

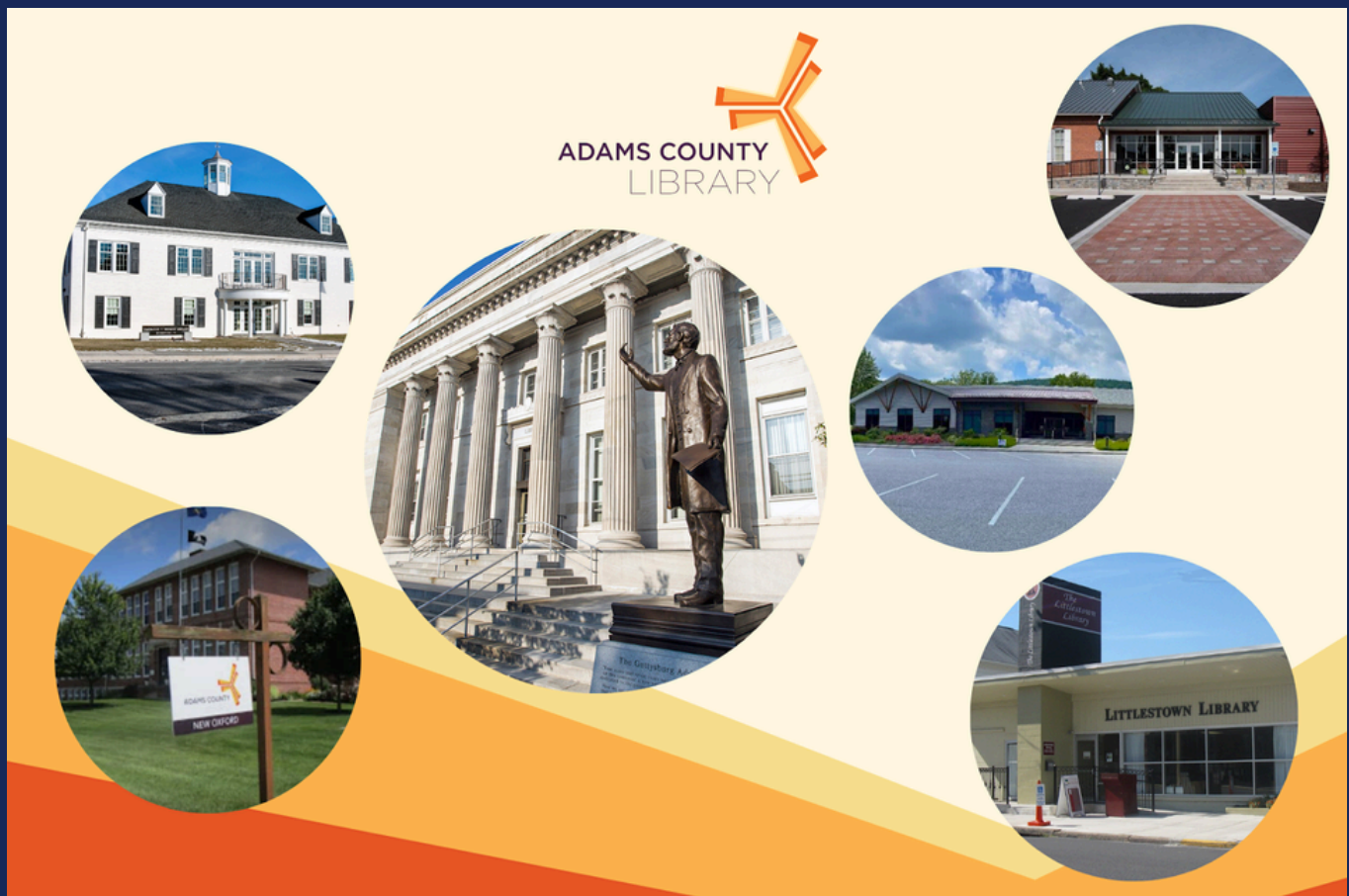
Annual Report

2024



140 Baltimore Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-5716

**GETTYSBURG * BIGLERVILLE * CARROLL VALLEY * EAST BERLIN *
LITTLESTOWN * NEW OXFORD**



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



In 1822, the Library Society in Adams County adopted its constitution. It took more than 100 years for the Adams County Public Library to become incorporated in 1945 and rent space for the first formal Public Library in Adams County which opened to the public on January 7, 1946. They opened their doors on 135 Carlisle Street in Gettysburg with a modest budget, two staff members, and a lot of community support.

