



Annual Report | FY 2021

moval.org/mv-library

MORENO VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library: 25480 Alessandro Boulevard | 951.413.3880
Mall Branch: 22500 Town Circle Suite 2078 | 951.413.3761
Iris Plaza Branch: 16170 Perris Blvd. Suite C3 | 951.413.3670

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Letter from the Director

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was a year like none other. Through challenges and silver linings, the Moreno Valley Public Library staff came together to create programming and resources to help our community weather the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful for the strong support we received from the Moreno Valley Friends of the Library and other community partners in order to respond and recover from the challenges. We are even more grateful for the support of the entire Moreno Valley community this and every year.

When the Library building was forced to close due to pandemic restrictions in March 2020, staff began recording and posting virtual storytimes, STEAM/craft activities, and book talks on social media within the week. To serve those learning and working from home, we expanded electronic collections, adding CloudLibrary for adults and teens and Tumblebooks for children; and released new digital services such as online library card registration and live VetNow online assistance for veterans.

We were thrilled to open a new satellite library at Iris Plaza in August 2020 with public computers and free WiFi, gaming stations, 3D printers, and coding/robotics equipment. This new location makes access to library services even more convenient for residents.

The Library continues to grow and thrive in 2021. Using funding from a California State Library grant funded through Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Library created “Anytime Storytime” kits for families to take home to learn and read together. Innovation continues as we are currently working on several new projects to preserve local stories, connect users to a high-speed broadband network and much more.

We are grateful to the Library Commission, Moreno Valley Friends of the Library, and the California State Library for helping us keep library services vibrant and relevant.

We look forward to a bright future and hope you will join us in the next chapter. All of us at the Moreno Valley Public Library are excited to continue serving the community.

Maria V. Sunio, MLIS | Library Director



Grand Opening of Iris Plaza Branch

On August 31, Mayor Yxstian Gutierrez and the City Council cut the ribbon on the Iris Plaza Library, conveniently located in the Second District. Valuable services and unique features are packed into the 4,128 square foot space, including a colorful children's area, six patron computers, a program room and a technology center with two 3D printers, four gaming stations, robotics kits, and virtual reality equipment, and a panel of three LED screens.

Furniture was carefully chosen for comfort and flexibility and armchairs and study tables are wired to power mobile devices. Large and small events and activities can be accommodated in the space. Flexibility was foremost in the design planning with the Thomas Riggle Design Group and the Library is a comfortable, modern and inviting space with a STEM theme.



Objectives Met

Continued implementation of the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan

A central goal in the City of Moreno Valley's Momentum MoVal Strategic Plan 2016-2021 is to deliver library services that empower residents through open access to knowledge through traditional and innovative services. The objectives and action steps below illustrate the Library's progress to meeting that goal.

1. Promote Diversity and Preserve the City's Revenue Base

- Added bilingual (English/Spanish) titles in children's audio-enhanced picture books.
- Hosted online presentations on Black American history and culture.
- Provided Summer Lunch at the Library through grant funding in 2020 and in 2021.
- Awarded California Library Literacy Services grant funding to enhance the Día de los Libros/Niños programs for children in April 2021.
- Produced "Anytime Storytime" learning activities and videos for families with young children using Library Services and Technology Act CopyCat grant funding in April-August 2021. Special efforts were made to select STEAM-focused picture books that featured diverse characters and voices.
- Created Celebrating MoVal Cultures, library programs for immigrant communities using CalHumanities Library Innovation Lab grant funding in April 2021.
- Introduced online Talk MoVal ESL conversation clubs.

2. Improve Governmental Relationships

- Partnered with the Moreno Valley Unified School District to distribute summer meals at the Main Library during building closure.
- Partnered with Moreno Valley Friends of the Library, Quality Start/First 5 Riverside, and Riverside University Health Systems—Public Health to support 2021 Summer Discovery reading program.
- Collaborated with other City of Moreno Valley departments to curate and maintain the CLiC initiative.
- Hosted an information booth at Loma Linda VA's drive-through veterans' resource fair in Moreno Valley.
- Partnered with the Friends of the Library to reopen the Book Nook bookstore at the Main Library.

