



MURRYSVILLE
COMMUNITY
LIBRARY
Endless Possibilities.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Murrysville Community Library

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OUR MISSION

We are proud to serve the communities of Murrysville, Export and Washington Township, "To inspire ideas, enrich lives, and create lifelong opportunities for learning, literacy and enjoyment."

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Murrysville Community Library (MCL) celebrated its 97th year of service in 2019 and marked a year of celebration and change. Several new programs and services were developed and implemented including Speed Dating with a Book and Wednesday Night Café, a programming series showcasing musicians, dancers, authors, and other educational speakers.

Along with new programming, the Library presents a wide range of ongoing programming. These programs include AAUW presentations, Babies 'n' Books, multiple book clubs, Chair Yoga, Dog Reading Pals, Library Knitters, Plant-Based Nutrition Support Group, Preschool Storytime, Socrates Café, and Toddler Time. 2019's Summer Reading Club theme was "A Universe of Stories": throughout the summer over 1,000 children participated in over 70 different programs. Events promoting literacy and learning included STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), field trips to visit various community organizations and businesses, programs about bees, bugs, and reptiles, and many space-themed programs to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo moon landing. Throughout Summer Reading Club, our Coordinator of Youth Services, Carol Siefken, collaborated with community organizations such as Murrysville Garden Club and the Murrysville Recreation Department. Lastly, the Library celebrated its sixth annual Jingles 'n' Gingerbread holiday open house, featuring Franklin Regional and Newlonsburg Music Academy music groups.

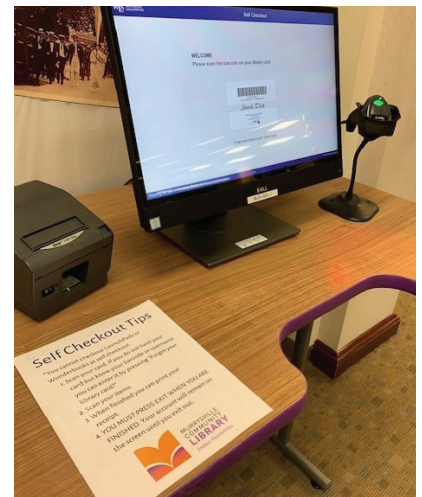
Continuing MCL's STEM focus in 2019, MCL partnered with the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair to promote Pennsylvania's Power Library as a high-quality STEM resource for informed student research.

While this report summarizes MCL's work in 2019, it's also relevant to summarize the adaption and changes that the library has undergone in the first half of 2020 as well, as we redefine how we deliver our services during a global pandemic.



Like many businesses, we closed in mid-March at the direction of the Pennsylvania Office of Commonwealth Libraries. During the closure, staff pivoted services from in-person to the virtual world, offering on-line story times and interactive social media posts, while increasing our e-book, e-audio, and e-video collection, and developing a collection of on-line activities to reduce the boredom and stress of quarantine. While the library was closed, patrons had access to over 15,000 e-books and e-audio materials through the Westmoreland Library Network™'s on-line collection, Overdrive.

Summer Reading Club was converted to a social distancing format using a combination of resources: the web based Beanstack platform for tracking reading, YouTube and Facebook for video hosting, virtual meeting platforms for on-line programming, and outside Story Walks in the local parks.

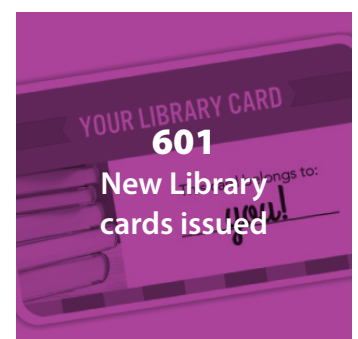
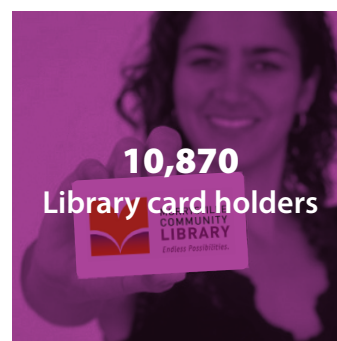
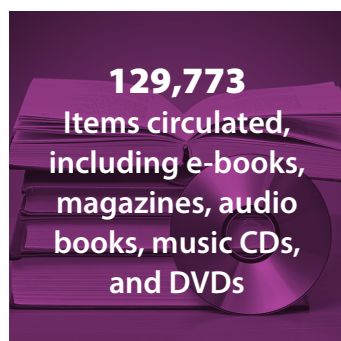


In June, the Library opened to a new way of circulating books: curbside service. This adaptation of service helped put our physical materials back into the hands of our community. Curbside also helped facilitate the distribution of Summer Reading celebratory packets, take-home programming boxes, prizes, and reading material. By the beginning of August, MCL began welcoming patrons back into the Library on an appointment basis, and as of the end of September, we have expanded our hours, welcoming patrons without a need for appointment.

