost
63,000 from
2024

YDL-Whittaker
161,013

302,308
Patron
Visits

Bookmobile
Visits
4,677

YDL-Superior
66,501

YDL-Whittaker
401,343

E-products
273,608

Total
Circulation
854,121

Up 116,000+
from 2024

Bookmobile
18,106

YDL-Superior
86,068

YDL-Michigan
74,996

41,792
people attended 2,142
events

4,802
new library cards
issued

Reaching
more of the
community!



5,069
new Facebook
followers (up 60%)



3,500
new Instagram follows
(up more than 50%)



FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE

	FY 2024-2025	% of total
Property Taxes	\$6,874,015	89.8%
Penal Fines	\$65,687	0.9%
State Aid	\$95,628	1.2%
Interest & Other	\$235,057	3.1%
Grants, Donations, Friends of YDL	\$386,256	5.0%
Total Revenue	\$7,656,643	100%

EXPENDITURES

	FY 2024-2025	% of total
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,308,415	65.4%
Library Materials	\$666,469	10.1%
Contractual	\$345,940	5.3%
Automation & Capital Outlay	\$408,695	6.2%
Utilities & Repairs	\$341,163	5.2%
Other	\$513,855	7.8%
Total Expenditures	\$6,584,357	100%