

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



“ The library has always been a place
of joy for me. —Angie, Finksburg ”



CARROLL COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

—Infinite Possibilities

Telling Our Story

This past year, we embarked upon a campaign to gather stories. While the library is filled with stories, we were missing some very important ones—yours. Many individuals and families took the opportunity to let us know how they use the library and what impact library services have had upon their lives. What we got back were moving accounts of connection, support, and opportunity. You'll see quotes from this collection throughout this report and in other library media.

The next chapter of library service will be rolled out in the coming year with the start of our new strategic plan. The focus of our work will be to:

- 1. Cultivate Community Character & Belonging
- 2. Work Together for the Greater Good
- 3. Ensure Access to Opportunity
- 4. Champion Literacy and Learning

Finally, we thank our amazing CCPL staff for their hardwork and dedication! We are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community and encourage you to continue to let us know how we can help you discover infinite possibilities.

Andrea

Andrea Berstler
Executive Director
Carroll County Public Library

Stephen

Stephen Wantz
Chair
Board of Trustees



Mission

We provide a place for collaboration, engagement, and access to information that fosters community success.

Vision

Carroll County Public Library connects our community with infinite possibilities.

Values

Connection

We bring people together with information, experiences, and each other.

Access

We ensure fair, welcoming, and equitable access to resources for all people.

Respect

We treat all people with humor, kindness, empathy, and dignity.

Education

We encourage learning and curiosity by embracing growth, change, and innovation.

Service

We provide high-quality, responsive support to our community.

Board of Trustees

Garima Chaturvedi
Carol Gorsuch
Beth Gray
Kendra Hart
Dave O'Callaghan
Stephen Wantz
Jessica Wilson

FY 2025 Statistics at a Glance

Overview

Locations | 7
Mobile Service Vehicles | 3
Visits | 672,903
Information Questions Answered | 133,325
Personnel (Total FTE) | 158.99
County Population | 175,305
Total CCPL Budget | \$13,703,138
Total County Budget | \$545,024,990

Circulation & Collection

Card Holders | 101,232
Total Circulation | 2,861,609
Adult | 1,831,878
Children's | 1,029,731
Digital Media Circulation | 548,331
Materials Owned | 739,933
Interlibrary Loan & MARINA Transactions
Borrowed | 23,340
Lent | 11,124

Technology

Databases | 29
Public Computers | 102
Computer Sessions | 43,285
Average Computer Session | 64 minutes
WiFi Sessions | 75,874
Average WiFi Session | 233 minutes

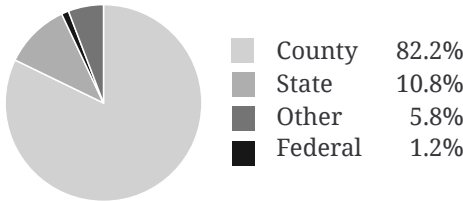
Educational Activities

Programs | 6,309
Program Attendance | 156,575
Average Attendance per Program | 25
Summer Reading Registrants | 8,893
Battle of the Books Students | 1,516

Additional Community Value

Meeting Room Bookings | 13,392
Book Club Materials Requested | 3,090
Student Service Hours | 1,850.25
Total Volunteer Hours | 3,368
County Bill Transactions | 4,416
Passports Processed | 3,058
Passport Photos | 2,715

Budget by Source



Above: Annual Easter Egg Hunt held in partnership with the Roaring Run Lions Club at Finksburg Branch.



When I was a young mom with a toddler, we moved to Maryland for my husband's job. We lived close to the library and I found myself taking my daughter to the library 2-3 times a week to attend programs, play in the kids section, and bring home a big stack of books to read together. It became my safe haven in a really lonely time in my life.

—Mallory, Eldersburg





“ As a homeschooling family, we rely heavily on our community for social and educational opportunities. The Mount Airy Branch of the CCPL consistently offers a wide variety of free, engaging, unique programming that my kids are excited to attend.

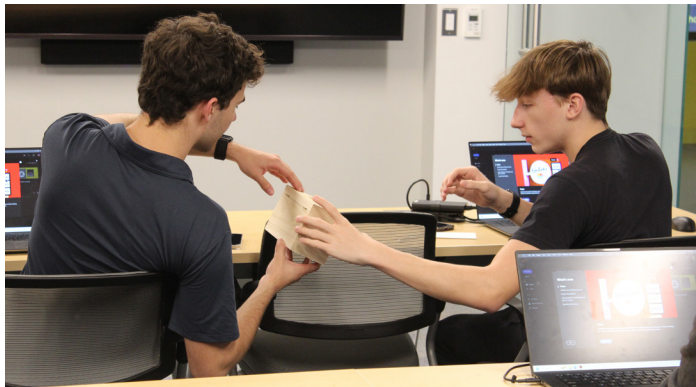
—Chloe, Mount Airy

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Above (from top, left to right): Carroll County Public Library hosted 48 bestselling authors including Harlan Coben, Chris Grabenstein, Chris Bohjalian, Angie Kim, and Louise Penny.

Next Page (from top, left to right): Eldersburg: Budding entymologists learning all about insects, Finksburg: preserving the past and making connections, Westminster: creating miniature libraries, Mount Airy: Dancing and being kids with Mr. Jon, Taneytown: Building community with Taneytown Police at storytimes, North Carroll: Experiencing nature at Charlotte's Quest, and book giveaways with children's book character Pigeon were held at all branches.





“ My husband and I have taken a couple of classes for the laser cutter and the 3D-printer. Both were well done and provided us with the information we needed. The instructors were great! We are now planning a few projects to use the equipment.

—Colleen, Westminster & Exploration Commons



Above (from left to right): Baking with a Badge teaching kitchen program with the Westminster Police Department, designing laser engraved recipe card boxes, providing enrichment opportunities for partner organizations like the ARC, and transferring a photo design to canvas at our Making for Seniors series.



Battle of the Books: CCPL's signature reading competition continues to encourage kids to read with 1,516 students participating on 211 teams. Our adult version of Battle of the Books, held in partnership with A Likely Story Bookstore/Park Books, Flood Zone Brewery, and 1623 Brewing Company, had 488 participants over three nights.



Above: At North Carroll, Matthew Dodd presents Songs and Stories of the Red, White, and Blue.

Cover: CCPL staff provide free activities for families at the Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair and the Maryland State Fair. Pictured here is our mascot Corky with a young reader at the State Fair.

Board of Carroll County Commissioners

- Commissioner Joe Vigliotti, District 1
- Commissioner Ken Kiler, District 2
- Commissioner Tom Gordon III, District 3
- Commissioner Michael Guerin, District 4
- Commissioner Susan W. Krebs, District 5

