



FY 2021 – 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022



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PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.saclibrary.org

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Sacramento Public Library started 2022 with one of the largest changes an organization can experience: a new leader, mid-fiscal year. As we build on the foundation that has been laid, Sacramento Public Library will continue to be a leader in innovative systems, programs, and services.

Our staff universally shares their dedication and passion for what they do. They enjoy serving our customers in every way, including recommending books to read, teaching them how to use the internet, showing them resources to search for a job, or helping them complete an online application for a program or service. We are the public library and we couldn't do it without our incredible communities and patrons across Sacramento County.



Adjusting to living in a world with COVID as a persistent presence hasn't been easy. We adapted as circumstances and government requirements have necessitated. We changed how we do some things and will continue to evolve to provide services while keeping staff and users safe.

Because we are a public library, we offer a wide variety of materials, programs, and services. Libraries are places of education, entertainment, and enrichment. While we can't be everything for everyone, we certainly want those who walk through our doors to be represented and feel welcome. We continue our efforts to make sure the diversity in our community is present in what we do. Everyone deserves to have a library that meets their needs.

This past year we brought back in-person programs like Explore and Learn and storytimes with plans to expand those options with additional programs in the coming months.

As we look forward, the library will be planning for what the future looks like. We'll involve the community in our strategic planning process, seeking feedback and suggestions for the library services and programs that most interest those we serve.

We appreciate the dedication and support our community members, users, and advocates have shown for their library. We look forward to serving you each and every day.

Peter Coyl

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Coyl'.

Library Director and CEO



Meet Peter

Peter is a California native, raised in Sacramento until he was 9. He received his first library card at Sacramento Public Library when he was 6. He proudly displays that library card in his office today. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Public Administration and Public Policy from Oakland University and a Masters Degree in Library and Information Science from Drexel University. He has worked in libraries for over 20 years and is active in state and national professional organizations including the American Library Association and the Freedom to Read Foundation, which he currently serves as its President.

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2021–2022

Sacramento Public Library continues to innovate and adapt to better serve our community and bring people back to the library amidst an ongoing pandemic. Through changing regulations, learning interruptions, and even a change in leadership, FY 21-22 proved the library is essential in providing crucial services to Sacramento County. The library continues to be a leader in our community by demonstrating creativity, resiliency, and flexibility in meeting the needs of our customers.

HIGHLIGHTS

Return to in-person programming



In 2021, Sacramento Public Library was able to safely open its doors at most locations. While navigating ever-changing health restrictions, the need for in-person programming was clear. At the start of FY 21-22, the library returned to in-person programming while continuing virtual programs. Realizing the pandemic's immense impact on our youngest learners, Outdoor Family Storytimes were introduced as the first in-person programs offered at the library since March 2020. The program continues to be popular and helped the system chart a course for more in-person programming.

Expanding access to our communities



The library continues to invest in its facilities and collections to provide the community with access to dynamic, exciting, and functional materials and spaces. In addition to beginning the process of relocating the North Sacramento-Hagginwood Library by acquiring the expansive former Sacramento News & Review building in July 2021, development and community engagement for the new Elk Grove Library continued in FY 21-22. The renovated Orangevale Library reopened to the public with a grand opening event in August 2021. The \$950,000 renovation boasted ADA accessibility throughout and doubled its footprint.

Southgate Library also received important enhancements, including ADA updates to the existing restrooms, a new family restroom, a water fountain/bottle refill station, and an upgraded exterior to further improve accessibility. Southgate Library reopened to the community in March 2022.



Investments in our library are about more than buildings. In summer 2021, the library introduced the Sacramento Intelligent Material Management System (SIMMS) throughout the system. SIMMS tracks each item in the collection, helping us pinpoint its status and location down to the shelf, making it easier for patrons to find holds and locate materials. Our system-wide equity work continued with Sacramento Public Library proudly hosting a robust and engaging Latino Heritage series including virtual bilingual craft-making, author visits, and storytime events for all ages, helping expand access to our Spanish and dual-language community. In September 2021, our Wi-Fi hotspot and Google

Chromebook lending program expanded to bridge the digital divide by adding 400 hotspots and 190 Chromebooks for check-out, providing library patrons easy access to the Internet. In January 2022, amid a spike in cases in Sacramento County, the library handed out 45,000 free COVID-19 test kits at all of our locations in partnership with Sacramento County Public Health department. The community response was unprecedented and clearly illustrated the fulfillment of a needed service for our community.

