



MURRYSVILLE  
COMMUNITY  
**LIBRARY**  
*Endless Possibilities.*

# 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



# Murrysville Community Library

## 2023-2024 Annual Report

### 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) marked its 101st and 102nd year of service in 2023 and 2024, continuing to expand its programs and services. In 2024, programming increased by 20% compared to 2023, as the library remains committed to its mission: to inspire ideas, enrich lives, and foster lifelong opportunities for learning, literacy, and enjoyment.

The Summer Reading program embraced the theme "Adventure Begins at Your Library" for preschoolers, children, teens, and adults, offering over 119 programs. Participants tracked their reading progress through the Beanstack app, with 517 people reading a total of 475,865 minutes!

Children's and Teen summer activities included visits from various organizations such as the Children's Institute, Westmoreland Land Trust, Westmoreland Cleanways, True Martial Arts, PiperQuinn Ceramics, the Murrysville Garden Club, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Bella Terra Stables, Franklin Regional teachers, Wild World of Animals, Penn State Master Gardeners, the Penn Franklin News, and more!

Year-round children's programming features popular offerings such as Babies-n-Books, Preschool Storytime, Dungeons and Dragons, Dog Reading Pals, Toddler Time, and After School Art.

For teens, the library continues to offer the Teen Advisory Board, Teen Writing Club, Teen Read-Ins, and Teen D&D, alongside special programs like author talks, career exploration, crafts, social events, and STEM initiatives. Over the summer, teens enjoyed a unique experience in the "Library of Atlantis" Escape Room.



Adult summer programming included sessions with Storyteller Alan Irvine, Educator Susan Frazier DeLaney, Genealogist Donna Jordan, Singer-Songwriter Tom Beckman, the Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Author Stan Gordon, and many others.

Regular adult programs include the Library Knitters Group, Socrates Café, PACC Craft, ESL Conversation Group, Milestone PA Storytime, Murrysville Garden Club, Plant-Based Nutrition, Yoga for Grief, and Tuesday/Thursday Book Club Groups.

In May, MCL held its 2nd Annual Spring Craft Show with 47 vendors and two food trucks from Del Vecchio's Sausage and Fries and Steel City Whips. Vendors showcased a wide range of handmade items such as jewelry, woodworking, and home decor.

Additionally, the Library hosted its first-ever Local Author Fair, featuring 54 local authors. Patrons enjoyed meeting the authors and browsing their work, while the Murrysville Community Library Foundation sold walking tacos.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our donors, supporters, and patrons who made 2023-2024 such a special year. We look forward to providing even more enriching and innovative programs in the coming year!



## Our Impact in 2023



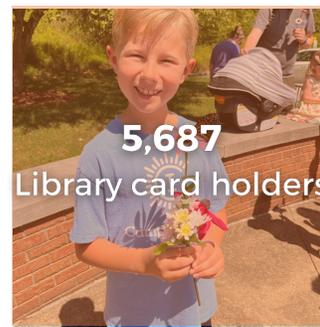
**136,628**

Items circulated, including e-books, magazines, audio books, music CDs, and DVDs



**70,075**

Library visits



**5,687**

Library card holders



**9,083**

Individuals attended Library programs



**1,511**

Patrons accessed public computers



**1,973**

Volunteer hours contributed



**3,804**

Free Wi-Fi sessions



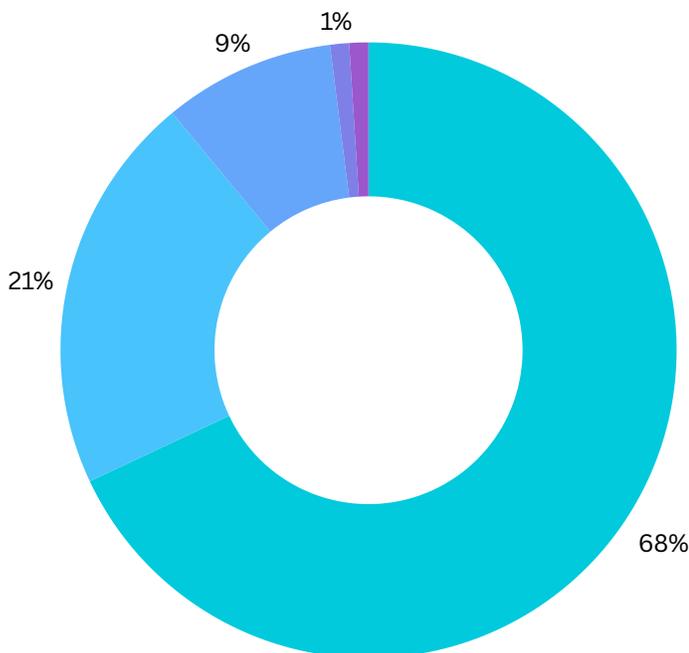
**807**

New Library cards issued

# 2023 Income and Expenses

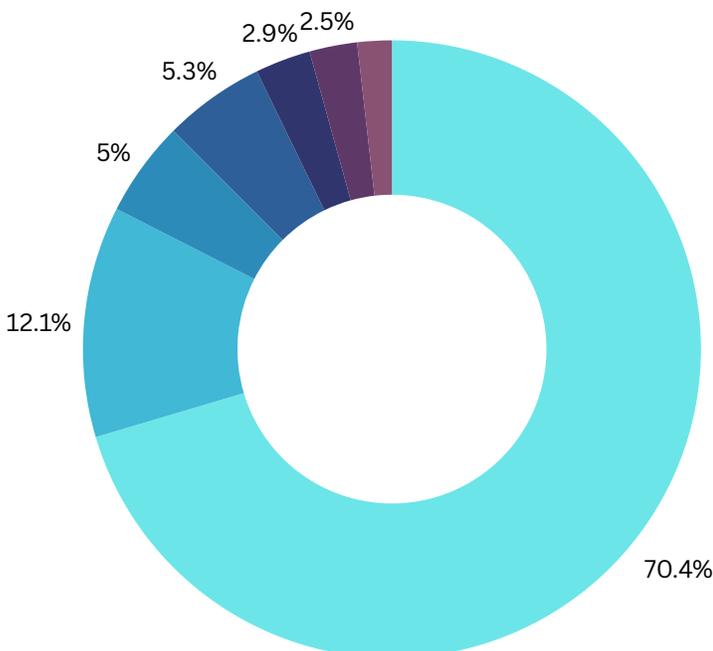
The Murrysville Community Library is a non-profit corporation that enjoys tax-free benefits as a 501(C)3 IRS organization. It receives much of its funding from government resources, as shown in the diagram below, including from the Municipality of Murrysville, the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL) in the PA Department of Education, and the office of the Westmoreland County Commissioners (WCC). In addition to direct funding, the Municipality of Murrysville provides the library's space on the second floor of the municipal building rent free. MCL also receives funding from direct and indirect patron donations.

MCL measures its success by how well and how comprehensively it uses its budget for the building/lending of catalog items, programming, and information services. It has consistently kept to budget and excelled as a provider of services year after year. In 2023, MCL's program attendance increased by 25% over the prior year. The following income/expense charts for 2023 are indicative of the budgeting success. Thank you all for being a big part of our success.



## MCL Income, 2023 Cash Basis

- Murrysville Municipal Support (68%)
- State Aid (21%)
- Foundation Support, Gifts & Memorials (9%)
- Westmoreland County Aid (1%)
- MISC Income (1%)



## MCL Expenses, 2023 Cash Basis

- Payroll (70.4%)
- Library Materials (12.1%)
- Utilities/Phone (5%)
- Maintenance (5.3%)
- Programs (2.9%)
- Misc Expenses (2.5%)
- Office/Computer Expense (1.8%)

# Our Strategic Plan

## The core values of our strategic plan are to:

- Foster **LEARNING AND LITERACY** by maintaining a robust collection in all major media forms, creating abundant learning opportunities for all, and inspiring life-long learners.
- Build **COMMUNITY** by creating purposeful alliances with schools, organizations and businesses, collaborating with other libraries, being the major intellectual resource center where people of diverse backgrounds and interests can collaborate and learn from each other.
- Focus on **PEOPLE** by being accessible and free to all, and listening and responding to individual needs and input, creating a respectful environment for all, and investing in ongoing development of our staff.
- Promote **SUSTAINABILITY** by seeking, growing and maintaining diverse funding streams, adapting and innovating to assure we meet the changing needs of our community, and encouraging everyone to contribute to continually improving 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 donors, corporate donors, and grants 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.

### **Our Partner: Westmoreland Library Network**

Westmoreland Library Network™ (WLN) is an alliance of 23 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 sharing 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 950,000 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 its member libraries.

## Our Team

Amy Riegner, *Director*

Melanie Artice-Moore, *Youth Services Librarian*

Anna LeDonne, *Acquisitions and Technical Services Librarian*

Amy Vellella, *Coordinator of Circulation*

Kelly George, *Adult and Volunteer Services Librarian*

Katherine Neidig, *Teen Services Librarian, Acquisitions and Technical Services Assistant*

Judith Shoemaker, *Administrative Assistant*

Susan Frey, *Book Club Coordinator, Library Associate*

Catherine Westendorf, *Social Media Coordinator, Library Associate*

Kaitlyn Lewandowski, *Library Associate*

Heather Zeller, *Library Associate*

## Our Boards

### **Murrysville Community Library**

Celine Kandala

*President*

Theresa Wubben

*Vice President*

Joy Richardson

*Secretary*

Susan Long

*Treasurer*

Jill Cooper

Paige Perry

Nicholas Subich

### **Murrysville Community Library Foundation**

George App

*President*

Connie Cauvel

Linda Galinski

*Vice President*

Susan Greenberg

*Secretary*

Charles Greenberg

*Treasurer*

Stephanie Mihleder

Debra Wohlin

Sara Zacur