



BRADFORD AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT



2022

WWW.BRADFORDLIBRARY.ORG

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am grateful and humbled to present my first annual report as Executive Director. It was created with you in mind. Community support is vital to our survival. Because of your continued efforts we are not just surviving – we are thriving! That is why I list our donors on (page 5 & 6). You make a difference for your neighbors and friends, and we thank you for your support.



This report is not comprehensive – we do too much to fit it all in! Rather, it's a broad snapshot of the work we've been doing in the past year. You will see current and prior year data for comparison regarding patrons, lending material, programs, and financial data. We hope this gives you a greater understanding of what we do, and our value to the community. After all, you patrons, families, community organizations, and businesses, large and small, are the reason we exist.

Our board, staff, and volunteers work very hard to provide excellent service to everyone that enters our doors. And the work never ends. We're seeking new avenues for improvement, creating new training opportunities, participating in community partnerships, and writing new grants. So watch this space.

On a more personal note; to the Board of Trustees, thank you for your steadfast care and stalwart support. To my staff and volunteers, thank you for making me feel at home, and being so darn good at your job.

And to you, dear patrons, my sincere gratitude, for continuing to put your trust in us. It is my great honor and privilege to serve you. Onward!

Rebecca S. Feightner, MSLS
Executive Director

Library Staff

Barbara Brathwaite, Library Technician
Judy Carr, CATS Coordinator
Kelly Elmore, Finance & Office Manager
Donna Green, Library Technician
Mary Kafferlin, Librarian
Taffy Meyer, Circulation Desk Supervisor
Janelle Nolan, Marketing & Adult Program Coordinator
Sarah Rhodes, Librarian
Katie Wedge, Library Technician

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The last two years have certainly been a crazy time for all of us. The amazing staff and volunteers of the Bradford Public Library made the transition to on-line and outdoor programs seem effortless. BAPL is very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of individuals. The virtual and outdoor programming was very well received, and even though we are no longer challenged by COVID-19 closures, these programs have helped reach a much broader audience. We certainly have emerged as a different organization and will continue to evolve to meet the needs of our community.



Rebecca Feightner joined the library as the new Executive Director in May 2022. She brings a tremendous amount of experience to the library having been a teacher and librarian for many years. From her very first day, she has dug right in researching and applying for grants, reaching out to patrons, and bringing a positive outlook to the library every day. Please join me in welcoming her to BAPL.

We could not do everything we do without our patrons, donors, staff, and volunteers. We are all very proud of the community's recognition that BAPL provides vital resources for our community. I challenge everyone to visit the library in person, or via their website, to see all of the services the library provides.

There is always something exciting going on at the library. We are looking forward to serving you!

Amy Fox
Chairperson
Board Chairperson

2022 Board of Trustees

Amy Fox, Chairperson
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Daniel Yeager, Treasurer
Lorna Smith, Immediate Past Chair
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Sandy Capraratta, Children's Services
Maddi Chaussard, Teen Reading
Bekah Cramer, Teen Reading
Patricia Demjan, Children's Services
Alicia Hill, Children's Services
Marie Trokosky, Teen Advisor
Joan Yohe, Used Book Sale

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Communities That We Serve

Bradford Township
City of Bradford
Corydon Township
Foster Township
Lafayette Township
Lewis Run Borough

CHILDRENS PROGRAMMING

Story Seekers

Story Seekers is in full force, for weekly story times, every Monday and Friday at 11:00 am, specifically for children ages birth to 5 along with their guardians. We thoughtfully choose stories and create activities to enhance early literacy skills. Children are also developing language, motor, and social skills.

The library also provides special story times and activities on a weekly, and annual basis to the Bradford Area School District, Growing With Grace Preschool, the YMCA Childcare Program, and the Bradford Area Christian Academy. Free of charge.



We have many special programs and events throughout the year, designed to bring the world to our kids. Just to name a few: Juice Box Heroes with Mr. Jim Ronan, magic shows, story-walks, animal adventures with Michael Morton and Percy, the miniature horse, and so much more. And don't forget our holiday parties for the entire family to enjoy.



