

REPORT TO THE

**COMMUNITY**

2022



**POUDRE RIVER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
DISTRICT

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3**      **LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
- 5**      **OUR LIBRARY**
- 7**      **FACTS AT A GLANCE**
  - books & materials*
  - tech access*
  - people & programs*
  - finances*
- 10**     **REIGNITING LIBRARY SERVICE**
  - welcoming spaces*
  - intentional partnerships*
  - dynamic services*
- 14**     **THANK YOU**
  - donors & supporters*
- 18**     **LIBRARY LEADERSHIP TEAM**



1.

*Letter from our*

**Executive  
Director**

## DEAR POUFRE LIBRARIES COMMUNITIES,

2022 was a year of discovery, exploration, and reemergence for Poudre Libraries. My first day as Executive Director was January 4, 2022—right as COVID rates began to spike—which resulted in canceling in-person programs and struggles to have enough healthy staff to keep our building open to the public. Over the course of the year, we were able to cautiously build back our programs, staffing levels, open hours, and to expand our outreach services. I am so grateful to the library staff across the District for remaining committed to serve our community despite the many challenges we faced over the past few years. They found innovative ways to reach out and connect individuals with the knowledge, resources, inspiration, and opportunities that we are here to provide.

The big accomplishment of 2022 was creating a new strategic plan that will guide our work for the next three years. The plan was grounded in the information we gathered through a series of community conversations that we conducted over the summer. Through these interactive discussions that asked participants to reflect on their hopes, dreams, and desires for the community, we were able to hone in on seven themes that will serve to inspire how and what we do:

*Kindness, respect, welcoming*

*Equity, diversity, inclusion*

*Safe, healthy, low crime*

*Affordable, accessible housing,  
managed growth*

*Environment, sustainability, climate awareness*

*Education, learning, innovation*

*Arts, culture, entertainment*

I hope you see your own priorities reflected in these and encourage you to explore the many ways Poudre Library creates opportunities and builds connections to strengthen our community.

Sincerely,



Diane Lapierre, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A stylized silhouette of Mickey Mouse's head, composed of three overlapping rounded shapes. The top two shapes are dark blue, and the bottom shape is red with a diagonal orange section on its upper right side. The entire graphic is set against a teal background.

**2.**

*Our*

**Library**

## MISSION

**TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES AND BUILD CONNECTIONS TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY**

## VALUES

### **1 CURIOSITY**

We explore new ideas and knowledge to connect and engage with our customers.

### **2 COLLABORATION**

We foster networks and relationships to strengthen the entire community.

### **3 INNOVATION**

We dream big. We embrace change and find ways to make a difference in people's lives. We strive to serve the community with integrity and excellence.

## VISION

**TO BE A VIBRANT AND ESSENTIAL CENTER FOR LEARNING, INSPIRATION, AND ENGAGEMENT**

### **4 INCLUSION**

We create opportunities for people to belong, where they are able to learn and grow. We celebrate and reflect the diversity of our community. We are dedicated to free and equal access for all.

### **5 INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM**

We champion the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction.

### **6 ACCOUNTABILITY**

We honor our commitments to the community and to each other. We are stewards of the community trust and tax-funded resources. We maintain high standards in our work within a culture of transparency.

