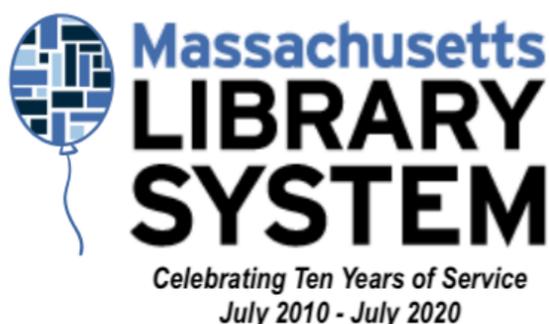


A BRIEF HISTORY OF



A not for profit corporation funded by MA State Budget Line 7000-9401, administered by the MA Board of Library Commissioners.

Our first year of service began by providing critical services to our multi type membership. The **core services** determined by the consolidation project were **Delivery, Continuing Education, Advisory, Databases, and Mediated ILL**.

2010

JULY 1, 2010

After a year long consolidation project **MLS** was formed by the merger of **6 regional library systems**. **Gregory Pronevitz** was hired as our first Executive Director and established a leadership model that included an Assistant Director, Business Manager, librarians and support staff. There were **17 staff members** on July 1, 2010 working out of two physical spaces, one in **Waltham** and one in **Whately, MA**.

2011

Our eastern office moved from **Waltham** to **Marlborough**. Our **western office** continued to operate out of the former home of the Western MA Regional Library System in **Whately, MA**.

2014

In response to member and stakeholder conversations, MLS added its first new signature service, the **Commonwealth eBook Collection (CeC)**. The CeC pilot served 50 libraries; now it serves 300+ school members, many of whom would not be able to offer eBooks without CeC. Additionally, we established the **Resource Sharing Team**, and moved **Mediated ILL services** to the Marlborough office.

2015

MLS began adding cohort-based opportunities to our offerings. **Project SET** was launched. **Word of Mouth Marketing (WOMM)** and the **Institute for Database Engagement and Leadership (IDEAL)** soon followed.

2016

Our western MA office moved to **Northampton, MA**. With MLS renting office space instead of owning space, more funding was allocated to services provided to the membership.

2017

State mandated increases to minimum wage (which affected our delivery contractor) forced service cuts to ensure MLS could **sustain offerings**.

2018

MLS' Founding Executive Director retires. Our services have their **biggest** year yet!

- CeC chose **1 vendor** to provide eBooks to members, seamlessly integrating with other network options.
- Delivery transported **15 million items**.
- Databases saw **8 million full text article downloads**.

- Reduction in Consultant staffing
- Removed *Opposing Viewpoints* database from statewide offerings.
- Cut selected delivery stops.

2019

Sarah Sogigian was appointed as MLS' new Executive Director. Our **Marlborough office relocates** to 33 Boston Post Road.

July 1, 2020

What's Next

- Our new Strategic Plan will help us identify **critical needs** for our members.
- We will continue to align our services with our **partner organizations** and we look forward to more **collaborative offerings**.
- We will **help our members** support their communities by reassessing the critical services we provide, while we research **new and innovative methods for service delivery**.