Library of Michigan – COVID-19 guidance 3/19/20

With so much information changing how libraries operate during the pandemic, we thought it would be helpful to provide a simple guide to the various directives. Because situations are so fluid, we can't guarantee the list is exhaustive, but we will continue to provide additional information as we receive it.

Resources and Information:

Executive Order (EO) 2020-9 (Limiting access to places of Public Accommodation). This EO requires restaurants, bars, and other places of amusement and food service, including public libraries, to close to the public. https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499 90705-521789--,00.html
Application of this executive Order to public libraries for purposes of delivery or pick up ("curbside") services is unclear. The Library of Michigan urges and library offering or contemplating the offering of "curbside" or similar service to members of the public to consult their local County Public Health Departments, or their local Emergency Management officials, if applicable. Staff at LM has heard from libraries that county health departments are giving different answers to this question. At this time we have no other information from the Governor's office.

Michigan County Health Departments by map: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339--96747--,00.html

Executive Order 2020-15- Local Public Meetings and Open Meetings Act (OMA) Compliance – Provides some guidance on convening public meetings (and complying with the OMA) during the pandemic by holding meetings using remote technology. https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-522173--,00.html

Library of Michigan information sheet on remote public meetings (Above executive order expands this somewhat) https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88855_89735_89755-521773--,00.html

Library of Michigan information sheet on Emergency Decision Making for library boards https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88855_89735_89755-521775--,00.html

Michigan Library Association Call to Action to support Congressional support of Coronavirus Relief and Economic Stimulus bill https://www.milibraries.org/call-to-action

The MLA also has suggestions, resources and recommendations for libraries as they cope with Covid19. https://www.milibraries.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=784%3Amla-s-update-on-covid-19---news---michigan-library-association&catid=27%3Anews-mla&Itemid=292

HR 6201- Families First Coronavirus Response Act- Federal legislation awaiting the president's signature. Will provide expanded sick leave and FMLA options for employees and employers, among other things. https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6201/text

We are available as a resource, please contact us with questions.

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