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COTUIT LIBRARY RECEIVES NATIONAL GRANT FOR SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES
\$3,000 Grant Will Help the Library Work with Residents to Explore and Develop Solutions Around Increasing our Communities Confidence around Technology

Cotuit Library has been selected as one of 300 libraries to participate in *Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries*, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that helps library workers better serve their small and rural communities.

The competitive award comes with a \$3,000 grant that will help the library host a community conversation about improving our residents' confidence around technology and their technical literacy.

"We are so grateful to be chosen by the ALA and the ARSL for this exciting opportunity," said Executive Director Jessica Rudden-Dube. "This grant will allow our library to direct our community support offerings to where they are needed most, and create a meaningful conversation that empowers our residents."

As part of the grant, Cotuit Library staff will take an online course in how to lead conversations, a skill vital to library work today. Staff will then host a conversation with residents about increasing our communities' confidence around technology and use the grant funds to develop the solutions discussed during our conversation.

With the rapid pace of technical advancement, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and left behind. The Cotuit Library is dedicated to helping our community increase both their technical skills and their confidence around technology.

If you are interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, please contact Eleanor Humphreys at ehumphreys@clamsnet.org, or visit <https://www.cotuitlibrary.org> for more information.

Since 2014, ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

"Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)."