

# Central Plains Library System

## Annual Report 2019-2020

In 2020 the storm clouds of COVID-19 approached....  
but CPLS was there for our Libraries! Our Mission is:



Central Plains Library System will assist libraries and media centers to meet community needs by serving as an advocate for libraries through facilitation, training, and consultation.

CPLS is a multi-type library network including academic, public, school, and special libraries. We are part of the Nebraska Regional Library Systems serving Nebraska libraries since 1982. The focus of activities is library development, with the ultimate goal, the improvement of library services to the residents of Nebraska.

CPLS is a non-profit corporation governed by a local System Board serving 31 counties including Adams, Blaine, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Cherry, Custer, Dawson, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Garfield, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Harlan, Holt, Howard, Kearney, Keya Paha, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Phelps, Red Willow, Rock, Sherman, Thomas, Valley, Webster, and Wheeler.

**That's 31,960 square miles!**

©2019 Central Plains Library System  
<http://libraries.ne.gov/cpls/>

### Central Plains Library System Staff:

**DENISE HARDERS**  
Director

[denise.cpls@gmail.com](mailto:denise.cpls@gmail.com)  
(402) 705-1409

**KAY KLOPPENBORG**  
Administrative Assistant

[cplsasst@gmail.com](mailto:cplsasst@gmail.com)  
(402) 462-1975

**AUTUMN K. CARLSON**  
Administrative Assistant

[autumnc.cpls@gmail.com](mailto:autumnc.cpls@gmail.com)  
(402) 462-1975

### BOARD MEMBERS

**TONY ANDERSON**  
**DORIS BRANDON**  
**TERRI EBERLY**  
**JUDY HAGAN**  
**JANENE HILL**  
**JANE HILTON**  
**TERRI JOHNSON**  
**LORI LONG**  
**LINDA NICKEL**  
**SHELLEY RUTERBORIES**  
**MATTHEW WILLIAMS**

# CPLS RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

From the beginning of the pandemic, CPLS was right there to help their libraries weather the storm. We wondered, "What can we do to help?" It turns out that the best way we could was to provide a space for librarians to talk about their concerns, the issues they were facing and to hear what other libraries were doing to cope! But we went even further to help, as shown in the following statistics!

## Thursday Morning Meetings:

To date we have held 13 weekly meetings

25-55 participants each week

Topics:

- How To Continue Services Despite Being Closed
- How To Keep Library Staff Busy With Projects
- Where To Get Cleaning Supplies
- Safe Quarantine Periods For Books
- How To Do Summer Reading Virtually
- Reopening Plans
- How To Handle Staff Anxiety
- What Plans The Future Holds



## Reader Zone

### READER ZONE INITIATIVE!

What started out as CPLS offering this Virtual Tracking system for Summer Reading minutes, turned into a STATEWIDE initiative! As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, here is what has been accomplished:

**917,756 minutes read**

**8,710 books read**

**97,421 pages read**

**1,715 activities completed**

## Weekly Free Resources Lists Sent Out

These lists provided librarians with information that they could use in their virtual programming, post on their social media platforms, or use to help patrons seeking help with homeschooling solutions.

Total Number Of Resources Provided:

**581**

**A spreadsheet was compiled of every library in our system that showed:**

- When they planned to Reopen
- What services they were offering while closed
- What services they planned on offering when they reopened
- If they had remained open, what services they provided

<http://libraries.ne.gov/cpls/files/2020/07/CPLS-Libraries-During-COVID-19-1.pdf>

## Services Provided in 2019 – 2020

### Service Year:

Professional Articles Emailed:	45
Periodicals Circulated:	80
Disc Cleaning:	269
Books Mended:	20
Cutting Machine Usage:	21
Audio Books Circulated:	684
Book Kits Loaned:	50
Blocks Rock! Loaned:	3
Breakout EDU Kits:	5
Button Machines Used:	18
Bloxels Loaned:	3
Embroidery Machine Loaned:	4
littleBits Loaned:	4
Sphero Kits Loaned:	3
Virtual Reality Kit Loaned:	2
Rokenbok Kit Loaned:	1
Ollie Robot Loaned:	1
Cricut & HeatPress Loaned:	14

## 50 Book Club Kits Circulated Saving Nebraska Libraries:

**\$10,000+**

## 45 Professional Articles Emailed & 80 Periodicals Circulated Saving Nebraska Libraries:

**\$6,500+**

## Puppet Group Purchase:

**107 puppets to 12 libraries  
from Scottsbluff to Omaha  
Saving Nebraska Libraries:**

**\$1,200+**

## Scholarships Awarded:

**18 Scholarships = \$3,753.98**

## Basic Skills Classes Facilitated:

Collection Management  
August 18<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

Library Governance  
March 9<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Intellectual Freedom (Postponed  
COVID-19)  
May 2020

## Conferences Attended:

Association of Rural and Small Libraries  
September 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Burlington, VT

NLA/NSLA/ILA Joint Conference  
October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
LaVista, NE

## Workshops Held During the 2019-2020 Service Year:

Library Innovation Studio (NE State Fair)	Aug. 25 <sup>th</sup>
Youth Services Retreat (Ashland, NE)	Aug. 29-30 <sup>th</sup>
Healthy Aging @ Your Library (Red Cloud)	Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>
Healthy Aging @ Your Library (Gothenburg)	Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>
E-Rate Workshop (Grand Island)	Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup>
Bibliostat Workshop (Ravenna)	Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup>
Cricut 2.0 Workshop (Atkinson)	Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Cricut 2.0 Workshop (Hastings-Cancelled/Snow)	Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>
Cricut 2.0 Workshop (Kearney)	Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Grand Summer Reading Gala (McCook)	Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>
Grand Summer Reading Gala (Broken Bow)	Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup>
Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead (North Platte)	Feb. 12 <sup>th</sup>
Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead (Holdrege)	Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup>
Big Talk/Small Libraries Watch Party (Elwood)	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>

## Canceled & Postponed Workshops Due to COVID-19:

Grand Summer Reading Gala (Grand Island)	Mar. 19 <sup>th</sup>
Makers Gonna Make Workshop (Lexington)	Mar. 25 <sup>th</sup>
Makers Gonna Make Workshop (Hastings)	Mar. 31 <sup>st</sup>
Cricut Design Space 101 (Gothenburg)	Apr. 20 <sup>th</sup>
Golden Sower Reading Day (Kearney)	Jun. 5 <sup>th</sup>



Once a storm passes, the sun comes out and there are only clear skies! Here's to looking forward to a bright future for the 2020-2021 Service Year!

**Things to look for in the upcoming service year:**

- Weekly Zoom Meeting For As Long As Needed
- Virtual Workshops
- Meeting of the Minds (Director's Only)
- CPLS YouTube Channel
- CPLS Social Media Platforms
- New Experience Kits
- New S.T.E.A.M. Equipment Rolled Out

**HOW TO REACH US:**

**OFFICE LOCATION:**  
**2727 W. 2nd Street, Suite 233**  
**Hastings, NE 68901**

**(800) 569-4961**

**<http://libraries.ne.gov/cpls/>**