

Geauga County Public Library



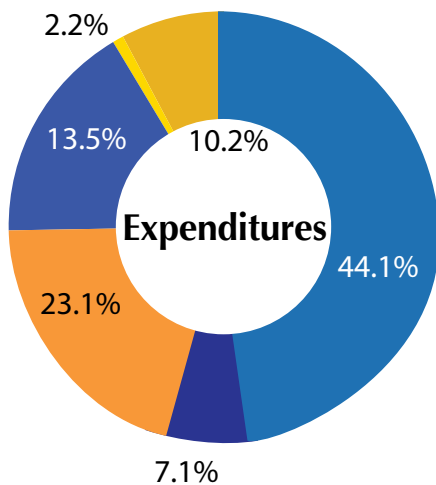
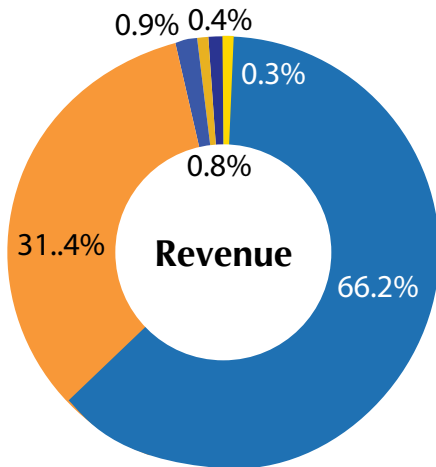
Annual Report 2017

From the Fiscal Office

The Geauga County Public Library prides itself on fostering a space of safety and growth. As the Fiscal Officer, I am committed to unbiased fiscal integrity and to responsible use of our funds in the best interest of our citizens. Safeguarding these funds is my top priority. With a healthy, well-regulated budget, our community can rest assured that the Geauga County Public Library will be a fixture of lifelong learning for years to come.

Finances

2017 General Operating Fund



Where the money comes from:

| Revenue | Actual | Percent |
|---|-------------|---------|
| Property and Other Local Taxes (Gauga County) | \$5,740,601 | 66.2% |
| Public Library Fund (State of Ohio) | \$2,724,108 | 31.4% |
| Patron Fines and Fees | \$81,006 | 0.9% |
| Miscellaneous | \$75,594 | 0.8% |
| Earnings and Investments | \$26,659 | 0.4% |
| Contributions, Gifts & Donations | \$20,885 | 0.3% |

Total Revenue: \$8,668,853 100.0%

| Expenditures | Actual | Percent |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Public Services and Programs | \$3,631,878 | 44.1% |
| Collection Development & Processing | \$1,900,192 | 23.1% |
| Business Administration | \$1,107,629 | 13.5% |
| Facilities Operation & Maintenance | \$839,829 | 10.2% |
| Information Services | \$575,173 | 7.1% |
| Capital Outlay | \$177,618 | 2.2% |

Total Expenditures: \$8,232,319 100.0%

“I'm delighted to share that my granddaughter is at the top of her class! I'm crediting all the library storytimes we attended over the years to her success in reading and learning.” - A Proud Grandmother ”



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Message from the Director

Gratitude



In 2017 as a New Year's Resolution, my wife and I began each day with gratitude exercises. I bet many of you regularly perform similar actions. We are grateful for a lovely morning sun, an unusual avian visitor, the comfort of a cozy fire with a cup of coffee in the morning or the love of an adoring companion. The practice has continued into 2018. I am grateful to serve this community that supports its public libraries. We endeavor to provide outstanding service to the community. In your hands is the Geauga County Public Library annual report, a record of how things are going here. Our numbers were strong in 2017.

Our numbers have always been strong. You and your neighbors make heavy use of all our resources. We focus on providing programming and materials that meet or exceed your expectations. Because of your generous support in passing our bond issue last November, we will be upgrading all our facilities in the coming few years, including the Administrative Center, previously a non-public building. This summer, it will open with public library space. We are planning to build new libraries in Bainbridge and Thompson and renovate the buildings in Chardon, Geauga West and Middlefield. The library is an essential part of the community. We are proud to serve you. And I am grateful to be here.

