

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OPEN BORROWING@your library: 10,000,000 choices – 1 library card**

If you haven't visited your hometown library recently, what's holding you back? It's the best deal in town. And while you're there, ask about Open Borrowing. Besides being able to borrow from the diverse collections of their home libraries, with a green Open Borrowing sticker affixed to their library cards, library users can enjoy in-person borrowing at over 150 libraries throughout northern New Jersey, the collections of which total over 10,000,000 items.

New Jersey's public libraries have more to offer than ever before. With collections rich in bestsellers, award winning children's books, the newest videos, DVDs, audiobooks and chart topping CDs, libraries are becoming one-stop shopping destinations for residents who want the latest in books and media all in one place.

The member libraries of The Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS), Libraries of Middlesex Automation Consortium (LMxAC), Morris Automated Information Network (M.A.I.N.), The Passaic County Library System (PALS), and the libraries of Sussex and Warren Counties are participating in Open Borrowing, which is a self-funded initiative to provide enhanced service to residents in these areas.

With the libraries of Sussex and Warren Counties as the newest members, the number of libraries participating in Open Borrowing has grown to more than 150, a significant portion of the state's 312 public library systems.

"Your library card is good at over 150 libraries within Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties," says INSERT NAME HEREXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, who wants residents to know how far-reaching this service is.

Perhaps Robert White, Executive Director of The Bergen County Cooperative Library System sums it up best: "For years the tag line for the American Express Card has been 'Don't leave home without it.' Over half the public libraries in New Jersey have gone AmEx one better: 'Your library card, don't leave home without it'. Books, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, magazines, more than 10 million of them, are waiting for you to borrow at your local public library."