For 80 years, our community and our library have seen many changes. The library in Gettysburg moved to 59 East

High Street before moving again to the Federal Building in 1992.

The Adams County Library flourished in the years following World War II and continued to grow with the community that we serve in the decades that followed. During the past 80 years, the library has grown to include a total of six locations throughout Adams County. We have navigated the technology revolution, automated the library's catalog in 1996, and continued to evolve with the publication revolution that followed.

Like a fine wine, Adams County Library is getting better with age! Read through these pages to learn more about the years since that small room on Carlisle Street first opened and the exciting programs, materials, and services that we offer our patrons every day.

Miranda Wisor, Executive Director

Our Mission: Open Gateways for Exploration

Our Purpose: Connecting people to opportunities to enrich their lives

Our Values: Excellence, Trustworthiness, Stewardship

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a nine-member governing board. Each member is eligible to serve two - three year terms and is appointed by the Adams County Commissioners. The Board's duties include advocacy, financial responsibility, policy adoption and revision, and general support of the Adams County Library. We would like to thank the Board members who served in 2024.

- Heidi Gillis, President
- Jessica Boyer, Vice-President
- Kara Boehne-Miele, Secretary
- Rita Rice, Treasurer
- Rukhsana Rahman (left in 2024)
- Anna-Mae Kobbe, Ph.D.
- Julie Ramsey
- Kathleen Pratt
- Rob Williams
- David Kushner (joined in 2024)

ASSOCIATE TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is strengthened by Associate Trustees who serve on governance committees, supporting the work that the Board completes in governance of the library. Associate Trustees are appointed by the Board serving one year terms and are subject to reappointment.

- Sue Whaley
- Dr. Bettie Bertram
- Lisa Malandra-Shower
- Jill Schumann
- Kathleen Heidecker
- Kelly Kampstra

EMERITI TRUSTEES

The Board is further strengthened by Emeriti Trustees, former Board members, who continue to join Board and Committee meetings to share their institutional memory and expertise. A Trustee Emeritus is eligible to serve in this capacity for three years.

- Karen Arthur
- Dorothy Puhl
- Mary Sue Cline
- Ray Schwartz

Our Value

In 2024, the cost per resident for Adams County Library services was \$9.73* in local government contributions. Less than the cost of one trade paperback book at a book store!

19,029



Reference Questions
Answered

195,899



Annual Visits

129,182



Ebooks, Audio &
Video Circulation

448,274



Total Circulation in
2024

2,377



Live Programs

36,783



Attendance at
Live Programs

109,214



WiFi and Computer
Access

6,923



Database Uses

33,391



Active Library Cards

*Based on budget contribution from County of Adams.

Adult Services

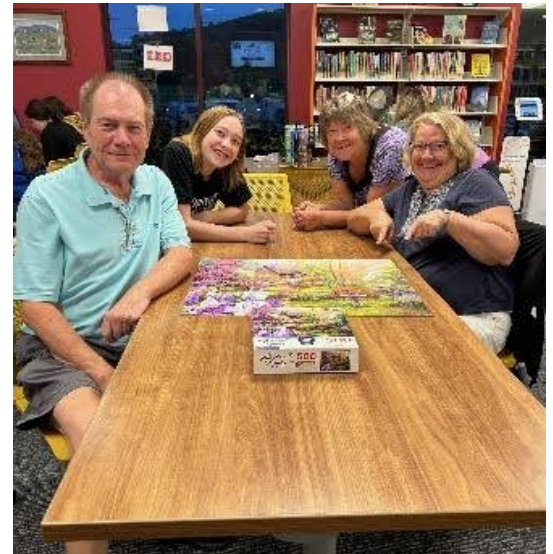
- In 2024, the Public Services Department focused on collection maintenance, primarily by weeding all adult collections. By weeding the collections, we removed materials that have not circulated in multiple years, were out-of-date, or were no longer in good physical condition. This also allowed the staff to refamiliarize themselves with the collection as a whole.
- We also added a new collection: The Library of Things. Beginning with the blood pressure monitors that were received through a grant from the American Heart Association, the library

7%

Increase in Visitors



then looked at what other non-traditional library materials might be of interest or use to the community. We ended 2024 with 127 unique items available to the public.