Maintaining resiliency and flexibility as a system



Sacramento Public Library continued to adjust as the pandemic waxed and waned. In addition to virtual programming for all ages, such as online storytimes, virtual author visits, and Sacramento Room Zoom presentations, previous in-person programming had to adapt as well. In 2021, our Meals at the Library program became a to-go service. Sacramento County guidelines made eating meals in person impossible, so youth were able to pick up pre-packaged healthy meals to take home during the summer when school was out. Library volunteers shifted to online assistance, through online tutoring and virtual Book First classroom visits from the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library. In early 2022,

the library began a phased structural realignment process, the goal being to better serve our community with more flexibility in staffing, regional and systemwide support, growth opportunities for staff, clearly defined roles, and a more equitable allocation of resources. The first phase of realignment was successfully completed in June 2022 thanks to our talented staff who were patient and dedicated throughout the entire process.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Supporting our youngest learners



During the pandemic, services for young children were significantly reduced throughout the county. The library took the lead in filling the gap for critical early learning services in innovative new ways. The Early Learning Department developed a variety of services to support caregivers with children 0 to 5 years old. In 2021, the library launched Outdoor Family Storytime in partnership with local park districts and started an outdoor Explore and Learn program at select library locations to offer hands-on early learning activities through a play-based program model. In total, the library hosted 165 outdoor early learning programs

attended by 7,330 people. Additionally, library locations distributed 4,000 Storytime To Go packs across the county, including bilingual materials for young children.

In celebration of Día in April 2022, the library offered Bilingual Spanish Storytime throughout Sacramento County as well as virtual bilingual programs. The library again partnered with the Sacramento County Office of Education to provide information in both English and Spanish on how to support children who are dual language learners. This included the creation of special Storytime to Go kits and virtual early learning workshops attended by 252 parents and caregivers. The library also hosted 131 virtual programs for children under 5, including weekly Virtual Song and Rhyme Storytimes and Baby Storytimes on social media. These virtual programs garnered 8,182 views.



4,000

STORYTIME
TO GO PACKS



131

VIRTUAL
PROGRAMS



8,182

VIRTUAL PROGRAM
ATTENDEES



165

OUTDOOR
PROGRAMS



7,330

OUTDOOR PROGRAM
ATTENDEES

Connecting with kids and teens



Re-engaging school-age children and teens in Sacramento County was critical after pandemic-related disruptions in education calendars. The library's annual Summer Reading campaign finished strong in 2021 with 14,529 signups (+230% YOY), 9,212 finishers (+225% YOY), and 219,934 books read (+175% YOY), activating readers of all ages. In May 2022, the library hosted an in-person Summer Reading Kickoff event at McClatchy Park, drawing on community partners, staff, and the Friends of the Sacramento Public Library for an amazing event attended by over 600 people.

Over the summer months of 2021, 31,800 meals were served through our Meals at the Library program for youth under 18. The meals were grab-and-go to provide easier and safer access for families to participate. Additionally, the library's 2021-2022 Youth Library Leadership program provided 65 local teens with valuable workforce development, socio-emotional learning skills, hands-on program planning experience, and stipends for their hard work.

Our homework help services for kindergarten through 8th grade students provide access to resources to support school work and allow them to work with live tutors who can assist with a variety of subjects. From September 2021 to May 2022, there were 570 drop-in virtual visits and 79 students who received assistance from our group of incredible teen volunteers, who racked up 932 coaching hours collectively.



VIRTUAL HOMEWORK HELP SESSIONS



VIRTUAL HOMEWORK ZONE VISITS



TEEN VOLUNTEERS



HOMEWORK COACH VOLUNTEER HOURS



TEEN COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



ENGLISH CONVERSATION ATTENDEES



YOUTH LIBRARY LEADERSHIP TEEN PARTICIPANTS



MEALS AT THE LIBRARY MEALS SERVED



SUMMER READING SIGNUPS



SUMMER READING FINISHERS



SUMMER READING BOOKS READ

Serving adults



The library once again partnered with the Sacramento County Office of the Registrar of Voters to support the 2021 gubernatorial election and the 2022 primary election, helping make the democratic process convenient, accessible, and trustworthy. 27 library locations offered ballot drop boxes for the public. Five locations served as 4-day in person vote centers in the September 2021 recall election and 14 locations hosted 4-day in-person vote centers for the June 2022 election. Library locations accounted for approximately 24% of the total drop-off ballots collected in Sacramento County.

Now, more than ever, the health of our community is top of mind. To that end, Samuel Merritt University nurses returned after a 2-year hiatus and served 50 patrons at mobile stops at senior living sites. In 2022 the library introduced a Journaling for Mental Health program that was fantastically received by patrons and will be returning for a 6-session series in 2023. Overall, we hosted 13 health education classes on various topics including COVID-19 vaccines, heart health, and more. Our virtual Zumba and yoga class series continued to help provide fun and energizing movement to people from the comfort of their own homes. 43 virtual Zumba classes were held, drawing 1,300 participants. 23 virtual yoga classes saw 350 participants.

Mobile Services continued to help bridge the divide between library services and community members. A mobile vehicle made an appearance at NorCal Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing with resources during the Love and Literacy Across California event in March 2022. In addition to its regular routes, Mobile Services also participates in other forms of outreach, like the Midtown Business Association's monthly Fresh Air series, where staff promoted the library's health resources and attracted new patrons. The library was thrilled to once again join the Pride Parade and Festival in June 2022.



