# Assisting Libraries and Cultural Institutions in Addressing Digital Equity with American Rescue Plan Act Funds

February 2022

# Overview and Guidelines

**$6.2 Million**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has provided the New York State Library with $6.2 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

1. • Support digital inclusion efforts

2. • Emergency relief to libraries

3. • Support library services

4. • Collaborate with tribal and museum partners

5. • Advance Regents DEI Priorities

# New York State Library Guiding Principles

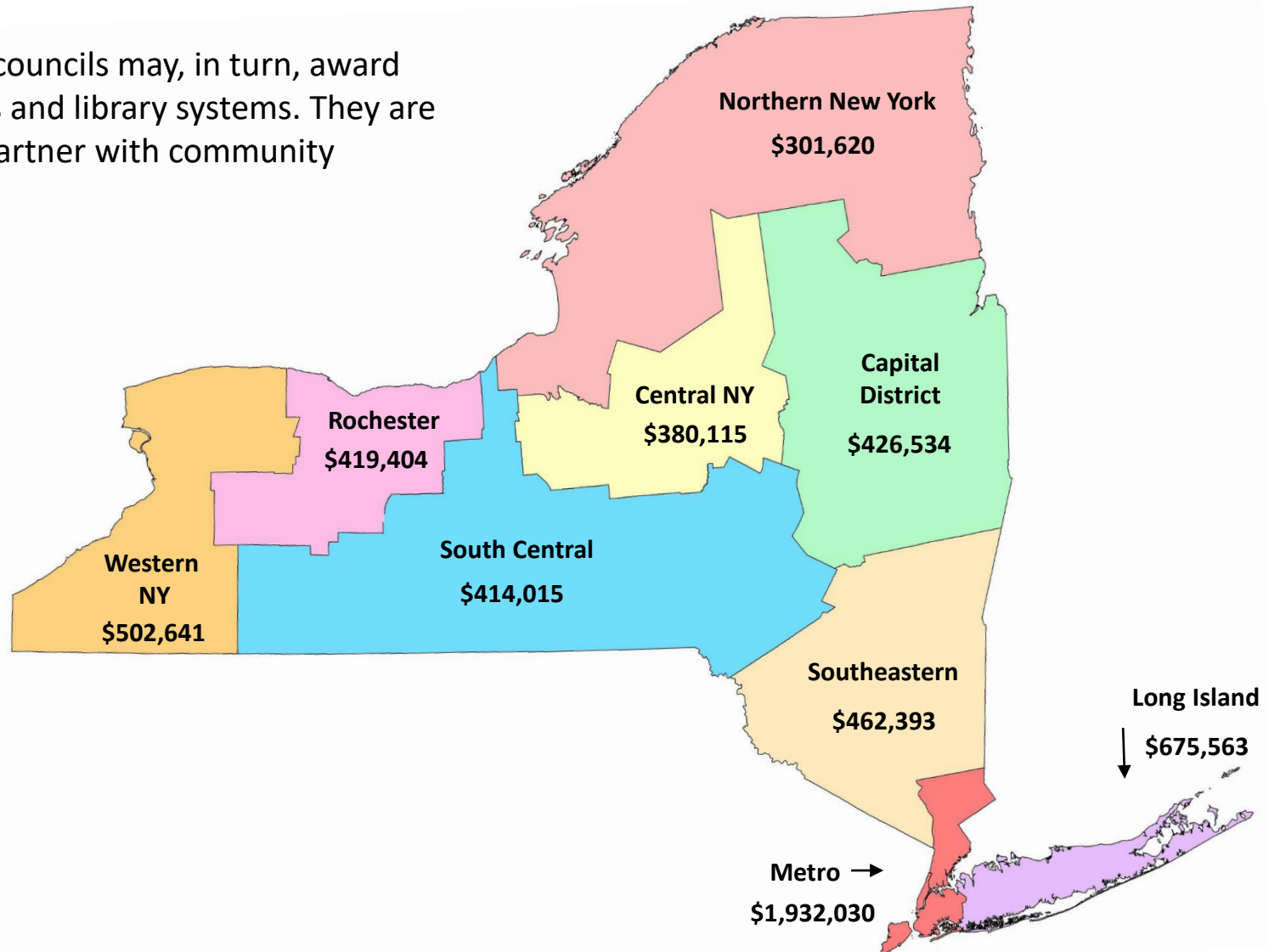Support the Regents' priorities around digital equity.

Leverage library systems to direct funds to the communities that need them most.

Support collaboration across cultural institutions.

# ARPA Allocations to Regional Library Councils

Regional library councils may, in turn, award funds to libraries and library systems. They are encouraged to partner with community organizations.