Keep reading, learning and growing
Ed Worso, Director

Circulation and Programs

Circulation Physical Items: 2,154,034

Circulation of e-books and materials: 167,764

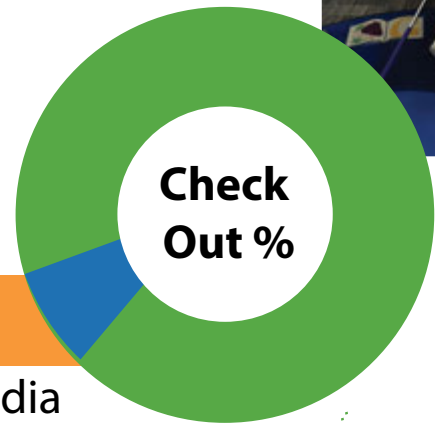
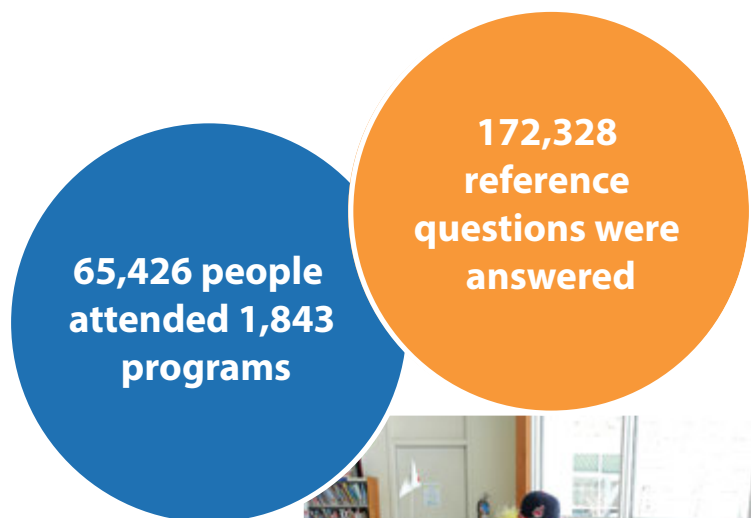
Total Circulation: 2,321,798

Children's Program 1,279

Teen Programs 99

Adult Programs 465

Total Programs 1843



Physical
92.77%

e-Media
7.23%



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GCPL's growth in 2017 saw numerous milestones, all with a direct impact on patrons and staff.

Migration to Clevnet – Joining our regional library consortium gave patrons access to a collection spanning more than 100 locations in Ohio, expanding pick-up and drop-off opportunities.

Capital improvements bond issue – Voters approved a half-mill bond issue to build and improve all GCPL facilities. These monies ensure that our library spaces remain viable far into the future.

New website and blog – GCPL updated its website and added a blog that has generated tremendous community support. More than 130 people from all walks of life have contributed, including guest authors and speakers, staff members, business leaders and educators.

Foundation – The Geauga County Library Foundation sponsored several events in 2017 including a visit from *Thunder Dog* author Michael Hingson, the 9/11 World Trade Center survivor who escaped with the help of his guide dog. Other events included the Mini-Golf fundraiser and “A Moveable Feast,” a celebration of Ernest Hemingway’s life and work.

Notable programs – GCPL hosted more than 1,000 programs in 2017. Highlights include the eclipse party on the Chardon Square, several senior programs and a bus tour of all library facilities, paint-and-sip sessions, Club Ink writers’ gatherings, Reading to Rover, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, the Grinch Steals Christmas, the 100 Book Challenge, digital discoveries, genealogy programs and others.



“ I remember coming to the library for storytimes when I was a kid. I loved my librarian’s way of bringing stories to life! Then, I went to high school and college and needed trustworthy research sources. I kept going to my library because they had what I needed. Now, as a mom, I take my kids to the library for storytimes. Plus, I love the audiobooks and music. I’ve come full circle! ”

Strategic planning – GCPL is undergoing strategic planning to help us address the needs and desires of communities throughout the county. To help us understand these needs, we asked citizens to envision the kind of community they’d like to live in, and how the library could help bring their dream to life.

Opportunities – As we finish our strategic planning, we are forming a definitive plan of action based upon the community’s vision for how the library can help them achieve their goals: **Learning and education, Community spaces, and Community engagement.**

Community partnerships – GCPL partners with groups vested in bettering their communities. We’re teaming up with several organizations with joint programming, blogging and increasing the viability and relevance of all libraries. We are proud partners with University Hospitals Geauga, the YMCA, schools, Encore NEO, numerous businesses, the Department on Aging, United Way, and the Lake-Geauga League of Libraries, local chambers of commerce and civic organizations, NAMI, Geauga County Job and Family Services, AARP, the Cleveland Sight Center and others.

Challenges – We anticipate and welcome the challenges that come with upgrading and building new facilities. Enacting the components of the strategic plan requires willingness to adapt. The new plan will spur opportunities for the library system to evolve.