Summer Reading

Ocean's of Possibilities was an amazing adventure! Why does the Ocean taste like salt? Why is there more ocean water on our earth than land? These are just some of the questions our kids can answer. They also explored various creatures in the deep blue sea, made crafts tailored to their age groups, sang songs, and had a wonderful time. Three age groups—Birth to 5, 1st grade to 3rd grade, and 4th—6th grades, came to learn and have fun. The 4H club brought expertise and special crafts to enhance our ocean explorers. 953 total participants (children and adults) also filled out reading logs that culminated in an awesome celebration and award party in Callahan park. Snacks by the CHOP program and library funds, and generous parents. Thank you!

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

The residents of Evergreen Elm are invited every other week on Tuesday Afternoons for a special story and craft hour in the Community Room. They love to come, participate, and do creative projects. They also volunteer their help to make decorations for our special events.



2021 DONORS

We offer a huge thank you to the following individuals, organizations, and foundations who made gifts to the library in 2021, through the Annual Ask, Honor & Memorial gifts, programming grants, or in-kind donations.

Our 2022 Annual Ask Campaign is open now.

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Roger Alexis
Nancy Allen
Jeff and Sara Andrews
Paula Butler
James and Catherine Baldwin
Connie Barraclough
Lisa Barton
Dean Bauer
Widad and Cheryl Bazzoui
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Jon and Katie Benedict
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Suzanne Bernardini
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Joseph and Peg Costanzo
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Doug Lloyd
Jim and Sharon Long
Lacey Love

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Alan Swanson
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Lettie Torrey
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Karen Troutman
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Nellie Vecellio
Ron and Bev Vinca
Mike and Debra Viola
John and Wanda Vlemincx
Marlene Walb
Pat Warfield
Harold and Karen Wiley
Pat Woodruff
Christopher and Carol Wurster
Trudy Yohe

ORGANIZATIONS

American Refining Group
Bradford Area Chamber of Commerce
Bradford Auto Service
Bradford Subways
C.J. Wallace Engineering, LLC
The Church of the Ascension
Dexter's Service and Collision
E & M Engineers & Surveyors, PC
Fraternal Order of the Eagles 2432
George Pacific
The Glendorn Foundation
Hamlin Trust Company
J.A. Luciano & Sons, Builders
Just Riding Along
Kiwanis Club of Bradford
KOA Speer Electronics, Inc.
Marshall Insurance Services, Inc.
McKean County Animal Hospital
Metalico, Inc.
Minard Run Oil Company
Northwest Bank
The Pembroke Foundation
Penndoc Foot & Ankle Center
The Philo and Sarah Blaisdell Foundation
Stateline Supply Company
Tin Ceiling Gift Shoppe
Togi's Family Restaurant
Wednesday Words and Wine
Zippo Manufacturing Co.

Thank you for your steadfast support! We will continue to serve you, your neighbors, your businesses and organizations, and every person who steps through our doors, with integrity.

Your are so important to us. Without you we would not be able to achieve such a high level of service in our area. We will continue to create new programs and services that will educate, enhance, and enrich our community.

TEEN PROGRAMMING

The Middle Ground (4th—8th grade) and Teen Book Clubs are bring tweens and teens into the library to share a monthly book. Middle ground meets on the first Thursday of each month, and Teen Book Club meets on the third Tuesday. Each participant gets a free copy of the monthly book. There is pizza, fun, and insightful conversation wrapped around the themes in each selection. Teen advisor, Marie Troskosky, has been joined by our staff liaison, Katie Wedge, and volunteers Bekah Cramer and Maddi Chaussard.

This past summer tween and teens were invited to a very successful series of workshops: Patchwork Poetry, and Linoleum Blocks, were led by Courtney Mealy, Assistant Director of Arts Programming at Pitt-Bradford, and an awesome Journaling Nature Walk, led by Dr. Mary Mulcahy, Biology Faculty at Pitt-Bradford. There was enthusiastic participation as attendance built for each successive workshop. Plus, a Read-a-Thon was held during open hours right in the library.

Funding for the Teen Reading Lounge program was provided by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and BAPL.