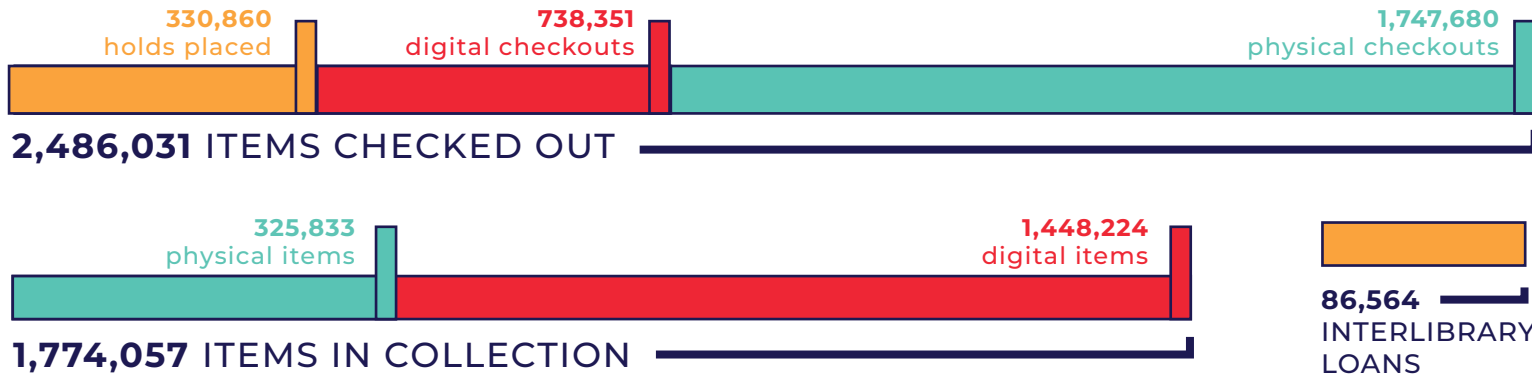


**3.**

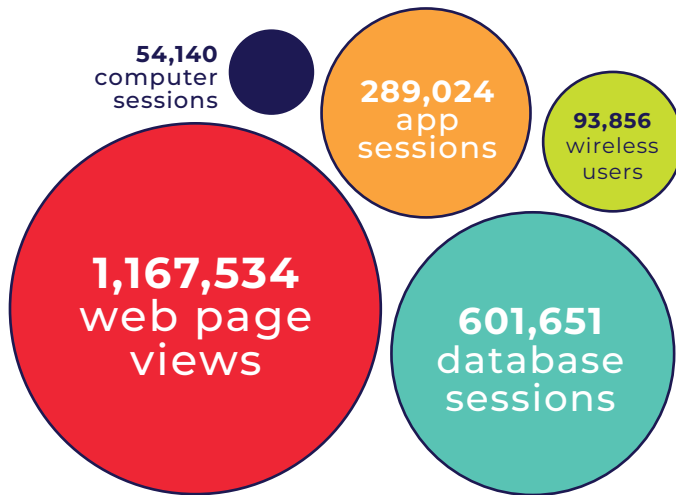
*Facts at a*

**Glance**

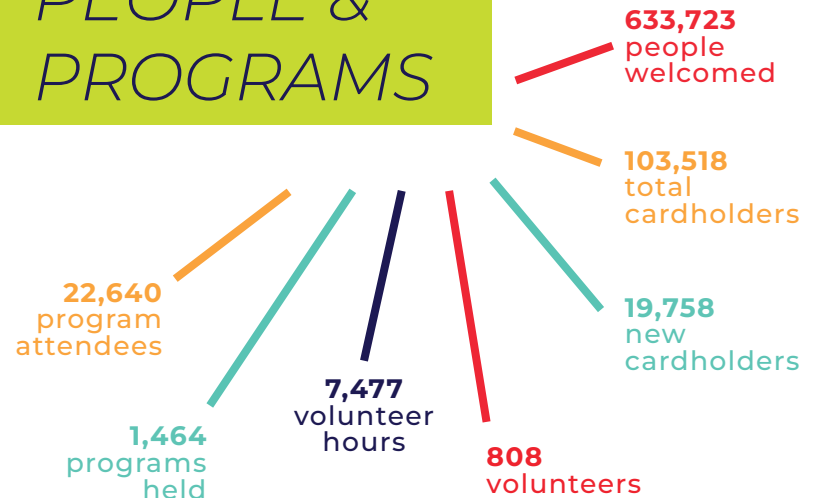
# BOOKS & MATERIALS



# TECH ACCESS



# PEOPLE & PROGRAMS



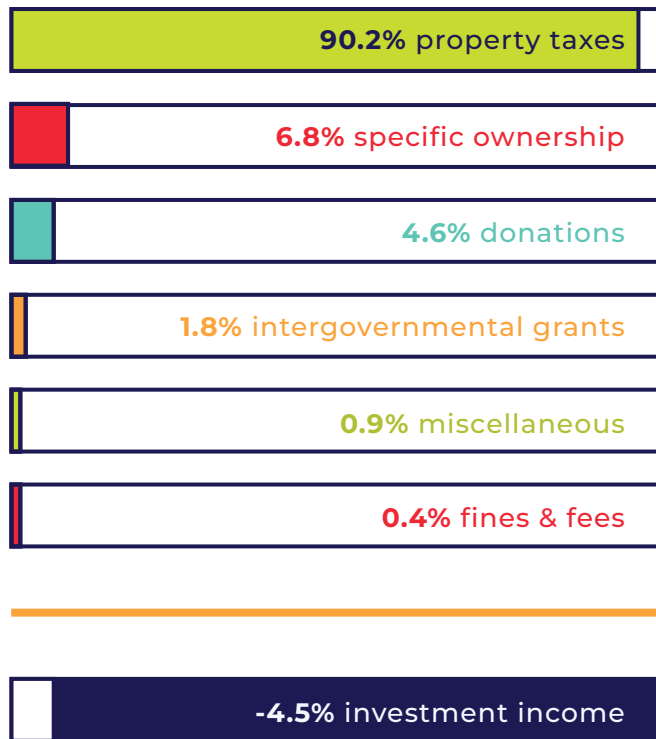
\* in person programs resumed in March 2022



# FINANCIALS

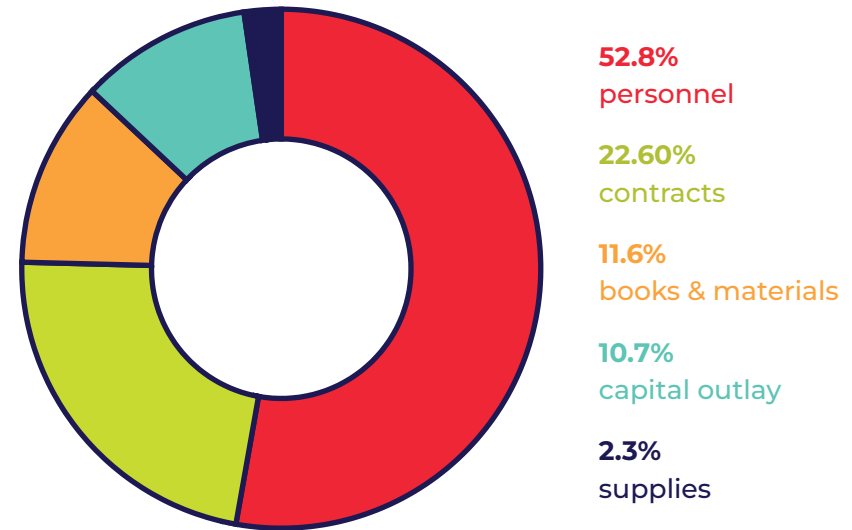
**\$12,751,471**

OPERATING & CAPITAL REVENUE



**\$11,639,460**

OPERATING & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



*\*please note that these are unaudited financials.*



4.

*Reigniting*

**Library Service**

*in 2022*

**IN 2022**, as the community continued to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, Poudre Libraries was open and resuming full library services. We saw library use return to near pre-pandemic levels, boosted by exciting new programs and services designed around social connection and changing community needs.

In April, Poudre Libraries launched its Community Conversations project based on the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation's "Turn Outward" model. The project aimed to gather, analyze, and share citizen input about our community's future while also informing the Library's 2023-2025 strategic plan. We heard from more than 800 people about their hopes, dreams, and aspirations for our community. Community members also shared ideas for ways to strengthen the community and expand library services. A public report of the Community Conversations findings is available online.

The Library's new strategic plan sets priorities for library services over the next three years. By focusing on three strategic areas of service, Poudre Libraries will be in the best position to meet the needs of a growing and changing community: (1) Welcoming Spaces, (2) Intentional Partnerships, and (3) Dynamic Services. An overview of the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan focus areas, goals, and initiatives is available at [PoudreLibraries.org/about/plans](https://PoudreLibraries.org/about/plans).

## WELCOMING SPACES

We continue to invest in inclusive and accessible libraries, including re-balancing and improving our libraries' interiors to provide expanded spaces for people and programs.

In February, OLD TOWN LIBRARY celebrated a large renovation that extended into many areas of the building, from the lobby book displays and customer service desks to the second floor open layout and community spaces. The Library also received a new roof in 2022.

COUNCIL TREE LIBRARY'S updated interior has new carpeting and new furniture for its seating areas. The library's Teen area got a face lift with flexible, mobile shelving that can be rearranged to accommodate teen programs and services. The Children's area added more box bins to showcase its collection.