2020 has also brought changes to our staffing. We welcomed Amy Riegner as our new Director in January. Also, in January, the Library commemorated the retirement of Susan Lyons, Head of Technical Services, after 43 years of dedicated service. We are grateful for Susan's service and wish her a long and happy retirement.

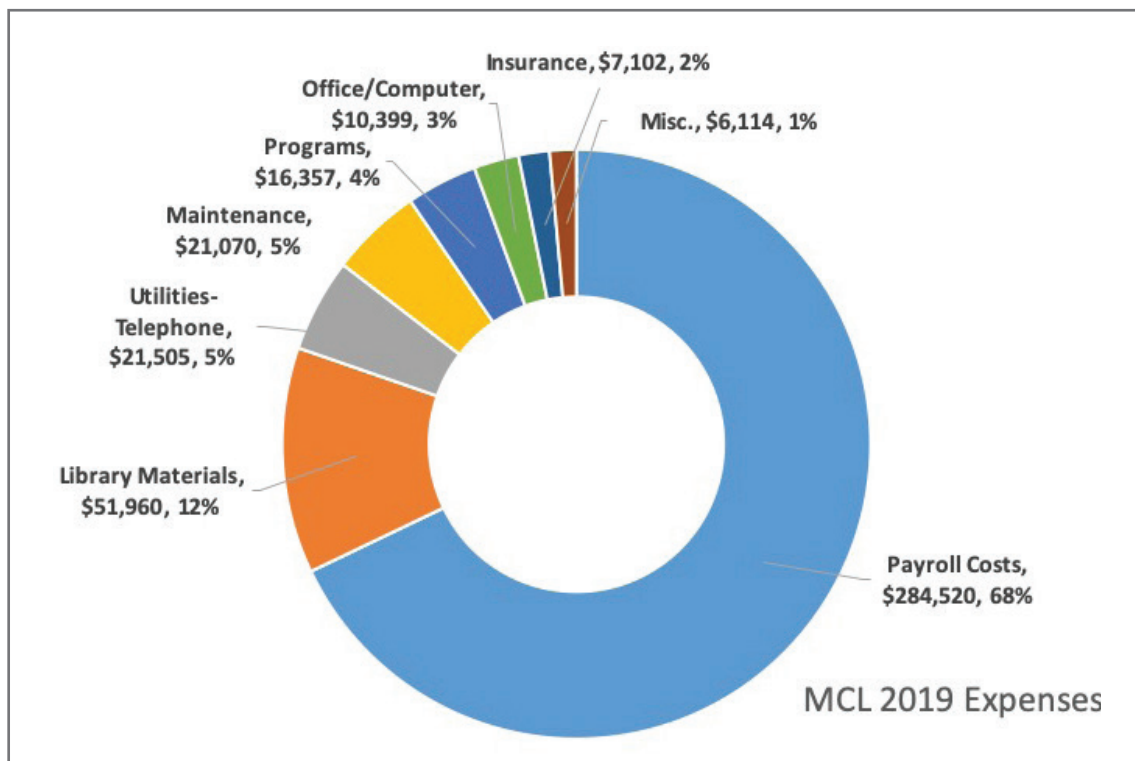
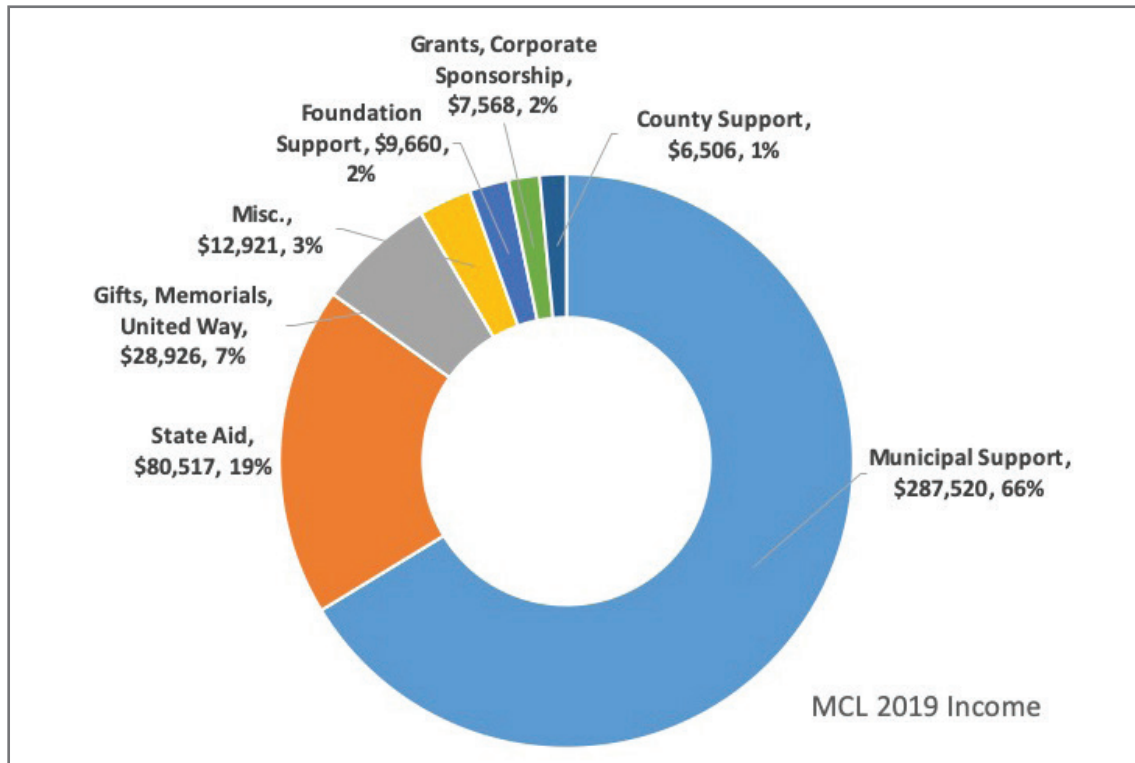
As 2020 progresses and MCL adapts to the new normal, we are embracing change while continuing to strive to serve our community.

OUR IMPACT IN 2019



2019 INCOME AND EXPENSES

The Library receives funding from a variety of sources, including the Municipality of Murrysville, which provides direct funding along with rent-free space in the municipal building. We also receive financial support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Westmoreland County Commissioners, and the Murrysville Community Library Foundation. Additional funding comes from local corporate sponsors, civic organizations, grants, and very generous individuals and families.



OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The core values of our strategic plan are to:

- Foster **LEARNING AND LITERACY** by maintaining a robust collection and creating abundant learning opportunities for all.
- Build **COMMUNITY** by creating purposeful alliances with schools, organizations and businesses.
- Focus on **PEOPLE** by being accessible and free to all, and listening and responding to individual needs.
- Promote **SUSTAINABILITY** by seeking, growing and maintaining diverse funding streams and encouraging everyone to contribute to continuous improvement of our library.

OUR PARTNERS

Our Partner: Murrysville Community Library Foundation

The Murrysville Community Library Foundation's mission is to enhance the Murrysville Community Library as a community resource by raising public and private funds for operations and special projects, and by building an endowment for its financial security and long-term excellence.

The Foundation was started in 1998 by a group of dedicated Library Board and community volunteers who sought to ensure the future of Murrysville Community Library through fundraising for special services and projects. Today, the Foundation is guided by a group of committed citizens with the same goal in mind. Through a combination of individual, corporate and foundation donors, the Foundation raises thousands of dollars every year to support our library, fund special projects and ensure the library's future through the formation and growth of an endowment.

In addition to the ongoing fundraising activities, in 2020 the Foundation has launched a Planned Giving initiative, encouraging community members to provide long-term support through planned gifts.

Our Partner: Westmoreland Library Network

Westmoreland Library Network (WLN) is an alliance of 22 public libraries, encompassing 25 library sites in Westmoreland County, including Murrysville Community Library. It is one of 29 District Centers under the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, PA Department of Education. WLN is dedicated to achieving excellence in library and information services for all county residents through the coordination of resources and services, the sharing of information expertise, and the promotion of library staff development for the mutual benefit of all member libraries.

WLN provides its member libraries with a unified electronic catalog, giving libraries such as MCL access to over 870,000 items belonging to libraries within the WLN system. Patrons are able to search the on-line catalog, place holds and have materials delivered to their own library. WLN provides both the technology and delivery logistics for this service.

WLN also provides a range of services to libraries through its upgraded technology infrastructure to provide internet service, website services, IT support, cloud backup and security for library data – all enabling member libraries to save money and operate in a safe, secure IT environment. By securing grant funding, WLN is able to invest in technology, such as expanded Wi-Fi, for all of its member libraries.

OUR TEAM

Amy Riegner, *Director*

Carol Siefken, *Coordinator of Youth Services*

Maria Cuccaro, *Coordinator of Circulation Services*

Anna LeDonne, *Coordinator of Acquisitions and Technical Services*

Judith Shoemaker, *Administrative Assistant*

Janeene Foster, *Library Associate, Volunteer Coordinator*

Susan Frey, *Library Associate, Book Club Coordinator*

Catherine Westendorf, *Library Associate, Social Media Coordinator*

Katherine Neidig, *Acquisitions and Technical Services Assistant*

OUR BOARDS

Murrysville Community Library

Susan Long
President

Celine Kandala
Vice President

Charles Greenberg
Secretary

Janet Swearingen
Treasurer

Richard Kacin

Joy Richardson

Theo van de Venne

Murrysville Community Library Foundation

Connie Cauvel
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Phil Swearingen
Vice President

Theo van de Venne
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Amy Lee Heinlen

Jennifer Price

Monica Smodic

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