ADULT PROGRAMMING

This past year brought steady growth to the library's Adult Programming as we continue to meet our community where they are most comfortable. Whether it be at an in-person program or through a virtual experience. We are happy to report that our YouTube channel has grown to 831 subscribers enjoying 98 prerecorded programs on 10 playlists. Our library's virtual program, Side Hustle was also selected by the Pennsylvania Library Association for inclusion in the PA Forward Niche Academy. Enabling this content to be viewed by residents across the state.

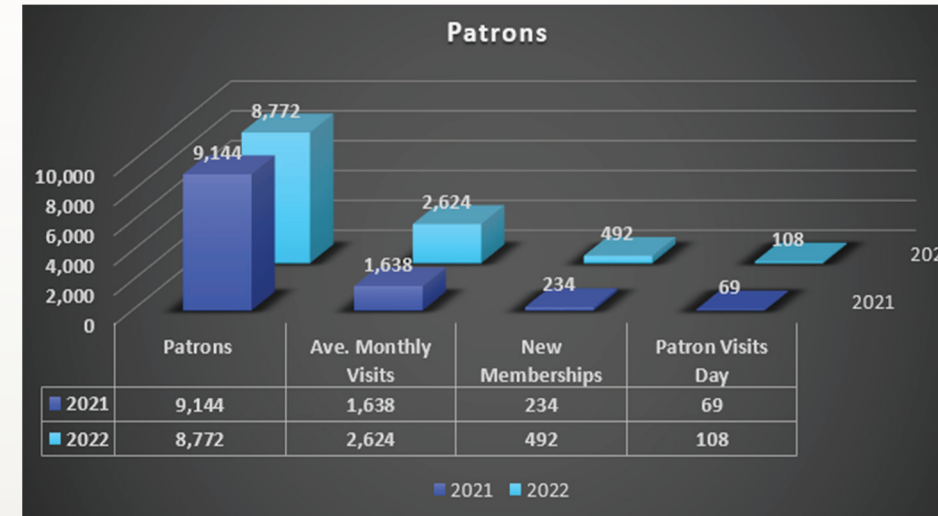
[Pa Forward(R) is excited to announce the launch of a virtual programming library. Watch high quality library programming brought to you from libraries throughout the Commonwealth. It can be found at the initiative's Niche Academy site: Pa Forward(R) Niche Academy]

We continue to be a center for entertainment, information, and creative expression. Our community has enjoyed programming that puts the spotlight on healthy lifestyles through our collaboration with the Penn State Extension (McKean County Master Gardeners and Nutrition Links) and local yoga instructor, Kathy Wright. Historical programs ranging from professional living historian, Kenneth Serfass, Veil of Fire (Bradford Railroad accident of 1884) researched and presented by Scott Canfield from Erie, PA, to Patrick Gorman, a member of the Titanic International Society (reflecting on the Titanic's 110th anniversary) continue to intrigue attendees.

However, for laughs and social interaction, many community members are enjoying the fun and entertainment of our monthly Trivia Nights and Copy Cat (crafting) programs, as well as the library-sponsored Open Book Club (adults 19+ yrs.).

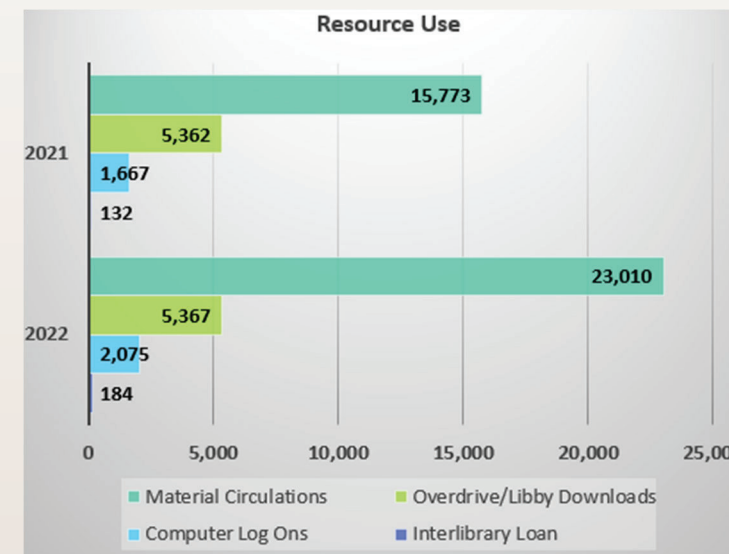


LIBRARY STATISTICS



As COVID restrictions loosened, our visit numbers have gone up dramatically, as well as patron visits per day. Our new memberships have risen by 50%!

