

# Dorchester County Public Library



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# Library Vision

The Dorchester County Public Library transforms lives  
and empowers the community through literacy,  
information, and collaboration.



## CENTRAL BRANCH

303 Gay Street  
Cambridge MD 21613  
(410) 228-7331  
(410) 228-6313 (fax)



## HURLOCK BRANCH

222 South Main Street  
Hurlock MD 21643  
(410) 943-4331  
(410) 943-0293 (fax)

## Board of Trustees

### Officers

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## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Fiscal year 2021 began in a time of uncertainty. Libraries were beginning to reopen and welcome returning patrons, while still providing virtual programming, curbside services, and developing new ways to reach their communities. We held our first virtual Summer Reading Program and increased social media engagement. Behind the scenes, we installed plexiglass and implemented protocols to keep the staff and public safe.

Patrons returned to the building in early October for printing and computer usage, but State mandates pushed us back to curbside services until late February. Everyone was weary and the staff and community missed each other immensely, but we did not give up. Instead, we took the library beyond the physical buildings. Staff members attended events, distributed crafts kits, began circulating mobile hot spots, participated in Story Times, disseminated health information to the public, created a TikTok account, and even celebrated the Icelandic tradition of Jolabokaflod by gifting books to patrons.

We persevered, and by May the Central Branch was opened to the public again with normal hours restored by June. The Hurlock Branch followed closely behind and hopes to return to normal hours soon. I have never been more proud of the staff and community than I am now. We showed resiliency, creativity, and dedication like never before and changed librarianship forever.

*Crystal Henningsen*

*crystalh@dorchesterlibrary.org*

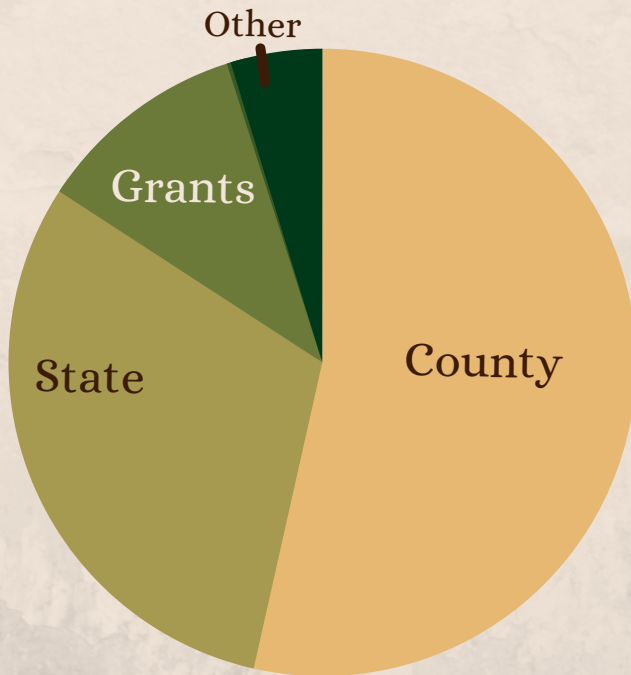
**You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.**

