

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

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Library offers digital homework help for students during closure

New live chat feature now available

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) is offering K-12 students free help with their homework by way of a new live chat feature on its website, <u>columbuslibrary.org</u>. CML staff members are available to directly respond to students' questions and refer them to the many free resources available to them. This new digital service is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on CML's new <u>Help For Students Learning From Home web page</u>, which also includes dozens of other resources to help students be successful while learning from home.

While thousands of central Ohio students continue to work from home during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, CML is working to provide <u>digital resources</u> not only for students, but for all who are impacted by the outbreak. Visit CML's new and frequently updated <u>COVID-19 Coronavirus Response web page</u> for information on everything from foodbanks, internet service providers, volunteer opportunities, home learning options for the whole family and much more.

During normal operation, CML offers <u>free, in-person homework help</u> at all 23 of its locations in Franklin County. All locations remain closed through at least May 2 due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio since 1873. With its Main Library and 22 branches, CML is well known for signature services and programs like Homework Help, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Challenge and Ready for Kindergarten. The library's Strategic Plan supports the vision of "a thriving community where wisdom prevails," which positions CML to respond to areas of urgent need: kids unprepared for kindergarten, third grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, college and career readiness and employment resources.

CML was named a 2011 National Medal Winner by the Institute for Museum and Library Services for work in community service, the highest honor for libraries and museums. CML was also named 2010 Library of the Year by Library Journal.