3. Enhance Community Safety

- Converted in-person library programs to online presentations and virtual meetings during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Implemented Park & Pick-Up services with social distancing to make physical library materials available safely for patrons and library employees.
- Executed safety protocols including quarantines for returned library materials, rearranged furniture and regularly disinfected after reopening library facilities to public visitors.
- Distributed free face masks and hand sanitizer at all libraries as part of the City's We've Got You Covered campaign.
- Offered Cooling Centers in the Main Library and Iris Plaza Branch during June 15-October 15, 2021.

4. Improve the Community's Image

- Promoted virtual programs and digital services on the Library's social media platforms.
- Offered the Library's first virtual summer reading program in 2020.
- Re-opened for in-person service in August/September 2020.
- Won Virtual Youth Programming grant funding in March 2021 to facilitate and enhance the Library's online presentations.
- Applied for LSTA grant funding to support Our MoVal Stories, a project to digitize and preserve family histories and local history documents. Funding granted for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

5. Improve Public Infrastructure

- Opened new library at Iris Plaza, with public computers and free WiFi, gaming stations, 3D printers, and coding/robotics equipment.
- Completed parking lot renovations for ADA repairs at the Main Library.
- Expanded WiFi coverage to the parking lots at the Main and Iris Plaza libraries as part of the City's WiFi Gardens project.

6. Create a Positive Environment

- Inventoried and refreshed library collections during building closure.
- Introduced online library card registration to make access to digital collections and Park & Pick-up services easier for residents.
- Added popular titles in digital cloudLibrary™ for adults and teens and Tumblebooks for children.
- Distributed more than 8,000 craft and activity kits at community meal sites (Senior Center and school sites) and at the three libraries during Summer 2020.



Pivoting and Creatively Connecting with the Community

Innovative services during pandemic-forced building closure included:

- On June 15, 2020 the Library introduced contactless “Park & Pick-Up” curbside service, fulfilling 70-75 daily requests for books, DVDs and WiFi hotspots.
- The first virtual summer reading program was launched in 2020, sponsored by the Moreno Valley Friends of the Library. Participation grew in Summer 2021 as library buildings reopened.
- The Main Library served as the only non-school site for Moreno Valley Unified School District Grab & Go lunches.
- Installed screen guards, directional signs, and air purifiers, set safety protocols for face masks, social distancing, disinfecting, and quarantining library materials and distributed free hand sanitizer and face masks to the public.
- Implemented new programs including free comic book summer, virtual escape rooms, online quizzes, Winter Rewards program, the MVPL Presents podcast, Nerd Night, and Tech Demos. Library staff acquired many new skills along the way, including creating stop-motion videos and editing audio and video recordings.
- WiFi was extended to reach the parking lots at the Main Library and at Iris Plaza Branch. Increased number of hotspots to loan to the public.

