

**THREE RIVERS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

— READ. LEARN. DREAM. —

# COVER TO COVER

THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE  
THREE RIVERS PUBLIC LIBRARY

**JUNE 2021- JULY 2022**

**GRANTS  
EXPAND  
LIBRARY  
OFFERINGS!**

**RESEARCH  
STATIONS  
OPENED**

## **THE STATS ARE IN!**

We have continued to grow since the library move, we provided \$1,606,388.27 of value to our friends and neighbors!



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# Director's Note

*This year continued to offer change. Our staff diligently looked for ways to support our community by offering the resources they need.*

*This year's theme became: New Beginnings! :)*



## **Our library team is dedicated to our amazing community.**

We put a lot of effort into finding out what our community needs through conversations with our patrons. This feedback helps us to develop resources and programs to meet those needs. Whenever possible, we look to bringing in additional funding from grants to assist in giving our community everything we can.

This year we added an after hours locker pick-up, laptop and Wi-Fi kits, research stations, robot classes, and introduced Talk: Text and Learn for Kindergarten and a Library of Things!

As we look with excitement towards the future, we are keeping our purpose in mind: we strive to support our friends and neighbors through it all by giving access to the resources and materials that we need to read, learn, and dream.



BOBBI SCHOON  
Director



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*"The library is an arena of possibility, opening both a window into the soul and a door into the world."*

*~ Rita Dove*

# FY 2022 AT A GLANCE

**FACILITATED  
INTERNET ACCESS  
6,863 TIMES!**

**STAFF ASSISTED  
WITH 17,904 NEEDS**

**OVER \$86,000 WORTH  
OF GRANTS WON**

**ALMOST  
34,000  
VISITORS!**

**49,418  
MATERIALS  
CHECKED OUT**

**OPEN  
2,157.5  
HOURS**

**3,206  
PROGRAM  
ATTENDEES**

**3,794  
DATABASE  
SEARCHES**



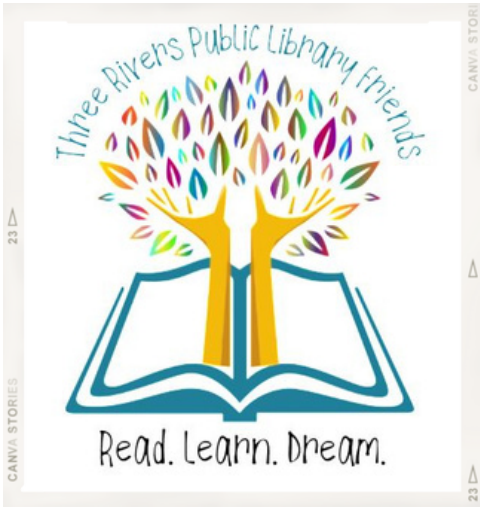
## **OVER \$1.6 MILLION**

**OF VALUE IN MATERIALS  
AND SERVICES UTILIZED BY  
OUR COMMUNITY**



## BIBLICA TAKES THE LIBRARY BY STORM!

If you are a parent, chances are you've already met Biblica! She began as a funny sign saying not to bother the dragon in the basement, then became a mythical story of our own as kids held conversations about her with staff. Since we are friends now, she comes out to play in the library! Our younger patrons search her out for a small prize!



## SUPPORT OF THE LIBRARY FRIENDS GROUP ADDS MORE!

We love our Friends group!!! Volunteers from this amazing group give their time to support the library. From book and bake sales to volunteering for our bigger programs, they help us offer more!

This year they also generously donated motorized blackout shades for our program rooms!

**Ask about how to join today!!**



## ONLINE RESOURCES GIVE 24/7 ACCESS

MeL databases offer a world of information online! You can find everything from reliable research sources to book recommendations to to magazines through MeL!

Libby and hoopla offer audiobooks, eBooks, and more!

**Ask us for more information about any of these resources!**

## PATRON STORIES

# WE FOCUS ON HELPING OUR COMMUNITY. HERE'S A FEW WAYS WE DID THAT THIS YEAR!

### Legal Resources

Our patrons have access to a lot of great resources through MEL. One patron needed help with a lease. Searching online was not working as all reliable sources asked for a fee. Through the use of the Legal Information Reference Center on MEL, they were able to obtain a reliable and free copy of a lease agreement! MEL saves the day!



### The Electronics Struggle is Real!

One of our regular patrons was struggling with her tablet and getting a program to upload. A staff member assisted her and was able to get it to work!



This ended with a big shout out from the patron to the library for "a great service" on Facebook!