Northern New York
$301,620

Rochester
$419,404

Central NY
$380,115

Capital District
$426,534

Western NY
$502,641

South Central
$414,015

Southeastern
$462,393

Long Island
$675,563

Metro →
$1,932,030

# Project Components

$4,000,000

## Digital Inclusion

- Collaborating with public libraries and public library systems.
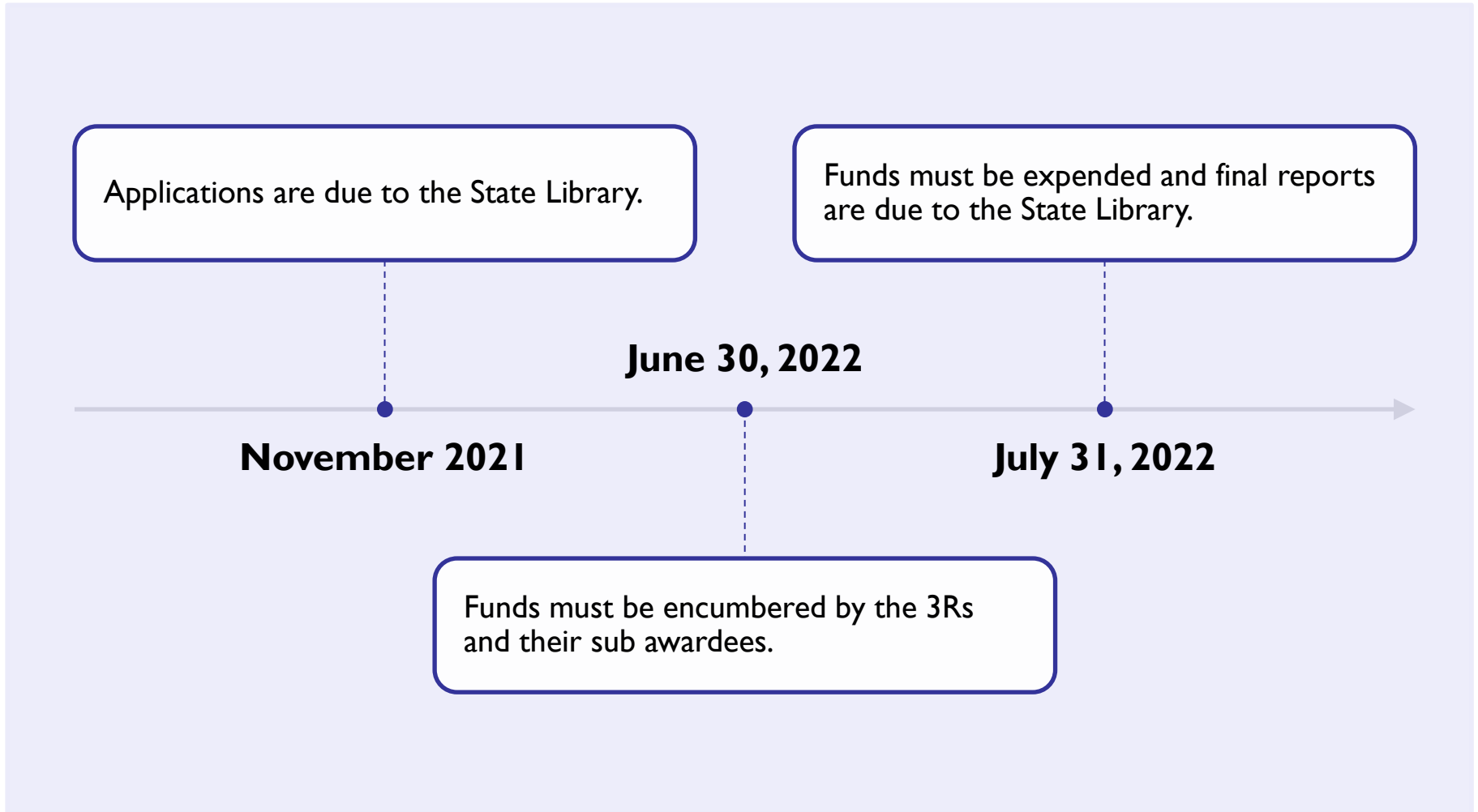
$964,315

## Library/Museum Partnerships

- Strengthening partnerships at the regional and/or local levels.

$550,000

## Digital Resources for Students

- Expanding student access through school library systems.

# Timeline

Applications are due to the State Library.

Funds must be expended and final reports are due to the State Library.

**June 30, 2022**

**November 2021**

**July 31, 2022**

Funds must be encumbered by the 3Rs and their sub awardees.

# Exemplary Projects

**SOUTHEASTERN**
NY LIBRARY RESOURCES COUNCIL

### Digital Navigators of the Hudson Valley

- Training for up to 100 participants to become digital navigators.

- Available to libraries and community-based organizations.

