

Annual Report 2022



Board Message

Libraries are a gift to the community. They give people the opportunity to improve themselves, to be better. Better informed. Better entertained. Better educated.

Grand Forks Public_ is more than just a library. Movies, video games, audiobooks, board games, technology, park passes—our list of offerings continually grows. Innovative programming brings the community together for laughter, learning, and connection.

In 2022, we created a multigenerational Musical Playground, expanded our social work intern program, hosted a fabulous Music and Mocktails event (thanks to our Friends!), and inspired young minds through LEGO and robotics programming. We digitized historic documents, delivered fun services to local assisted living facilities, and hosted yet another successful Haunted Stacks party. Our Summer Reading Program alone featured nearly 200 programs in June and July for kids, teens, and adults.

To top it all off, we received the 2022 North Dakota Star Library Award for exemplary service to the community! The award is based on per-capita circulation, service hours, program attendance, computer and Wi-Fi usage, and more. In 2022, we had 139,347 visitors with a service population of 72,705. This means there were 1.91 visits to GFP_ for every man, woman, and child in Grand Forks County.

We also surveyed our staff, which revealed 90% of our team finds their work meaningful, 93% are generally happy at work, and 100% agree that the library's work positively impacts people's lives. We truly believe in our mission.

We continue to boldly reimagine how we can best serve our patrons. We're committed to inspiring creativity and curiosity throughout our community. What are we capable of? And, what are you capable of?

Better. Better you, better community, better together.

Brad Sherwood, President



connect the
community



inspire
innovation



Friends Message

The Friends Focus of “Retuning You in 2022” was one of our most all-encompassing and successful engagement campaigns to date. Throughout the year, the Friends hosted eight events ranging from the sublime (yoga) to the ridiculous (Zombie Barbie Makeovers). One of our most popular new events was our Mini Art Show, for which the Friends prepared and distributed 200 canvas kits allowing library patrons to become artists in a mini art show in the library’s Mezzanine Art Gallery. The undisputed highlight event of the year was Music and Mocktails, a live music gathering held after hours at the library. Eight local restaurants and service groups created signature non-alcoholic beverages with attendees voting to crown the Master of the Mocktail!

In addition to hosting events, the Friends participated in a successful Library Giving Day fundraiser and also hosted our two regular book sales. We continued to fully fund the Teen Novel(ties) program and assist in funding the Summer Reading Program.

We could not provide these programs without the funds raised from our personal and business memberships, and we continue to welcome all new members. Please find more details on Friends membership on the library’s website.

Debbie Sanders, President

Foundation Message

The Grand Forks Public Library Foundation supports the Grand Forks Public Library in transforming lives. In 2023, the Foundation launched its first campaign, Curious Minds on the GO, to purchase an outreach vehicle to bring a world of stories to kids and adults across Grand Forks County. For this campaign, the Foundation participated in Giving Hearts Day, a 24-hour fundraising event. The Foundation is grateful to those that supported this fundraising effort and is thrilled to have raised \$14,000, or 30% of the \$50,000 goal. Special thanks go to Alerus Financial, Brad and Jolly Sherwood, and Debbie Sanders for matching funds for the Curious Minds on the GO campaign.

If you would like to join the Foundation in supporting the library, please consider becoming a Board member or volunteer. Information can be found on the library's website.

Nicole Derenne, President



encourage
curiosity





New in '22

Winter Reading Program Crafternoons

Women's History Panel

Author Visits

Laptops and tablets available for checkout

Themed DVD Binge Boxes

Mini Art Show

Yoga on the Lawn

Created Curiosity Lab

Summer Reading Kickoff Art Day featuring local Chalk Artist

Thinking Money Exhibit

Summer Reading Skit performed to over 3,800 local kids

Nearly 60 Social Work Hours provided free for the community

Baby Sign Storytime with NDSU Extension Services

Grand Forks Public Library Con

Children's Remodel Planning

Musical Playground

Free COVID tests through Public Health

Mobile Checkout

Digitization of 140-year-old city directory and more

Camp Will Week with ND Shakespeare Festival

Banned Books Library Cards

Potato Bowl Parade

Lactation Room

Myra Grant for Children's Remodel

Job Seeker Series

Music and Mocktails

Haunted Stacks

Halloween Costume Swap

Northern Valley Youth Orchestra Concert

Holiday Adopt-a-Family

Dream it. Do it.



“

Patron Praises

The library is our happy place to learn and discover.

We love checking out ALL the books. Like we're on Supermarket Sweep!

I love the library because it advances the idea that we can and should all give to the common good — for everyone!

I appreciate everything you do! A library is one of the most important institutions in a town.

I appreciate the friendly and helpful staff. Today when I picked up a book on hold I really appreciated the excellent job of snow removal. I can count on a clear, safe parking lot in the winter which is something I don't take for granted.

Thank you for keeping the world full with knowledge and creative worlds to run away to!!!

