

# Libraries as Rural Infrastructure

Presented by Ashley Rich



How do  
public  
libraries  
affect rural  
areas?



Picture Courtesy of the Eugenia H. Young Public Library





How can  
public  
libraries  
bridge rural  
technological  
divides?



# How can free library resources bolster rural economies?

## Jobs and Careers Resources



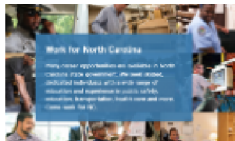
Cypress Resume is easy to use resource to create an effective resume.



ProQuest' Career and Technical Education Databases provides access to any technical topic, including computing science, healthcare, building trades, auto mechanics, sales and retail, accounting, graphic design, and photography.



USA Jobs is the federal government's official employment site.



Work for North Carolina is the state of North Carolina's official site to search for state jobs and file for unemployment.



Sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, this site provides information on education, earnings, job prospects, and working conditions for hundreds of occupations.

## About Workforce Development

The Cleveland County Library System supports continuing education and workforce development. The electronic resources and databases below provide an opportunity for members of the community to educate themselves and upgrade their employability skills.



NCWorks is North Carolina's workforce system. Individuals seeking jobs can search for jobs and receive assistance to create a resume and find employability skills training.



Cleveland Community College offers degree, diploma, and certificate programs.



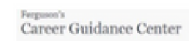
The FootHills Workforce Development Board facilitates the delivery of workforce development programs in McDowell, Rutherford, Cleveland and Polk Counties.



Learning Express Library offers career preparation resources, college prep, basic computer skills, and support and preparation to obtain high school equivalency credential.



The Open Education Resources Commons offers resources for STEM literacy (Science, Education, Engineering, and Math) in addition to extensive library of public education resources.



On Ferguson's Career Guidance Center, you can explore careers, plan your education, and seek internships and apprenticeships.

