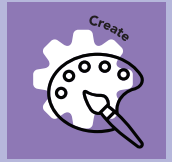
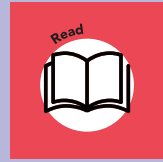




Monroe County Public Library

Read, Learn, Connect & Create



2021 Accomplishments

Library Cards



- 48,085 Monroe County residents had a library card.
- 13,600 eAccess cards were distributed to Monroe County schools in August, providing convenient access to eLibrary resources and supporting ongoing eLearning needs.

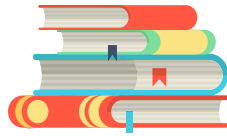


Circulation and Use

- 1,185,929 physical items were circulated.
- 748,458 digital items were circulated.
- 9,828 reference help transactions were completed.
- 2,666 meetings were held by area nonprofits and organizations in Library spaces.

The Library Collection

- 362,207 print books
- 93,856 ebooks
- 49,124 physical and 34,047 downloadable video materials
- 28,191 physical and 53,319 downloadable audio materials
- 345 print serials subscriptions
- 3,897 electronic serials subscriptions
- 1,431 other physical circulating items



New in the Collection

- A new self-paced eLibrary resource, Northstar Online Learning, was added to the collection. It teaches the skills needed to communicate using computers.
- 11 new role-playing game kits were added to the Library of Things.
- Three mobile video production kits were added to the Library of Things, providing patrons access to recording equipment to use with their smartphones anytime, anywhere.
- Ten cellular-enabled iPads were added to the Library of Things.
- 20 additional mobile hotspots were added to the Library of Things.
- Six external hard drives were added to the Library of Things.

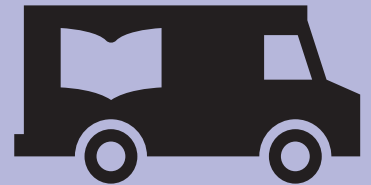


Technology

- 48,400 public computing sessions on 124 public computers
- 1,515,345 wireless internet uses
- 1,197,278 website visits
- 50 mobile hotspots were circulated 514 times.

Outreach

- The Bookmobile visited 28 weekly stops in the community.
- The Homebound delivery service was renamed "House Calls Service" to better reflect the service offering. 90 patrons were served at their doorsteps monthly.
- 40 Head Start and daycare locations received monthly book deliveries.
- Library staff provided circulation and reader's advisory services to patrons three days a week at the Monroe County Correctional Center.
- Library staff served 60 residents at nursing homes, assisted living, and senior living communities biweekly through outreach van service.
- Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) provided flexible learning opportunities for 140 adult literacy and language learners, adapting to the needs of in-person, distance, and hybrid tutoring activities.
- New StoryWalk® titles were installed at Butler Park and Flatwoods Park.
- A crowdsourced map of community Little Free Libraries was added to the Library's website.



Programs

- 5,136 people attended 370 Library-sponsored in-person programs.
- 6,570 people participated in 614 Library-sponsored virtual programs.
- 7,336 people viewed Library YouTube programs and videos published in 2021.
- 7,182 Take and Make Kits containing project instructions and materials were distributed to patrons of all ages.
- In support of the early childhood “Every Child Ready to Read” initiative, the Library launched a “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” reading challenge. The program encourages caregivers to read with their young children. By the end of 2021, there were 330 active enrolled readers, reading a combined total of 33,198 books.
- The Library launched Monroe County Field Notes, a virtual dig to uncover stories about 19th-century landmarks and people, from 1816–1876. The research will help diversify our community’s history.
- Staff offered new seasonal personalized reading recommendation services for children, teens, and adults—Wonder Tote, Library Loot, and Library Tinder. Materials come with fun, bookish goodies to keep.
- Homeschool families enjoyed a new recurring series of art-themed programs.
- More than 140 community members attended the Monroe County Childhood Conditions Summit in October, co-sponsored by the Library in collaboration with the Monroe County Youth Services Bureau and Building a Thriving Compassionate Community. Of particular interest to many attendees was a session led by a panel of local social workers and therapists who explained how adult caregivers can support the mental health needs of youth.
- A new Minecraft Survival Server provided a safe gaming community for local tweens.
- The Ellettsville Branch hired a dedicated adult community engagement librarian, increasing programming opportunities for adults.



Spaces and Improvements

- A contactless pickup window was installed at the Downtown Library to better serve patrons who prefer not to enter the building.
- A job search station was created at the Downtown Library, including print and online resources.
- The Ellettsville Branch added a new sidewalk, linking the back parking lot to the exterior meeting room lobby entrance.