- Results in trusted guides who can assist community members in accessing and using technology.

### Beyond the Library Wi-Fi Access Project

- Makes a library's broadband accessible beyond the walls of the building.

- Wi-Fi can be extended up to 300 feet, potentially reaching parks, homes, and nearby businesses.

# Exemplary Projects

**Northern New York Library Network**

## Digital Inclusion for Older Adults in the North Country

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A sustainable, collaborative digital literacy program for older adults. | Built around the award-winning Senior Planet curriculum. | Supplies internet-enabled devices to participants. | Access to digital literacy training, and quality technical support for the end user. |

# Exemplary Projects

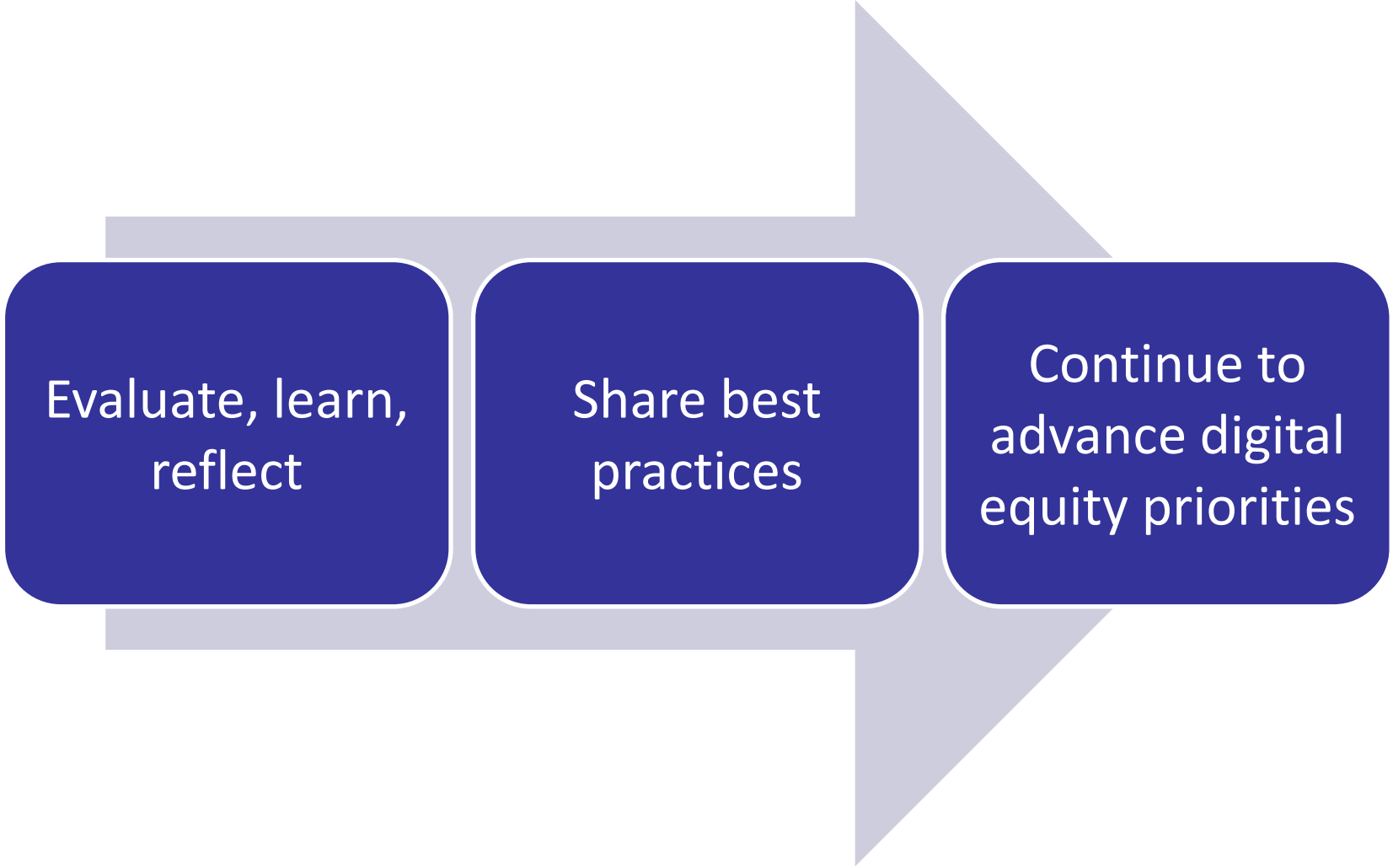**Advancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Projects**

- Crown Heights Teen Tech Center

- Connect Queens Neighborhoods to WiFi

- Creative, Community-Centered Workforce Development

# What's next?

Evaluate, learn, reflect

Share best practices

Continue to advance digital equity priorities

Questions?