### Job Assistance

Our computers have been used for numerous individuals to apply for jobs, unemployment assistance, and more. We have also partnered with Michigan Works to offer drop ins where patrons can get assistance with their job search!



### Internet Access

Library resources promoted access to the internet 6,863 times!

This includes computers on site, laptops and wi-fi kits for checkout and on site wi-fi access.



*Your library card gives you access to reliable databases, computers, internet, books, and more! We strive to provide you with what you need to read, learn, and dream!*

# TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## GRANTS IMPROVE LIBRARY OFFERINGS

By Bobbi Schoon

One of our top priorities is to make the money our community provides for library services go farther by applying for grants. This year these efforts have led to funding for more programming, and more materials. The staff won grants at local, state, and national levels and are pleased with the additions for our community.

Our largest grant is from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This grant provides \$150,000 to our area, \$75,000 for Three Rivers Public Library and \$75,000 for Glen Oaks Community College. For our portion, we will be able to provide 30 laptop and wi-fi kits for checkout for two years!

Several of the grants gave us the ability to add even more to our eBook, audio, and book collection. The ARPA grant in particular focused on expanding our digital content. Our library added 92 nonfiction titles to our collection! Check them out on Libby!

The Walmart grant allowed us to add Healing Library Kits that were designed by professionals with kids in mind! These kits have books and activities that help parents and guardians have hard conversations with kids about divorce, the death of a pet, or the death of a loved one. We also provide a list of additional books that may be beneficial for families.

The Meijer grant helped add to our program offerings! In particular, it allows us to offer coffee (hot or iced) for our Coffee and Conversation programs! Once a month we grab a coffee and discuss a variety of topics. Topics like adventures or holding a good conversation. Everyone's welcome to join!

The staff also received grants for additional personal protection equipment for ongoing COVID precautions, and e-book purchases. We continue to look for new ways to fund additional materials and programs for our community!

### LIST OF GRANTS WON IN FISCAL YEAR 22

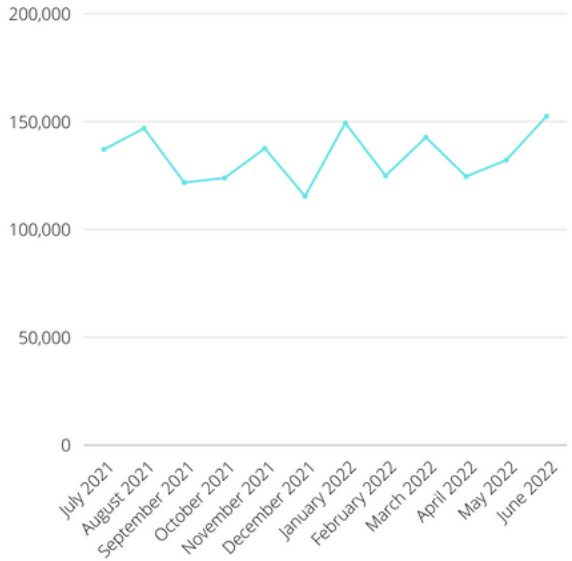
- IMLS \$75,000 (library's portion)
- LSTA \$2,475
- SMLC \$2,260
- U of M Leadership & Project Grant \$2,000
- Walmart \$1,000
- Meijer \$750
- ARPA Grant - \$2,325
- PLA Scholarship - \$500 (Plus covered \$330 registration fee and one year of ALA & PLA memberships - a \$228 value.)
- Great Michigan Read - Provided 30 books, 5 eBooks, 2 audiobooks, 3 teacher's guides, and 50 bookmarks