### WELCOMING EVERYONE

We worked to expand the scope of our programs and services to build more inclusive opportunities for library users to learn, grow, and connect. We also looked internally to improve equity and inclusion for library staff. A newly-created EDI Coordinator position and EDI team will guide our ongoing efforts.

## AMONG THE NEW AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS WERE:

*ESL Book Club*

*Youth Queer Straight Alliance (QSA)*

*Bilingual Storytimes at Harmony Library*

*Spanish-language computer classes*

*Walking Tours Series with City of Fort Collins Historic Preservation team highlighting Fort Collins Black History, Women's Suffrage, and Latinx Heritage*

*Hispanic Heritage Month community mural project*

*Concierto familiar con 123 Andrés (Family Concert)*

## INTENTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Poudre Libraries and partnerships go together like kids and storytimes. In 2022, we strengthened many of our long-time community partnerships by working together in innovative ways, and we established new partnerships to offer additional learning opportunities and access to resources.

### PROMOTING EARLY LITERACY

We collaborated with United Way of Larimer County to launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for county residents. UWLC led the effort which included Poudre Libraries, Loveland Public Library, Wellington Library, and Estes Valley Library. By the end of 2022, nearly 5,000 children had registered for the program.

### CHAMPIONING DEMOCRACY

The Library District is uniquely positioned to be a community platform for civic discourse and a champion of democracy. In March, we joined the Deliberative Journalism Project led by Colorado State University's Center for Public Deliberation. The project's goal is to spark public discourse on key topics affecting the local community and, by extension, revitalize local journalism. In September, the DJP launched its "The Scoop" discussion series at Old Town Library.

For two days in November, Council Tree Library served as an active voting site for Larimer County Elections. The voting site saw more than 1,400 people cast a ballot for local and state elections.

### ENABLING SECOND CHANCES

We established a new partnership with the Colorado Public Defender's Office to host a Warrant Clearance Event and Community Resource Fair at Old Town Library. The event helped 71 people clear more than 125 low-level, non-violent warrants. The Larimer County District Attorney, Chief Judge, Director of Criminal Justice Services, the Fort Collins Municipal Court, and other local agencies joined us in this effort.

# DYNAMIC SERVICES

As the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic diminished in early 2022, the Library restarted in-person programs, reopened large meeting room reservations for the public, and extended weekend hours at Council Tree Library to meet community demand. We were also able to pursue exciting new initiatives.

## BRINGING THE LIBRARY TO YOU

One of the biggest and most exciting projects to launch in 2022 was the purchase and up-fitting of our new COMMUNITY OUTREACH ELECTRIC VAN. The eVan, named Evie, will expand delivery of essential library services to more remote locations, under-resourced communities, and individuals who are unable to access library buildings. Grant funding for Evie came from Bohemian Foundation, Larimer County, and the City of Fort Collins. The eVan is scheduled to debut in April 2023.

The Homebound delivery team added more volunteers to expand the number of individuals they can serve each month with a goal of doubling the number of participants in 2023. Homebound services are available for people with physical limitations due to age, illness, accident, or disabilities that keep them from visiting the library in person.

The Book Bike team received the 2022 Community Impact Award from the Association of Bookmobiles and Outreach Services for their community programs and services. From June to September, staff on our electric book bike traveled more than 70 miles to deliver 22 programs for kids, teens, and adults. Storytimes remain the most popular book bike programs: we shared 102 stories and 136 songs in local parks, natural areas, Old Town Square, and other community locations.

## BUILDING CONNECTIONS

By building connections for people through our programs and services, we can help people feel valued, connected, and grounded within their community and within the Library. Our programs created and strengthened personal connections among participants around shared interests.

### SOME OF THE INNOVATIVE 2022 PROGRAMS INCLUDED:

*Out and About with Natural Areas*

*Fort Collins Comic Con*

*Seed Swap with Home Grown Food*

*Paint Pouring*

*Art in the Great Outdoors*

*Let's Discover Picture Books*



**5.**

**Thank You**

**WE HAD** another successful year applying for grants to support community programs and services and expand opportunities for learning and connection. Poudre Libraries is deeply thankful for the generosity of our community.