Photos courtesy of the Cleveland County Public Library website



# What facilities and activities are offered by public libraries?



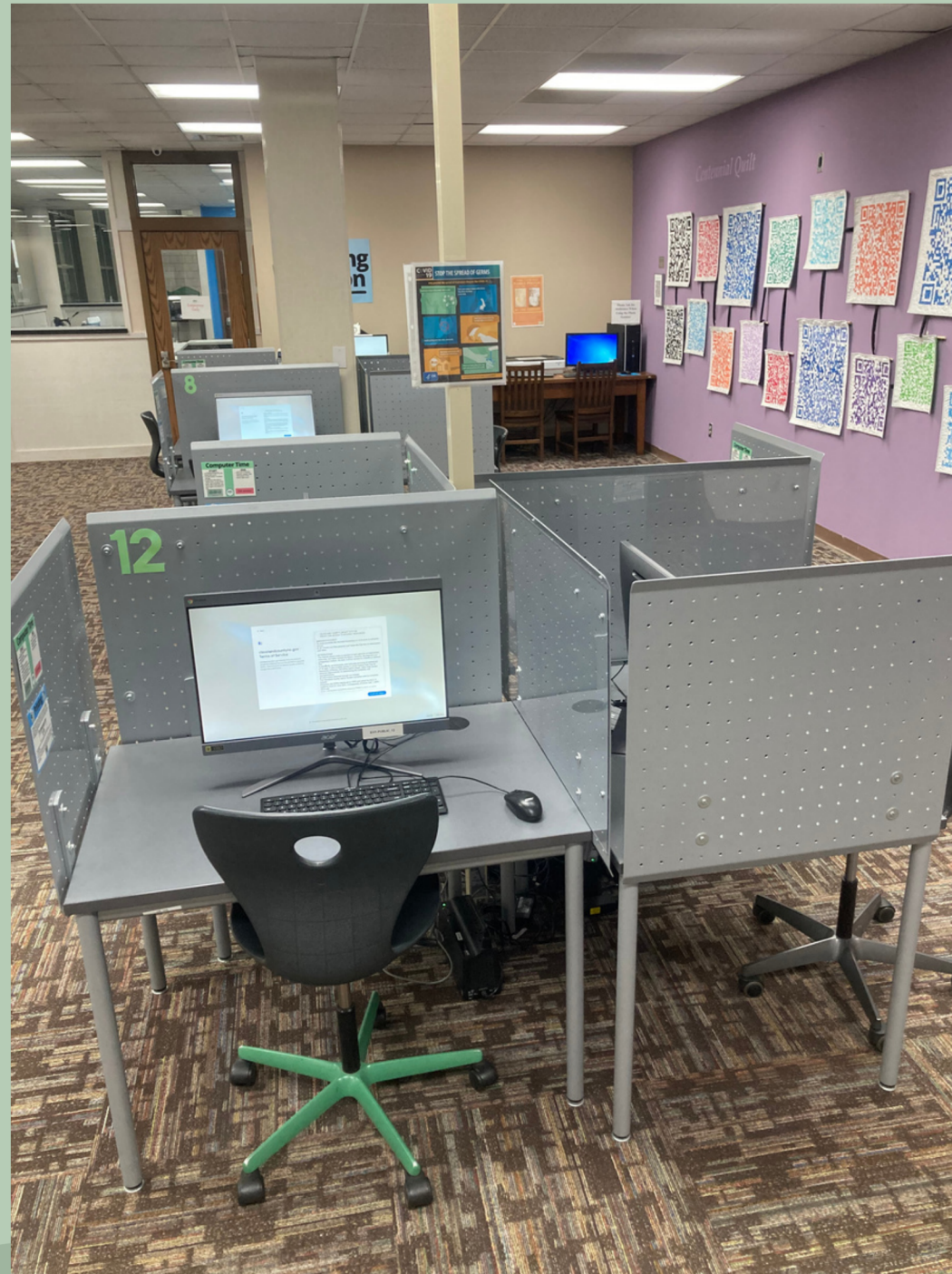


# How are Public Libraries Universal Gathering Spaces?





How can  
public  
libraries  
allow rural  
populations  
to access  
information?



# What Roadblocks do Public Libraries face?

Public library needs for construction & renovation	
State	Needs
Alaska <sup>1</sup>	\$ 116,337,000
California <sup>2</sup>	\$ 5,000,000,000
Delaware	\$ 124,500,000
District of Columbia <sup>3</sup>	\$ 195,000,000
Hawai'i	\$ 188,278,124
Illinois	\$ 527,060,920
Maryland	\$ 171,029,969
New York	\$ 1,525,758,812
Washington <sup>4</sup>	\$ 259,595,079
West Virginia <sup>5</sup>	\$ 56,256,833
<b>Total (9 states + DC)</b>	<b>\$ 8,163,816,737</b>

Graphic by the American Library Association



# How do Public libraries affect community members? A testimonial



Photo courtesy of TEDxMemphis

So what can  
we do to  
support our  
local  
libraries?



**LIBRARIES: WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?**

**LOCAL LIBRARIES!**  
Your local libraries are an amazing resource right at your fingertips!

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**  
Bookclubs  
Butter making  
Button Making  
Speaking Events  
Embroidery  
And More!

**FREE INTERNET ACCESS**  
Access the internet and library computers all for FREE!

**PRIVATE STUDY ROOMS**  
Private Study rooms can be reserved for up to 3 hours!

**FIND EVEN MORE RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.clevelandcounty.com/main/departments/library](http://www.clevelandcounty.com/main/departments/library)

**MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT**  
New Books, Manga, DVDs, graphic novels, and E-materials are always available!



# How can these solutions be implemented?







How can  
disadvantaged  
populations  
benefit from  
library  
activities?



What can  
we take  
away from  
this  
discussion?





# Works Cited

Libraries as Rural  
Infrastructure  
Report and Citations

Photos Provided By:  
Eugenia H. Young Memorial Library

Cleveland County Library System

The America Library Association  
Data Brief

TEDxMemphis





Thank you!