# Value Utilized

BY MONTH

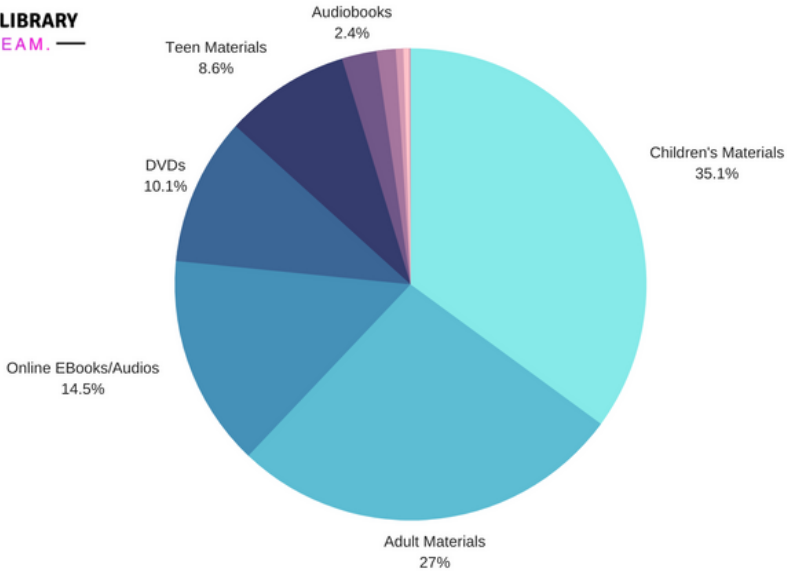
**\$1,606,388.27**

TOTAL IN FY22



## CIRCULATION JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

By Material Type



## FABIUS

JULY 2021 — JUNE 2022

**MATERIALS CHECKOUT**  
\$182,779.65 Value (9,072 items)

**PROGRAMS/SERVICES**  
\$119,655.04

**TOTAL VALUE**  
\$302,434.69

## LOCKPORT

JULY 2021 — JULY 2022

**MATERIALS CHECKOUT**  
\$111,672.61 Value (5,528 items)

**PROGRAMS/SERVICES**  
\$126,693.58

**TOTAL VALUE**  
\$238,366.19

## CITY

JULY 2021 — JUNE 2022

**MATERIALS CHECKOUT**  
\$312,688.99 Value (15,718 items)

**PROGRAMS/SERVICES**  
\$422,311.92

**TOTAL VALUE**  
\$735,000.91



# Children's Programs

Peter-Children's Librarian

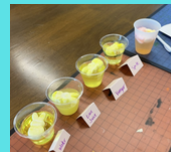
- \*1K Books Before Kindergarten\*
- \*Storytime with Mr. B\*
- \*Take & Make Crafts\*
- \*ClicBot Robots & Coding\*
- \*STEM Wednesdays\*
- \*Summer Reading\*
- \*Outreach to area schools & preschools\*
- \*Storywalks around the community\*
- \*Music Together & Musical Storybooks with KSO\*
- \*Harmony Fest Kids' Tent & Santa's Workshop\*



# Teen & Adult Programs

Erin-Assistant Director/YA & Adult Librarian

- \*Take & Play Mystery Kit
- \*DIY Crafts
- \*Trivia
- \*Painting
- \*Book Clubs
- \*Science Experiments
- \*Summer Reading Fun
- \*Cricut Nights
- \*Hunt a Killer
- \*Contests & Challenges
- \*Community Outreach
- \*Coffee & Conversations
- \*Tread with Tales



# COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

We were honored with the chance to collaborate with many of our community organizations. Here's some of them!

## Three Rivers Community Schools

We worked together to offer outreach, book clubs, and fun experiences

## Carnegie Center for the Arts

The Carnegie Center hosted one of our Musical Storybook programs at their amazing facility!

## Culture is Not Optional (CINO)

We are part of the Back to School Fair and offered library services on Thursdays during their Meet Up and Eat Up event. They are a site for our story walks this summer, hosted Musical Storytime, and co-hosted a Community Conversation in September 2021.

## Glen Oaks Community College

We are collaborating with GOCC for our \$150,000 IMLS grant which allows us to offer laptop and MiFi kits!

## YMCA Camp Eberhart

Library staff participate in the annual Trunk or Treat to outreach and give information about the library.

## Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra

We partnered with Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra to offer Musical Storytimes!

## T.R. Downtown Development Authority

We continue to work closely with the DDA. We participate in Sass in the City, Harmony Fest, Christmas Around Town, and more!

## George Washington Carver Center

They co-hosted our Community Conversation in August!

## St. Joseph County Great Start Collaborative

We have an ongoing partnership with them that has facilitated our Music Together programs, story walks, and more!

## Michigan Works!

MI Works hosts pop up events in the library computer lab to assist patrons with applying for jobs!

## COMMUNITY DONORS

Armstrong Global  
Richard & Margaret Yoakam  
John & Etta Bond  
Gloria Johnson  
Randi Webb  
Susan Burke  
Dennis & Margot Cunningham  
Dyan Blanton  
Ann & Larry Hermen

THANK  
YOU

## ADDITIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Community Action - Carol Shippy  
Headstart  
Building Blocks Preschool  
Immaculate Conception School  
Spanish Playgroup  
Scidmore Petting Zoo  
MSU Coop 4-H  
Three Rivers Area Mentoring (TRAM)  
First Place Preschool



# LIBRARY OF THINGS



**NOW  
AVAILABLE**

CHECK OUT

*Our new stuff!*

The library of things offers a world of possibilities! Check out items in arts, crafts, hobbies, electronics, games, home and garden supplies, musical instruments, science and technology equipment, and healing library kits!

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES!