YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY

LIBRARY CARE COORDINATION

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO POSSIBILITY

SECOND QUARTER REPORT
(April 1 - June 30, 2026)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Library Care Coordination (LCC) Program went through a time of transition during this quarter. Kat Layton left the LCC role and Tommy Anderson was hired in her place. During the transitional time, DesaRay Maier, former Eastern Michigan University intern, stayed on to help onboard Tommy Anderson smoothly and ensure the sustainability of the program. Amidst the transition, the program was still able to offer high-quality case management care, access to basic needs items, clinical support, continued growth of the transportation assistance program and grow partnerships with local organizations.

Now at the halfway point of the grant, we can anticipate many aspects to stay the same even under new leadership. A great foundation has been laid for drop-in hours, community partnerships, resource fairs, transportation assistance program and outreach with local organizations. Drop-in Hours provide assistance for those experiencing housing insecurity, assistance with vital records, basic needs assistance and coordination of services. Community Partnerships make certain the ability for the library to serve as a hub for resources and ensures smooth warm hand offs to local caring organizations. Resource Fairs remain to bust down barriers for our most vulnerable patrons. Transportation assistance program allows patrons to make it to their medical, housing, case management, legal, school and employment appointments. Outreach with local organizations combines hands-on support with strategic collaboration and ensures essential resources reach individuals where they are already seeking help.

New focus has been placed on sustainability of programs, supporting staff wellness, extending reach to teen/youth populations and emphasizing a restorative approach to critical incidents. A concentrated effort for safety and access in the Michigan Avenue Branch Plaza has been a focus of the LCC Program and the Library Board.

TYPES OF SERVICES

1,177 Transportation Assistance Services
(TheRide transit tokens & passes)

212 Face to Face Distribution of Personal Care and Safety Supplies

72 Patrons met with during Drop-in hours

38 Assistance with Applications
(including government programs, housing applications and Fare Deal cards)

27 Meetings with Community Partners

MEETING WITH PARTNERS

Since beginning in May, Tommy Anderson has met with 24 external community partners. Some of these are old relationships, picking up where the previous social worker left off. Others are new opportunities for the library to partner with community leaders and helpers.

With each connection, we are able to better refer to community organizations and plan to host future events such as dual drop in hours, like we have with Shared Housing Project.

EVALUATION PROGRESS

The formal grant evaluation processes has begun. Survey and interview tools were approved by Eastern Michigan University's Institutional Review Board (IRB), while the program maintains routine tracking of partnerships formed, individuals served, services delivered, and material resources distributed; metrics that will guide continuous improvement and demonstrate impact across the grant period.

Focus groups will continue to take place over the course of the next quarter. Staff surveys are being collected and are being processed by Dr. Margaret Ann Pauww of Eastern Michigan University.

Outgoing EMU Student interns stated they were "proud of the work" they accomplished while at Ypsilanti District Library. "Working along staff and patrons" while making a "deep and meaningful impact" on the community was the highlight of their experience.

EXPANSION OF INTERN PROGRAM

Three student interns from Eastern Michigan University have been selected for the 2026-2027 academic year.

A partnership with the University of Michigan has begun. Another student intern could be placed as early as Fall of 2026.

The robust internship program will ensure that all branches of the library get adequate coverage and care. With more reach the library will be able to offer more hours of LCC coverage at the Whitaker and Superior locations.

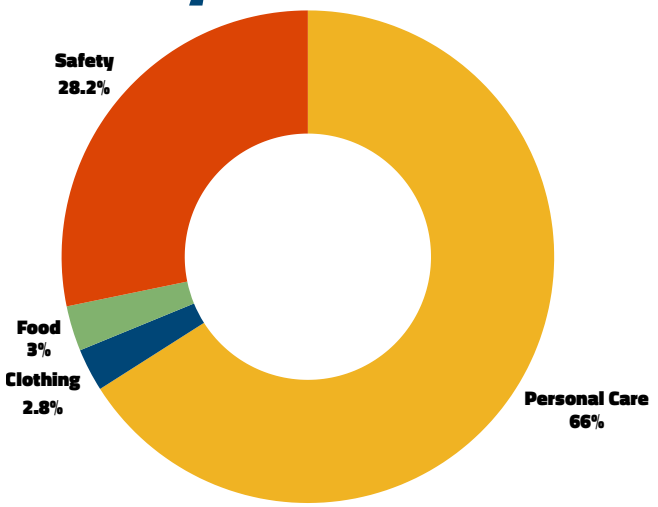
Library Social Work is a new and growing field. Ypsilanti District Library is shaping the future of the field. This has been made possible by Washtenaw County Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation Millage Funding.

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT: SHARED HOUSING PROJECT

Danielle Bryant of Shared Housing Program has been conducting Drop-In hours at the Michigan Avenue Branch (averaging 4 participants per day) and community building events at the Whitaker Branch (15 participants including 3 walk up participants). The Shared Housing Program places home seekers with home providers. One participant must be 55+. Ann Arbor Observer recently published a story highlighting their great work.

Shared housing is a long-term living arrangement where people share a home, each with their own private space and shared common areas. It could be a graduate student helping with a senior's mortage and upkeep of a beloved garden. It could be a "Golden Girls" situation of two seniors keeping company while caring for their shared space. We are happy to bring this resource to the community of Ypsilanti and grateful for the partnership with the Washtenaw Shared Housing Project.

Library Care Drawer



644 ice cold water bottles and 105 collapsible water jugs were distributed during recent heat advisories. Toothbrushes, deodorant, soap and shampoo remain among the most utilized items.

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