Children Services

18%

Increase in Live Program Attendance



- All new kindergarteners received a free book and library card application from the library.
- Library staff visited classrooms and preschools throughout the year to promote early childhood literacy and library services.
- SummerQuest and the Winter Reading Challenge kept young people engaged with reading and learning during traditional slide months. Partnering with GO Adams ensured that little bodies stayed fit, too!
- We provided literacy outreach for migrant education offering storytimes and library card applications.
- We hosted numerous programs, activities, storytimes, author visits, and book clubs for children of all ages throughout the county. Highlights included Tree Family Party Pigs, Reptile Invasions, Snap Circuit Night, and a very yummy Ace of Cupcakes competition!

Teen Services

- Book clubs, games, crafts, and other activities for teens were popular throughout the county!
- Anime clubs were a new addition in 2024; inviting teens to library programs to discuss their shared love of anime and manga while learning new titles to explore.
- The Teen Center at Harbaugh-Thomas continues to be a popular after-school destination in Upper Adams.



One Book

The Cartographers by Peng Shepherd

"Maps were love letters written to times and places their makers had explored. They did not control the territory - they told its stories." - *The Cartographers*

- We kicked off the 2024 One Book program with a visit from the featured author, Peng Shepherd. More than 70 people filled the room to listen to her speak about her inspiration for *The Cartographers*.
- Each branch of the library system held multiple programs around the county throughout October and there were two offsite programs were held at the WWII Museum and Musselman Library at Gettysburg College – as well as a virtual program hosted by the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division of the New York Public Library.
- In total, *The Cartographers* circulated more than 400 times since the title was announced in mid-May.
- In September, the One Book Committee selected the title for 2025. The next One Book title will be announced in May 2025.

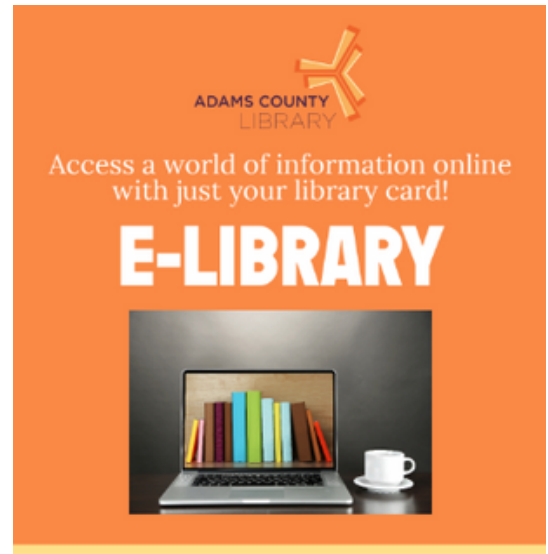


E Resources

The year saw updates and additions to the library's digital resource collection. New additions included:

- **AtoZ Databases:** A job search, reference, mailing, and market research database.
- **ComicsPlus:** Unlimited access to digital comics, manga, and picture books
- **Kanopy:** An on-demand streaming video platform offering films, tv shows, educational videos, and documentaries.
- **Niche Academy:** An easy-to-use learning and professional training platform.

We also saw the discontinuation of Mango, a language learning platform, and Brainfuse, a online tutoring platform. Mango was made redundant when Transparent Language Online became available from the State of Pennsylvania. Brainfuse was removed due to decreases in use of the service.



Friends of the Library

We are fortunate to have three vibrant and active Friends of the Library groups supporting the system: Friends of the Adams County Library, Friends of the Jean Barnett Trone Memorial Library, and Friends of the Littlestown Library.

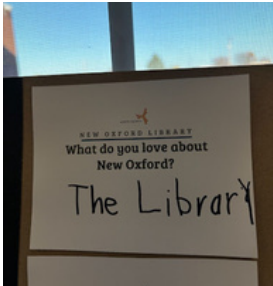
Throughout the year, the Friends groups staffed bookstores in Gettysburg and East Berlin. Groups in Littlestown and Gettysburg hosted successful book sale events. Friends of the Littlestown Library also hosted soup sales, tabled at community events, and won a prize for their float in the Littlestown Good Ole Days Parade.

All of these fundraising efforts were completed in support of the library system they love. At the end of the year, each Friends group was able to offer a donation to support library operations.

It certainly feels good to have good Friends!



Outreach & Special Events



- June 14, 2024 the library hosted our annual FunFest at the Gettysburg Area Recreation Park providing free fun and activities to families throughout the county.
- On August 6, 2024, the library tabled at multiple National Night Out events throughout the county.
- The library tabled at Farmer's Markets and other community events throughout the year sharing information about library services and programs.
- For six weeks leading up to the 2024 GivingSpree, the library cohosted community information sessions throughout the county.
- The Focus Foundation supports adults with autism and intellectual disabilities. At this event we provided information about the library and library programs. The library was acknowledged as a community organization who supports people with disabilities.



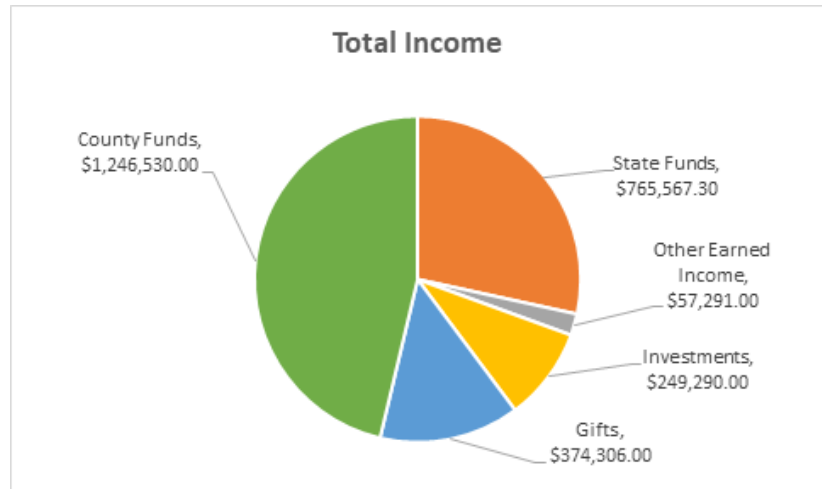
What our patrons say...

- "Your library is amazing. I wish I lived here!!" -Card given to a young patron's favorite librarian.
- "I cannot overstate how happy I am to know that my child will grow up in the Littlestown Library." -Feedback letter received from patron.
- "It's a luxury for her [daughter] to play with you." -Mother after Storytime at the library.
- "You can do so much with this!" -Young library patron after receiving her first library card.

Financial Overview

2024 REVENUE & SUPPORT

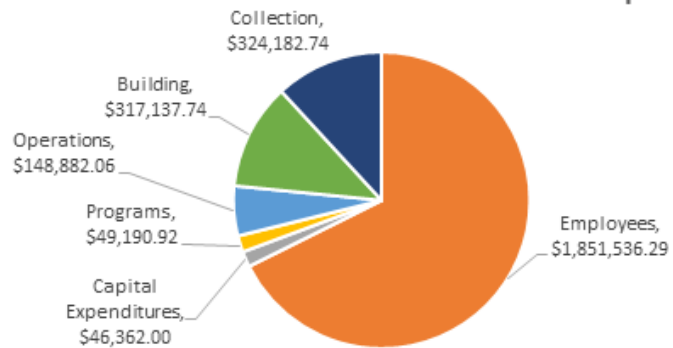
2024 Total Income	
State Contribution	\$ 765,567.30
County Contribution	\$ 1,246,530.00
Investments	\$ 249,290.00
Gifts	\$ 374,306.00
Other Earned Income	\$ 57,291.00
Total Income	\$ 2,692,984.30



