

Required Information

System Name, Address and Contact Information

Kent County Public Library System

408 High Street

Chestertown, MD 21620

410-778-3636

www.kentcountylibrary.org

Robert Bell (Former Executive Director July 1, 2025-September 16, 2025)

Annie Woodall (Acting Co-Director as of September 30, 2025)

Natalie Hagan (Acting Co-Director as of September 30, 2025)

Christopher Walmsley (Director of Office Administration)

Names of Board Members, Director, Elected Officials

Board of Trustees

Rachel Durso (Board President)

Melissa Walters (Board Vice President)

Erin Counihan (Board Secretary)

John Murphy (Board Treasurer)

Clara Rankin (Board Member)

Deborah Westerland (Board Member)

Bruce Riedel (Board Member)

Acting Co-Directors

Annie Woodall (Acting Co-Director)

Natalie Hagan (Acting Co-Director)

Kent County Commissioners

Ronald H. Fithian (President)

Albert H. Nickerson (Member)

John F. Price (Member)

Annual Statistics for the Fiscal Year:

Total Budget

\$1,243,476

Total Budget by Source

Appropriations: \$925,526

State & Other Grants: \$215,286

Fees: \$6,597

Restricted Donations: \$85,358

Donations: \$10,319

Misc.: \$390

Operating Budget (Local, State and Federal)

Total: \$925,526
Local: \$793,960
State: \$131,566
Federals: \$0
Capital Budget
\$19,089
Grants Budget
\$300,644
Total Expenditures (personnel, materials, equipment, other)
\$1,231,950

Materials Circulated- total and breakdown by Adult/Children's
26,554 Children
58,499 Adult
85,053 Total
Information (Reference) Questions Answered
1,097
Registered Borrowers (Card Holders)
11,781
Number of Library Visits
87,660
Number of Programs and Attendance
388 - Programs
3839 - Attendance
Materials owned
34,811
ILL (received and loaned)
16,613 – Loaned
23,164 - Borrowed
Personnel (Total FTE)
14.5 FTE

Optional Information

Library Service Highlights (for example):

- Programs of Note
 - LSTA-funded “Cultivating Community” program series
 - Offered a total of 15 programs targeting a variety of age groups at all KCPL locations, as well as outreach locations
 - Series focused on gardening- and sustainability-themed programs and included an emphasis on local food systems, sustainable practices, and environmental stewardship
 - Adult Programs of Note
 - Fantasy Mocktail Experience (July 2024)
 - Living Obituary Workshop (November 2024)
 - Adults-Only LEGO Challenge (November 2024 & February 2025)

- *Happiness Hour: Chocolate Tasting (December 2024)*
- *Art & Craft Supply Swap (January 2025)*
- *Puzzle Race (February 2025)*
- *Seed Swap (3 events; March 2025)*
- *The Art of Memoir 4-part series (April 2025)*
- *Youth Programs of Note*
 - *Apple Fest (October 2024)*
 - *Punkin Chunkin Launchers (October 2024)*
 - *Snack Around the World Club (November 2024 & March 2025)*
 - *Gingerbread Houses (December 2024)*
 - *Pizza and Make a Thing: Book Cover Bricks (February 2025)*
 - *Teddy Bear Tea Party: St. Patrick's Day (March 2025)*
 - *Pizza and Make a Thing: Pinata Making (April 2025)*
 - *Half Day Fun Day: Printmaking (April 2025)*

- *New or Updated Facilities*
 - *Successful relocation and reopening of Rock Hall branch in October 2025*

- *Partnerships*
 - *Chestertown Farmers Market*
 - *Collaborated to make Farmers Market vouchers available to participants of one of the "Cultivating Community" programs (June 2025)*
 - *Choptank Health*
 - *Provided study pod space for telehealth appointments*
 - *Kent County Board of Elections*
 - *Chestertown Branch served as county's only early voting location and as polling location on election day for 2024 Presidential General Election (October & November 2024)*
 - *Kent County Health Department*
 - *Completed multi-year partnership serving as a location for distribution of free Covid-19 test kits*
 - *Kent County Office of Emergency Services*
 - *Partnered to create a public program as part of One Maryland One Book (September 2025)*
 - *Kent County Public Schools*
 - *Participated in College & Career Fair at Kent County High School (March 2025)*
 - *Main Street Rock Hall*
 - *Provided a raffle basket for annual Pirates & Wenches Weekend festival (August 2025)*
 - *Midshore Pro Bono*
 - *Provided meeting room space for monthly legal clinics*
 - *RiverArts*
 - *Partnered for several public programs*
 - *United Way of Kent County*

- *Participated in annual Kent County Nonprofit Convening workshop*
- *University of Maryland Extension*
 - *Chestertown Patio Garden restoration project (ongoing)*
 - *Ask a Master Gardener Info Table days (November 2024-March 2025)*
 - *Seed Swap events at all KCPL locations (March 2025)*
- *University of Maryland Shore Medical Center*
 - *Partnered with Shore Community Outreach Team for several public programs*
- *Upper Shore Aging*
 - *Provided at outreach event at the Amy Lynn Ferris Center (March 2025)*
 - *Signed MOU to become a station through the RSVP Senior AmeriCorps program (April 2025)*
- *Washington College's Center for Environment and Society*
 - *Partnered on several LSTA-funded programs*

• *Electronic Materials and Access*

Total Items:

eBooks 70,008

eAudio 53,877

eVideo 1,027

Circulations:

43,702 Electronic Material Circulations

Web Access:

44,626 Website Visits

• *Volunteers*

- *Created updated volunteer manual and orientation program*
- *Restarted volunteer program after a several year hiatus*
- *Became a RSVP Senior AmeriCorps station through local Area Agency on Aging*
- *Recruited and trained 5 volunteers in FY25*
- *FY25 volunteer hours: **NEED TO CALCULATE***

• *Meeting room use*

Total Number of Uses by Outside groups: 378

• *Other Information you want to highlight*

We received 3 collection focused grants that enabled us to create a specialized Maryland collection at our Rock Hall branch, a robust and updated health collection at our Chestertown branch, and a Creator Studio Kit collection focusing on podcasting and photography at all three of our branches.

We additionally invested in our technology infrastructure with a generous grant from our library Foundation to upgrade all patron and staff computers at all locations to prepare them for the compulsory Windows 11 upgrade.

- *Narrative re: Budget impacts (cuts, additions) on service*

Due to budget cuts, we decided to end our free OCLC service for patrons and instituted a \$5 fee for all requests.