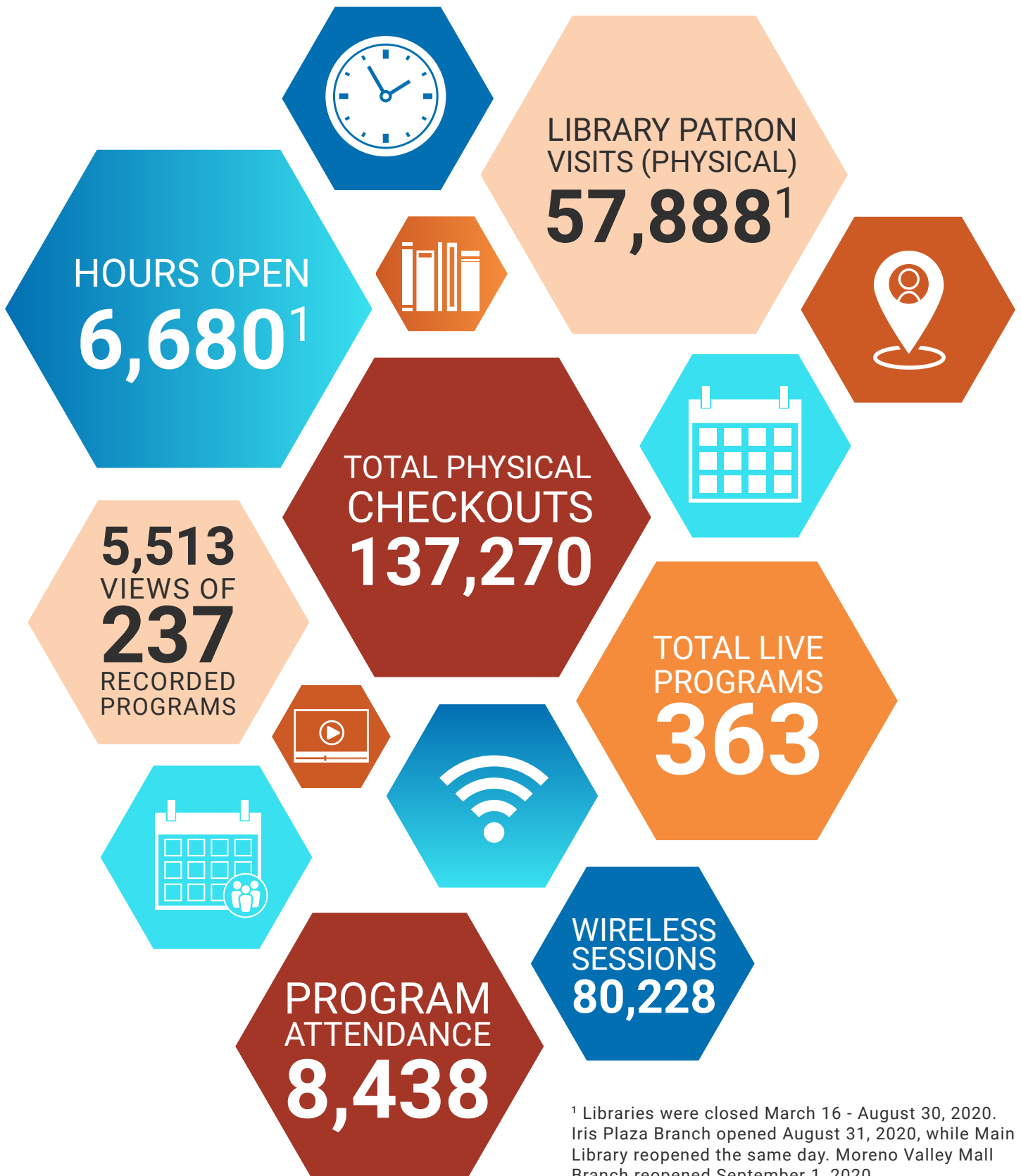


A blue rectangular advertisement for the 'Park & Pick-Up' service. At the top, it says 'MORENO VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY'. The main text 'Park & Pick-Up' is in large white font, with a white padlock icon below it. Below the icon, it says 'Begins Monday, June 15' and 'Place your Request Online or By Phone'. At the bottom, it lists the website 'moval.org/mv-library' and phone numbers for the Main Library (951.413.3880) and Mall Branch (951.413.3761). The Moreno Valley Unified School District logo is at the bottom left.

A blue and white advertisement for 'Grab & Go' free meals. The text 'GRAB & GO!' is in a red box. Below it, it says 'FREE MEALS FOR ALL CHILDREN AND TEENS DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES'. The dates are 'June 15 - August 7 (except July 3)' and 'Monday - Friday 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon'. It includes a note to visit 'mvusd.net' for current lists of pick-up locations and a note to 'Eat Smart 2 Be Smart at Main Library, 25480 Alessandro Blvd.'. On the right, there is an illustration of a brown paper lunch bag, a sandwich, an apple, and a red juice box. The Moreno Valley Unified School District logo is at the top right.



Moreno Valley Public Library by the Numbers



¹ Libraries were closed March 16 - August 30, 2020. Iris Plaza Branch opened August 31, 2020, while Main Library reopened the same day. Moreno Valley Mall Branch reopened September 1, 2020.

Grants

CLSA eResources Funding Opportunity

Purchased 72 eAudiobooks and 223 eBooks for cloudLibrary™.

2021 Virtual Youth Programming Grant (\$11,933)²

California State Library awarded \$11,933 for Connect Kids MoVal project to upgrade videography equipment and purchase programming aids and supplies, enhance library programs for school-aged children and place social media ads. The grant also includes virtual author/poet presentations.

2021 LSTA CopyCat Grant (\$16,704)²

Funds the Anytime Storytime project which includes diverse storytime materials, with a STEAM component and virtual programs. These take-home materials and services for parents and children explore stories that reflect the demographics of the diverse community. The project includes 60 circulating tote bags and 10 Anytime Storytime virtual programs for preschoolers.