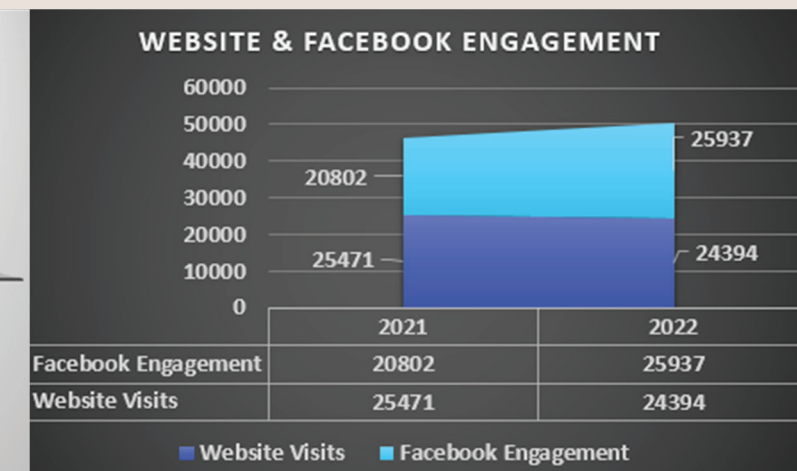
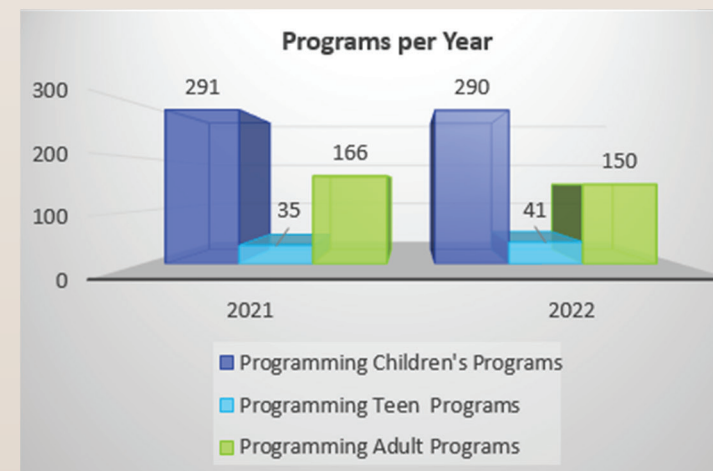
Our patron numbers decreased slightly. However, we are more regularly deleting inactive patrons, and believe that accounts for the drop.



Material circulations, public computer log ons, and filled interlibrary loan requests have all increased significantly. Overdrive/Libby downloads have remained around the same. These changes were expected as a result of the shut-down, and the subsequent return of in-person service. But the fact that downloading has remained steady in spite of full-services available shows that people have changed their behavior and embraced this service.

Our program numbers are stable, although we have gone to only in person programs for children and teens. Adult programming remains flexible; some are in person, many are hybrid (in person and streaming), some are online, and some are born digital.

This is reflected in our Website and Facebook engagement numbers.* After a jump in 2020, our Website visits have dropped slightly, while our Facebook engagement has climbed, resulting in an overall engagement number of 50,331 — an increase of 4,058.

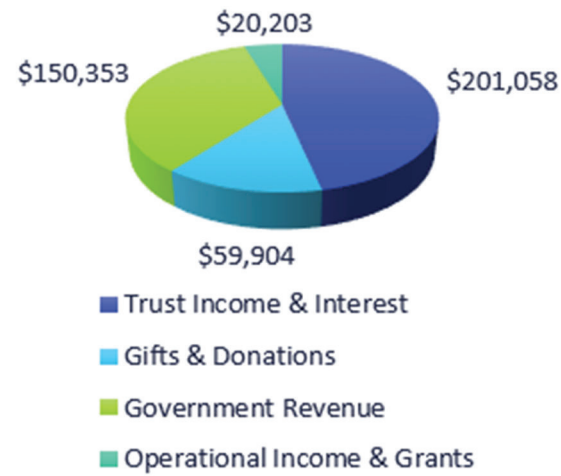


*Our website URL is www.bradfordlibrary.org. Our Facebook name is Bradford Area Public Library.