**- Maya Angelou**

# BY THE NUMBERS

## Total Budget by Source

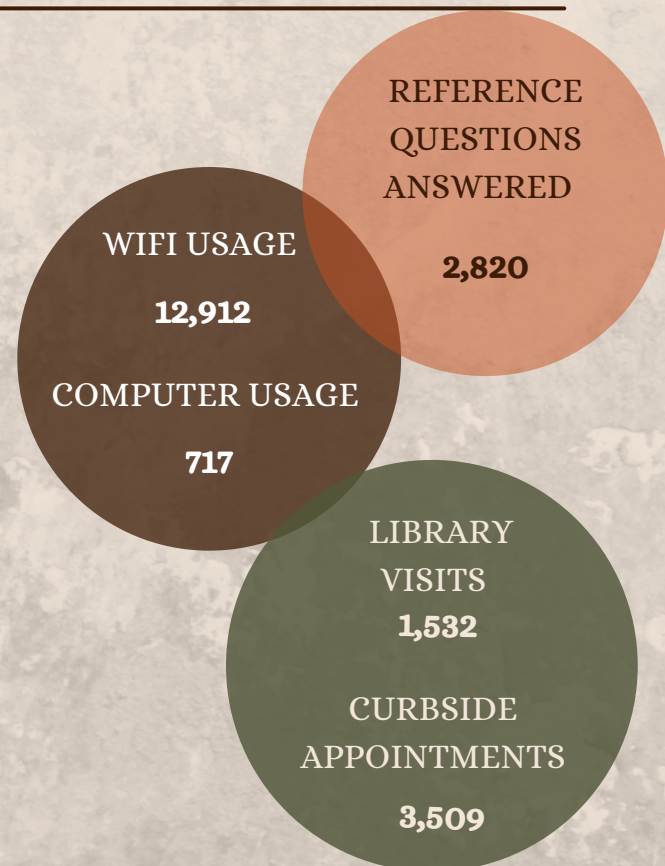
### BUDGET BREAKDOWN



<i>Local:</i>	\$200
<i>County:</i>	\$553,520
<i>State:</i>	\$317,233
<i>Federal/State/Other Grants:</i>	\$112,743
<i>Interest:</i>	\$2,104
<i>Other:</i>	\$48,621
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>\$1,034,421</b>
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$954,413</b>

## OUR COLLECTIONS

Card Holders:	12,880
Total Items Circulated:	80,418
<i>Adult:</i>	26,020
<i>Children's:</i>	14,628
Digital Circulation:	13,215
Items Loaned to Other Libraries:	19,976
<b>Total Items in Collection:</b>	<b>103,681</b>



# PARTNERSHIPS

Cambridge Judy Center Steering Committee  
 Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Initiative  
 Dorchester County Early Childhood Advisory Council  
 Dorchester County Public Schools  
 Dorchester County Dept. of Social Services  
 Dorchester County UMD Extension of 4-H  
 Dorchester County Health Department  
 Dorchester County Health Education Center  
 Kindermusik International  
 Eastern Shore Regional Libraries  
 Maryland Workforce Exchange  
 Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs  
 Dorchester County Health Department  
 Empowerment Center  
 Salvation Army/Shelter  
 YMCA of the Chesapeake



# PROGRAMS

## Adult Programs:

Department of Natural Resources Fishing Poles Program  
 Virtual Cooking Classes w/SNAP-Ed  
 Virtual Performers & Presenters in Partnership with MD Public  
 Libraries - AACPL, PGCML, CCPL, HCPL, PRAT, BCPL  
 Weekly Virtual Book Chats (#SundayNightBookChat)

## Family Programs:

Monthly Craft Kits to Go  
 #UnitedByBooks Virtual Campaign with Patrons (Mar.-Dec. 2020)  
 Summer Reading Goodie Bags  
 Summer Reading Weekly Virtual Trivia  
 Read Aloud Videos  
 In-Person Story Times (Began June, 2021)

## Tech/STEM based events:

Virtual Lego Challenges  
 Virtual Cartooning Program with Rick Stromoski



**Program Attendance**

Adults: 8  
 Children: 1,957

**Programs Offered**

Adults: 2  
 Children: 28

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Free Meeting Room space for non-profits and community groups

MD DLLR (receive/post all job ads)

Mid-Shore Pro Bono

Mid-Shore Mediation

MD Legal Aid

AARP Tax-Aide Service

Eastern Shore Network for Change

Dorchester Student & Family Support Services

MD WIC



## Outreach

Story Times: Daycares, schools, Farmers' Market, YMCA

Community Events: Family Day at the Meadows Apartment Complex, Community Resource Fair with Mid-Shore