Volunteering

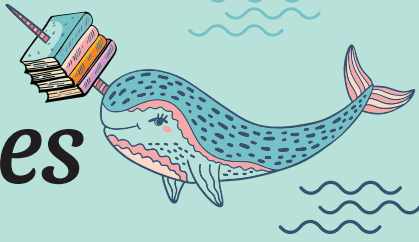
- Volunteers remained active with VITAL, Teen and Children’s Services, Access and Content Services, and the Friends of the Library Bookstore and office, for a total of 5,279 hours volunteered.
- A new volunteer database and application process were launched.
- The Library engaged in internship partnerships with Bloomington High School North, Ivy Tech Community College, and Indiana University.



Friends of the Library Foundation

- The Friends of the Library pledged to donate \$650,000 to the Library to assist with equipping the forthcoming Southwest Branch.
- The Friends supported Library programs, collections, staff training, and more through a \$103,000 contribution to the Library.
- In celebration of meeting the community-wide summer reading goal of one-million minutes, the Friends of the Library donated \$2,000 to the Monroe County Humane Association.

Tails and Tales



Summer Reading

- 2,756 people (1,014 children, 184 teens, and 360 adults) participated in the “Tails and Tales” all-ages virtual summer reading games, reading a combined total of 1,894,485 minutes! Children and teens who completed their game earned a paperback prize book, and all participants earned tickets toward prize drawings.
- To help encourage participation by young readers, the Library gave 576 beginner reader books to registrants who had just completed kindergarten or first grade.



Accessibility and Inclusivity Commitments



- In order to reduce barriers and promote equitable access for all members of the community, the Library created a “Care Fee Option Program.” This program allows patrons of all ages to remove their fees through responsible checkout. The Library continues not to charge late fines.
- The American Psychological Association emphasizes the need to talk about all people with inclusivity and respect. The Library adopted a bias-free language guide to clarify how staff discusses racial and ethnic identity, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.
- More than 180 readers of all ages participated in a new reading challenge called “Everyone Has a Story.” The online challenge helped participants discover books and short video profiles of people from different races and life experiences.
- All adult shelf signage at the Downtown Library and Ellettsville Branch was updated to a dyslexia-friendly, easily browsable format.
- The Downtown Library business center arrangement and signage were updated for clarity and better wayfinding.
- All video games were relabeled from Dewey number to title to enhance findability.
- In order to underscore the Library’s commitment to county-wide service and each of the Library’s unique identities and services, as well as the expansion into a third physical location, the Main Library’s name was changed to the Downtown Library.

Future Southwest Branch Library

Construction began on the Southwest Branch Library at 900 W. Gordon Pike. In addition to traditional services and spaces, the new branch will feature a teaching kitchen, an all-ages collaborative space, and an amphitheater.





Community Access Television Services (CATS)

- Covered 665 government meetings.
- Expanded online/in-person meeting coverage for local meetings and events.
- Provided in-person coverage for over 100 community productions, including the 2021 B-town Jazz Fest, the 2021 Lotus World Music Festival, the Monroe County History Club, the Singing Hoosiers, and more.

Grants



- A City of Bloomington Information & Technology Services Department grant purchased a 360-degree camera for public meeting room use. The new technology provides patrons with a simple and accessible tool to bridge the gap between those who can attend meetings onsite and those who can't.
- An American Rescue Plan Act grant enhanced CATS hybrid community meeting coverage.
- A Wahl Family Charitable Trust grant will support furnishing and outfitting the Downtown and Ellettsville tween spaces.

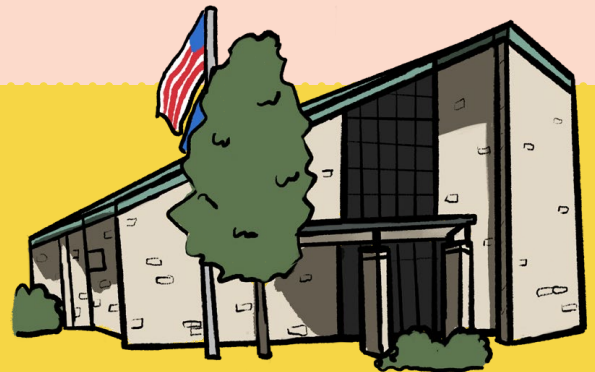


Community Information

The Library continued to serve as an information hub for the community, distributing information on vaccinations, the emergency broadband benefit, energy assistance programs, and public service student loan forgiveness, both digitally and physically.

Staff Development

The Library embarked on a large-scale internal review of operational efficacy and workplace norms. All staff participated in this process, which presented numerous opportunities for team leadership and facilitation, project management, proposal writing, and presentation, as well as effective communication across departments. The results led to a restructuring of public services operations, the creation of an organizational development department, an enhanced approach to programming, and the creation of a new role of Assistant Director of Public Services.



**Monroe County
Public Library**

Downtown Library
303 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47408
812-349-3050

Ellettsville Branch
600 W. Temperance St.
Ellettsville, IN 47429
812-876-1272

mcpl.info



@MCPLIndiana