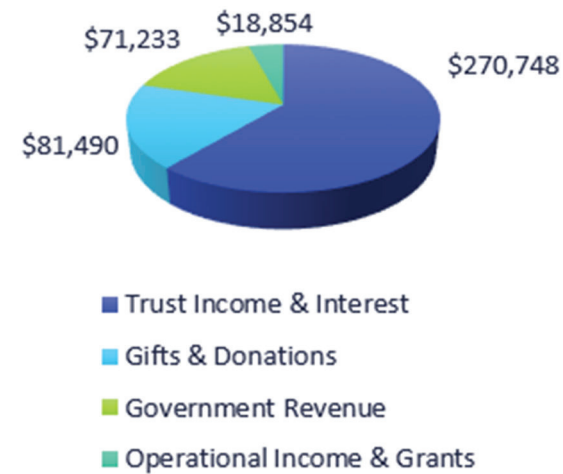
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

This is our most current completed fiscal year, after annual financial audit has been performed. Here are the numbers from 2021 and 2020 for comparison.

2020 Operating Income

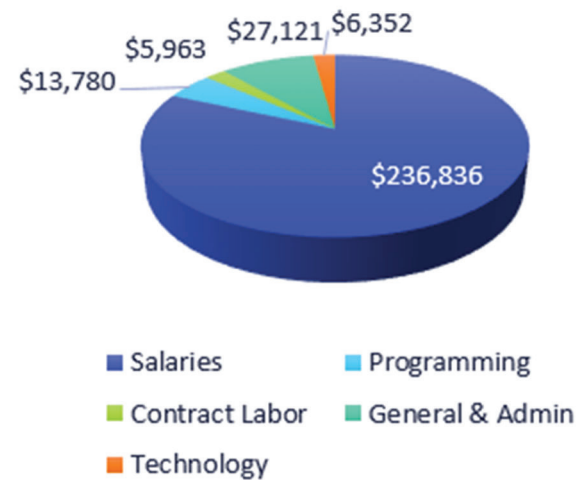


2021 Operating Income

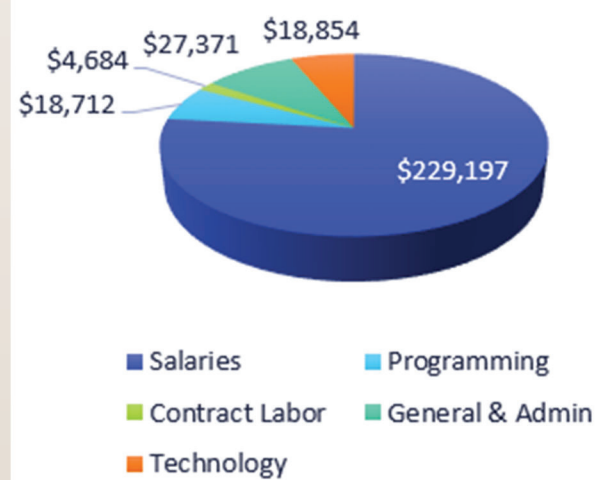


You will notice that our operational and grant revenue increased in 2021 and our government revenue went down. This can also be blamed on the economic impact of the pandemic, with different sectors being impacted at different times. We lost some local government revenue that we had relied on. We were fortunate that other sources of income could cover the gap this year.

2020 Operating Expenses



2021 Operating Expenses



Our expenses remained relatively even, save for the Technology category. Our need for more robust technological resources and programming, updates to our computer systems and equipment, and a plan for future maintenance and infrastructure was made evident. This remains a top priority.



BRADFORD AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

67 West Washington St.

Bradford, PA 16701

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Mission

To provide the resources to inform, educate and enrich our community in a way that demonstrates:

- *Literacy*
- *Equal access and diversity*
- *Lifelong learning*
- *Fiscal responsibility and integrity*
- *BAPL's rich heritage*

Vision

To be recognized as a premier library in service to our community.