Mediation

Book Donations - Given to local community organizations

Book Donations - Given to local community organizations

## Outreach

*Events: 13*

*Attendees:*

165



# LET'S GET DIGITAL!

## INSTAGRAM

*Posts: 305*

*Likes: 3,499*

*Followers: 452*



## YOUTUBE

*Videos: 88*

*Views: 2,300*

*Subscribers: 37*



## TIKTOK

*Videos: 11*

*Likes: 100*

*Views: 1,322*

*Follows: 17*



## FACEBOOK

*Posts: 584*

*Engagement: 8,979*

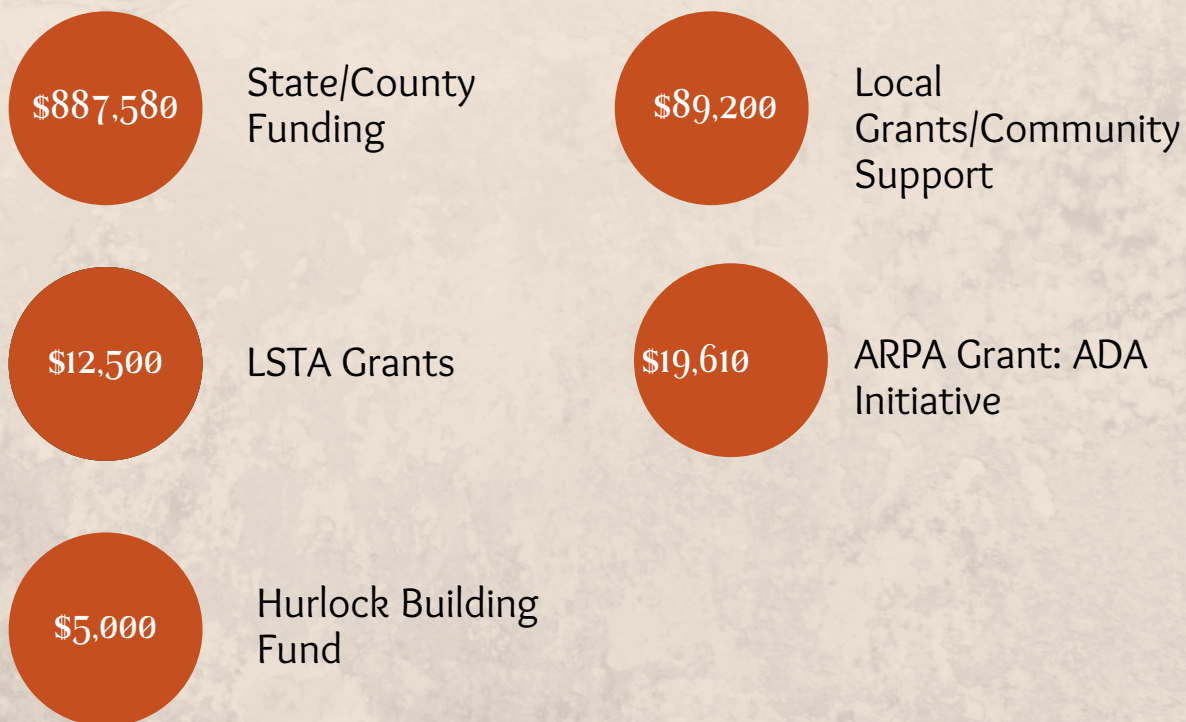
*Follows: 1,887*



# OUR STRATEGY FOR FY22

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## FINANCIAL GOALS



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## PLANS FOR SERVICE EXPANSION

- Increased Outreach
- Renewed Adult/Youth Programming
- Meeting Room Renovation
- Maryland Organizational Project
- Increased Partnerships/Initiatives
- ADA Initiative - Consultation/Evaluation, Assistive Technology, Collection Development & Signage
- Increased Community Participation
- Hybrid Programming to increase accessibility
- Reevaluating Services - Beyond the Walls
- New Hurlock Building Stage - Survey & Assessment

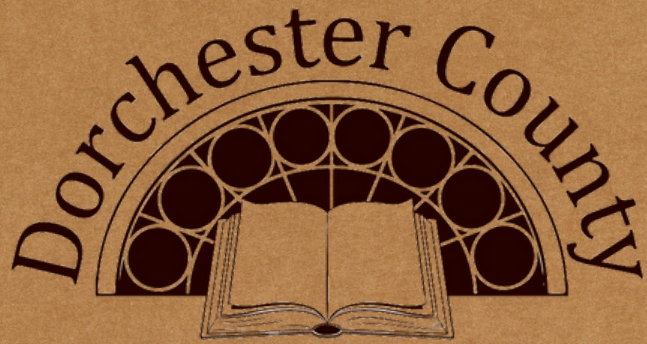


The most important asset of any library goes home at night - the library staff.

- Timothy Healy

(President of the New York Public Library 1989-1992)





Public Library

[www.dorchesterlibrary.org](http://www.dorchesterlibrary.org)