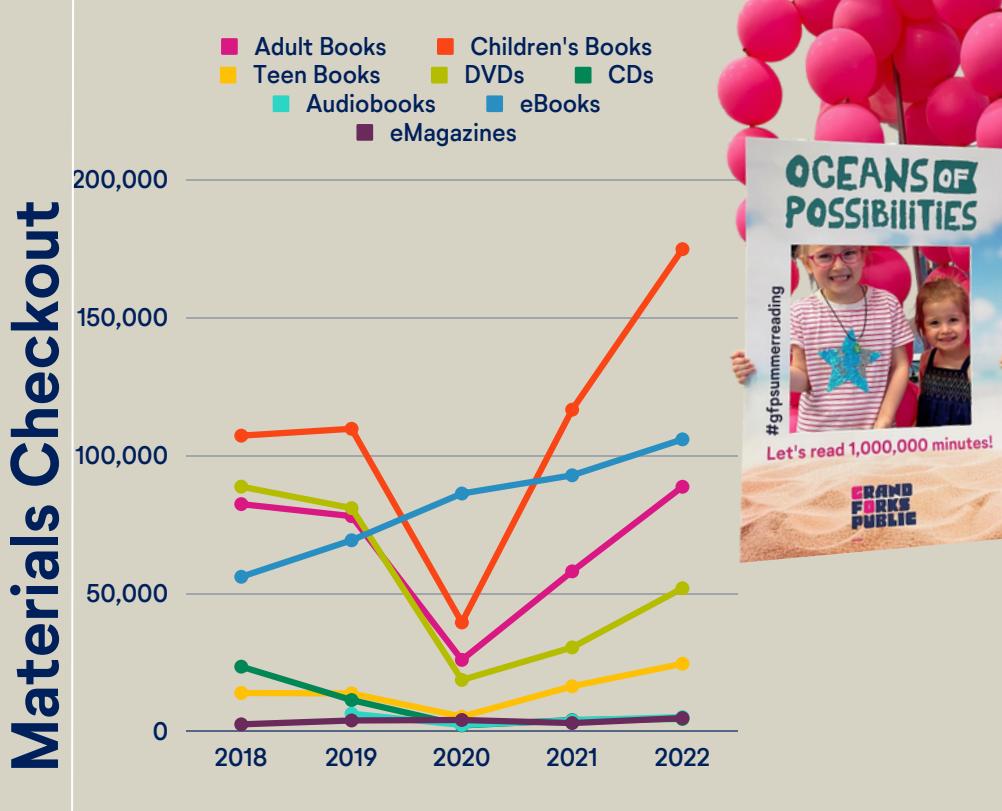
Love the library staff. They kindly answer all my questions—yes, even the silly ones.

You are heroes for sure! You are all just awesome and bring so much love, light, and learning to this community.

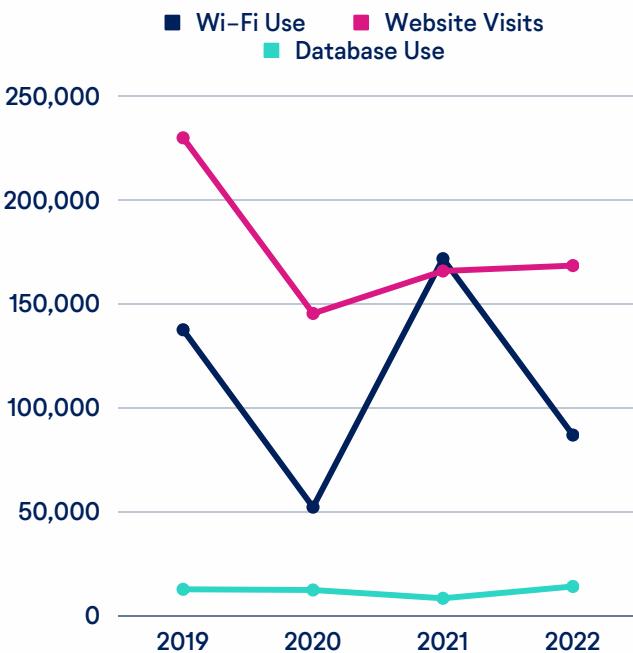


You are why we're here!





Online Resource Usage



By the Numbers

Revenue

	2022	2021
City of Grand Forks	\$2,016,305	\$1,984,014
Grand Forks County	\$654,367	\$778,282
State Aid/Intergovernmental	\$206,129	\$168,556
Grants	\$33,244	\$28,000
Library Fees/Services	\$20,350	\$16,471
Interest/Investments	\$21,591	\$16,987
Donations	\$6,791	\$12,388
Total	\$2,958,777	\$3,004,700

Expenditures

Wages & Salaries	\$1,514,557	\$1,382,372
Benefits	\$568,201	\$547,765
Supplies	\$78,626	\$70,467
Utilities	\$85,964	\$68,831
Services & Contracts	\$196,480	\$190,811
Building Maintenance	\$93,192	\$82,496
Operating Expenses	\$110,900	\$54,713
Books & Periodicals	\$174,585	\$173,869
Capital Expenses	\$41,817	\$32,890
Total	\$3,364,287	\$2,604,218*

*COVID impact resulted in reduced operating expenses in 2021.



**GRAND
FORKS
PUBLIC**

