

Kent County Public Library  
Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report

Kent County Public Library  
R. Jerry Keiser, Director  
408 High Street  
Chestertown, Maryland 21620

Rebecca Taylor, President  
Louise Durocher, Vice President  
Jackson Stenger, Treasurer  
James Blake, Secretary  
Hank Johnson  
Robin Wood Kurowski  
Elizabeth Spence  
R. Jerry Keiser, Director

Total Budget: \$773,178.00  
Total Budget by Source:  
    Operating: \$704,678  
    Capital: 0  
    Grants: \$68,500  
Total Expenditures: \$773,907.00

Branches: 3  
Materials Collection: 50,183  
Materials Circulated: 150,381  
Registered Borrowers: 10,860  
Information Questions Answered: 8,740  
Number of Library Visits: 122,777  
Number of Programs and Attendance: 230 library programs with 5,940 attending  
Meeting Room Use by Outside Organizations: 136  
Interlibrary Loan: Borrowed: 2,423 Lent: 84  
Personnel: 17.5  
Public Access Computers: 36

Library Service Highlights:

In fiscal year 2008, the library developed a programming curriculum of children and adult programs that placed emphasizes on books and reading. The library's children's librarian and department independently developed our own summer reading game board to compliment the National Summer Reading Theme, which was extremely successful. In addition, the library hosted the Maryland Poet Laurent and sponsors over thirteen book clubs throughout the county.

The Kent County Public Library is the first library in the State of Maryland to choose and implement an open source integrated library system. The library anticipates that this will save the library approximately \$50,000 over the next five years. Additionally, the library was able to standardize and increase the number of adult public access computers from eight to sixteen with a grant from the Gates Foundation and the Foundation for the Kent County Public Library.

The library's main facility is in need of major roof and gutter repair. The library was awarded a grant by the State of Maryland Department of Education in fiscal year 2008 for \$191,000; however, construction did not begin until the fall of fiscal year 2009.

The library partners with numerous community organizations to fulfill our mission. Of note this year was the library's work with the Kent County Health Department on developing a collection of books that address drug abuse and addiction.