In June 2022 we announced our plans to expand the Library of Things collection to two new locations, Valley Hi-North Laguna Library and Walnut Grove Library. Online and print surveys resulted in 1,546 responses directly from community members about what they want to see in the collections. The library also introduced the brand new [Shari Nichelini Cake Pan Library](#) in April 2022 to a hugely positive patron response. In 2021, Sacramento Public Library reached a record-breaking 3 million digital book checkouts,



making it one of just 20 public library systems worldwide that surpassed one million digital checkouts. This milestone illustrates the continued growth and demand for library services including digital lending of ebooks and audiobooks. In June 2022, the library, in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium, provided patrons with access to talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders through free virtual events called Author Talks.

Through a partnership with Smart Horizons and California State Library, the library offers Career Online High School (COHS), a nationally accredited high school program that includes a 24/7 online classroom, personal academic coaches, and real-world career training. The library awards COHS scholarships to make this program free for adult students. In September 2021, Sacramento Public Library honored its COHS graduating class of 2020 and 2021. 57 adult students completed their studies and earned their accredited high school diplomas during the pandemic and were able to walk across the stage as part of the first in-person graduation ceremony since 2019.



24%

PERCENT OF BALLOTS
DROPPED OFF TO LIBRARY
LOCATIONS IN SAC COUNTY



400

VOLUNTEER HOURS
DURING ELECTIONS



138

ADULT LEARNER
VOLUNTEERS



1,650

VIRTUAL ZUMBA AND
YOGA CLASS ATTENDEES



57

COHS GRADUATES



1,546

LIBRARY OF THINGS
EXPANSION SURVEY
RESPONSES















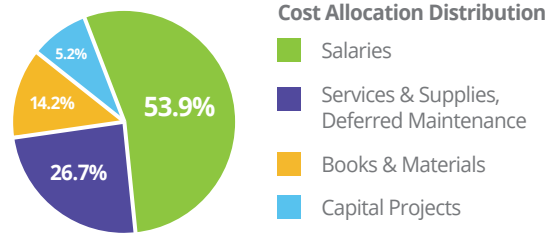
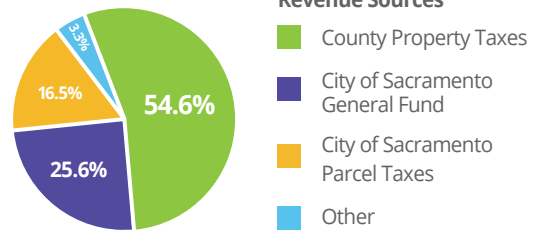
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AUTHOR TALKS
ATTENDEES

"[Career Online High School] was one of the best experiences of my life and I learned so many valuable lessons. I can guarantee that is the best thing you can do for yourself." - La Keishia Whitmore

LIBRARY AT A GLANCE FY 2021–2022

-  **273**
FTE EMPLOYEES
-  **699,101**
LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS
-  **1,148,709**
ANNUAL VISITS
-  **3,965,821**
ANNUAL CIRCULATION
-  **781**
COMPUTERS IN BRANCHES
-  **155,149**
COMPUTER HOURS OF USE
-  **2,047**
LIBRARY PROGRAMS
-  **52,670**
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE
-  **18,450**
VOLUNTEER HOURS
-  **1,492,026**
TOTAL POPULATION SERVED
-  **\$247,849**
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SUPPORT
-  **\$56,197,000**
ANNUAL BUDGET



RECOGNITION

- **Sacramento Public Library**, 2021 Librarian at Your Service Award, Unique Management Services
- **Caitlyn Tormey**, 2022 Odyssey Award Committee Member
- **Lindsey Helfrich**, 2022 Stonewall Books Award Committee Member
- **Addie Estrada-Huerta**, 2021-2022 Silbert Award Committee Member
- **Justin Azevedo**, 2022-2023 Silbert Award Committee Member
- **Peter Coyl**, 2022-2023 Freedom to Read Foundation President

Friends of the Sacramento Public Library

The Friends of Sacramento Public Library is the Library's official and only fundraising partner, designated by our Library Authority Board in 2019. Collectively, the Friends provide thousands of hours of volunteer time for the Library and even help sustain the planet by finding new homes for books through sales at the Book Den. The Friends provide valuable support through their sponsorship of Library events, staff appreciation and so much more. They are also tireless library advocates. In 2014 and 2016, the Friends supported the passage of two City

of Sacramento ballot measures to provide funding for the system.

In May 2021, the Friends raised \$102,000 through their Big Day of Giving appeal to support the sixth year of our Book First program, making it possible for the Library to provide two books to every first-grade student at 182 eligible schools throughout Sacramento County. They also established and raised over \$140,000 for the Rivkah Sass Young Readers Fund honoring our former library director.

-  **12,698**
STUDENTS SUPPORTED
-  **25,936**
BOOKS DISTRIBUTED
-  **553**
CLASSES REACHED
-  **199**
SCHOOLS REACHED
-  **199**
LIBRARIAN CLASS VISITS
(VIRTUAL AND IN PERSON)
-  **233**
BOOK COUPONS
REDEEMED IN LIBRARIES
-  **\$102,000**
BIG DAY OF GIVING
FUNDS RAISED