2024 OPERATING EXPENDITURES*

2024 Total Expenses	
Employees	\$ 1,851,536.29
Collection	\$ 324,182.74
Operations	\$ 148,882.06
Programs	\$ 49,190.92
Building	\$ 317,137.74
Capital Expenditures	\$ 46,362.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,737,291.75

2024 Expenditures



*Pre-audited figures

INVESTMENT STATEMENT

Funds not required for current operations are invested according to an investment policy approved and reviewed annually by the board. The Finance Committee reviews, at least annually, all investments, including the rate of return and current market value. A report on investments is presented to the board on an annual basis.

The accounting practices and procedures used allows for adequate management of the library system's revenues and expenses and provides adequate systems of monitoring by the board as well as outside auditors.

Grants & Partnerships



With support from the **Adams County Parks, Recreation, and Green Space** grant program, the library installed two new StoryWalk® paths in Adams County. With their help, county residents and visitors can now enjoy StoryWalk® at parks in East Berlin and Carroll Valley. With the support of a generous grant from the **Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Endowment Trust**, we were able to begin updates to public computer access at library locations throughout the county.



We partnered with the **YWCA Gettysburg** in April to host a Living Library. The event invites individuals to share their personal stories and experiences with others.

We have been able to support physical health to county residents through our partnerships with **Healthy Adams County** and **GO Adams**. Our partnership with **First 10** enables us to help make sure that Adams County's newest and youngest residents start life in the best terms possible.



For six weeks leading up to the GivingSpree, the library partnered with the **Adams County Community Foundation** to host community information sessions throughout the county. Sessions were streamed with support from **Community Media of South Central PA**.

These are just a few of the relationships that empowered the library to expand our service to the community in 2024.

ADVENTURE
— BEGINS AT —
YOUR LIBRARY™





2024 Supporters

The Adams County Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of Adams County Library, and the library staff offer sincere thanks to the generous individuals, organizations, and foundations that contributed to the library in 2024. Each gift, no matter the size, is important in helping the library carry out its mission and serve the Adams County community. We are grateful for the unwavering support of our many donors. Thank you!

Great care has been taken in preparing these lists to ensure that they are accurate. If you believe there is an error, please contact the library at 717-334-5716.

CLASSICS \$5,000+

Marilyn & Richard Brough
Margaret Trew Cline Foundation
Catherine Dischner & Tommy Stewart
Friends of the Adams County Library System
Friends of the Littlestown Library
The Friends of Trone Memorial Library of East Berlin
Gettysburg Eagles Aerie #1562

Rob & Heidi Gillis
Anna-Mae Kobbe & Douglas Newell
Sharon C. Magraw
Elsie Morey
Estate of Hilda O. Nitchman
Patrick Steward In Memory of Debra Steward & Lois Rowe

PUBLISHERS \$2,500-\$4,999

Ed and Dorothy Puhl
Ray & Patti Schwartz
Susan Whaley

EDITORS \$1,000-\$2,499

Anonymous in honor of Susan L. Whaley
John & Judith Butterfield
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We also want to thank all of our generous donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

2024 Supporters

BEST SELLERS \$500-\$999

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Denise Wood



2024 Supporters

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Michael Weary
Eric & Miranda Wisor

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Borough of Carroll Valley
East Berlin Borough
Fairfield Borough
Littlestown Borough
New Oxford Borough

School District

Bermudian Springs School District

Townships

Hamiltonban Township
Reading Township
Berwick Township
Straban Township
Mount Pleasant Township
Paradise Township
Huntington Township
Liberty Township
Germany Township

2024 Volunteers

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Kara Boehne-Miele
Jessica Boyer
Kris Burgett
Leah Burgett
Karen Burns
Bryan Busbey
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Sophia DeMartino
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