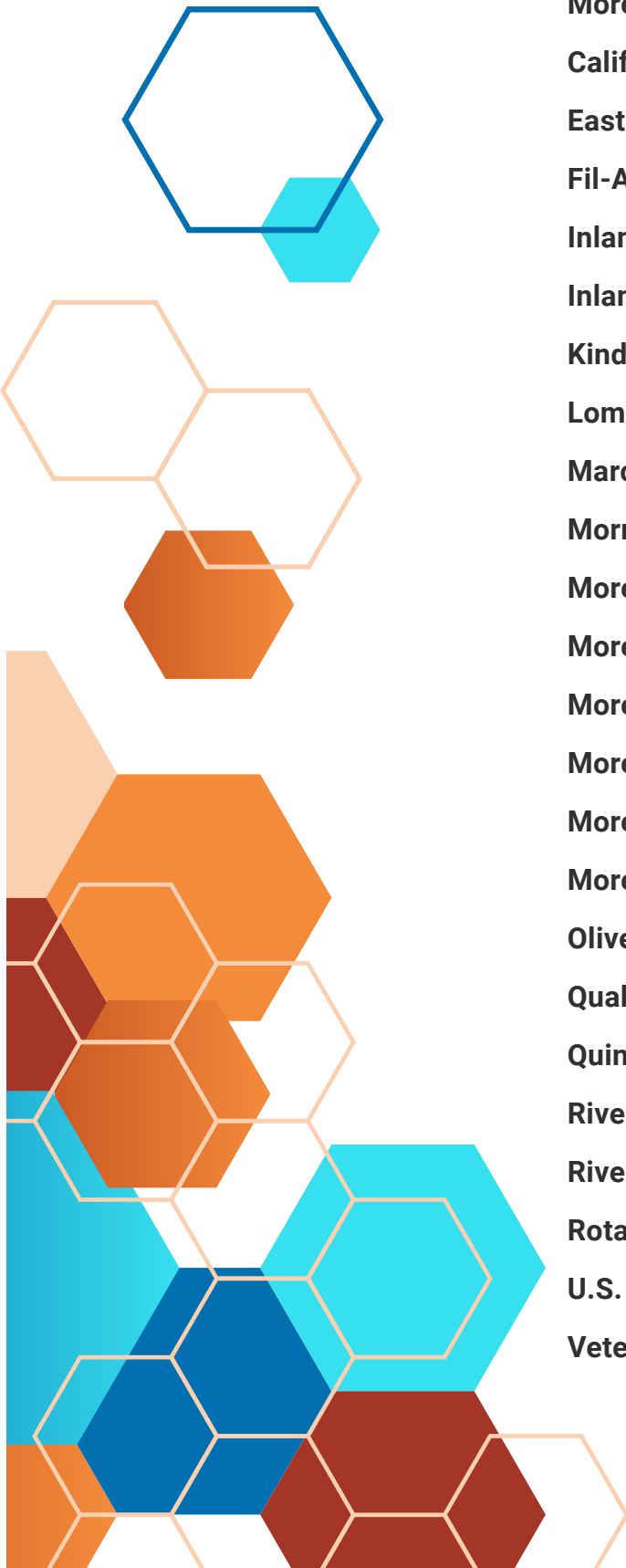
Día de los Libros/Niños²

\$1,500 grant to celebrate and inspire young readers. Staff hosted a reading incentive program, ten virtual programs and distributed over 450 craft kits.



² This program was funded in part or in whole by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

Community Partners



Moreno Valley Friends of the Library

California State Library

Eastern Municipal Water District

Fil-Am Mental Health Resource Center

Inland Library System

Inlandia Institute

KinderCare

Loma Linda University

March Air Reserve Base

Morning Optimist Club of Moreno Valley

Moreno Valley Business & Employment Resource Center

Moreno Valley Genealogical Society

Moreno Valley Mall

Moreno Valley Senior Center

Moreno Valley Unified School District

Moreno Valley Youth Opportunity Center

Olivewood Child Development Center

Quality Start/First 5 Riverside

Quinn A.M.E. Church

Riverside County Community Action Partnership

Riverside County Office of Aging

Rotary Club of Moreno Valley -- Noon

U.S. Census Bureau

Veterans Connect @ the Library