In Fall 2022, the District hired its first dedicated Development Officer and will implement its first Annual Fund campaign in 2023 with the theme, A Year of Building Connections.

For more information about donating to Poudre Libraries and the Poudre River Library Trust, visit [PoudreLibraries.org/donate](https://PoudreLibraries.org/donate).

*Donor list is not a financial statement.*

## 2022 DONATIONS TO POUUDRE LIBRARIES

During 2022, the Library District was fortunate to receive a donation from the estate of Evelyn Traut in the amount of \$510,000 for children’s library services. Ms. Traut was a devoted teacher in Poudre School District, and Traut Core Knowledge School was named for her and her sister, Lena. Ms. Traut passed away in December 2021.

### THE DISTRICT HAD A DISTRIBUTION OF DONORS AT ALL LEVELS:

**UP TO \$499 – 36 DONORS**

**\$500 - \$4,999 – 11 DONORS**

**OVER \$5,000 – 4 DONORS**

### THE LIBRARY DISTRICT RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MEMORIAL DONATIONS DURING 2022:

#### IN MEMORY OF EUNICE BLESSING

Ana Arellano  
Carolyn Trimborn

#### IN MEMORY OF JIM BOYD

Martha Boone  
Dan & Merrie Boone Foundation

#### IN MEMORY OF PJ FERLAND

Katy Dejonge

#### IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH MALONEY

Judy Harrold

#### IN MEMORY OF MARY LOU REUBLIN

Robert Greer

#### IN MEMORY OF CYNTHIA WALES

Shannon Ragland

#### IN MEMORY OF PENELOPE WEST

Kirsten Sampera

**THE FOLLOWING DONORS CONTRIBUTED MEMORIAL DONATIONS DURING 2022:**

IN HONOR OF JAN DEHART  
Valerie Neff-Rasmussen

IN HONOR OF NANCY LINDEMOOD  
Bridget King

**THE FOLLOWING DONORS CONTRIBUTED FINANCIAL, IN-KIND, AND GRANT SUPPORT DURING 2022:**

Ms. Carol Anderson  
Mr. Kevin Aycock  
Mr. Daniel Bauer  
Ms. Barbara Carrow  
Ms. Beth Crumm  
Ms. Aparna Das-Caro  
Ms. Anne Davis  
Mr. Donald Cleppe  
Ms. Emily Dillon  
Mr. Samuel Elkind  
Mr. Danny Feig-Sandoval &  
Ms. Lori Feig-Sandoval  
Ms. Peggy Ingram  
Ms. Kathryn Kinser  
Ms. Mary Elizabeth Lenahan

Ms. Dennise Matheson  
Ms. Claudia Rouge  
Mr. Wayne Schrader  
Ms. Natasha Wing  
Mr. Robert Woody  
Beedas Thingamajigits  
Between the Sheets Book Club  
Bloom Floral Boutique  
Bohemian Foundation  
City of Fort Collins Fort Fund  
City of Fort Collins Office of  
Equity and Inclusion  
Copper Muse Distillery  
Del Corazon Family Fund  
Eide Charitable Funds

Elevations Credit Union  
Fort Collins Reads  
Fort Collins Youth Clinic  
Happy Lucky's Tea House  
Johnson Entities/Mc Donald's  
Restaurants  
Panorama Eye Care, LLC  
Paterson Family Foundation  
Poudre River Friends of the Library  
Poudre River Library Trust  
Pour Brothers Community Tavern  
Schneider Electric North  
American Foundation  
The Cupboard  
The Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries  
for All Program

**THESE DONORS CONTRIBUTED OVER \$18,000 IN TOTAL BETWEEN THE LIBRARY TRUST, POUDDRE LIBRARIES' CAPITAL PROJECTS, AND ENDOWMENT THROUGH COLORADO GIVES DAY IN 2022:**

Debra Applin  
Nick Armstrong  
Natalie Barnes  
John Beach

Patricia Bell  
Judy Berganini  
Barbara Bernstein  
Nancee Bernstein

Douglas Bransen  
Barbara Branstad  
Kerry Brookman  
William Brown

Margaret Brown  
Cynthia Burkhardt  
Kris Cafaro  
Grant Campbell



*continued from previous page*

Whitney Churchill

Fred Colby

Theadora Cox

Jan Dooley

Ken Draves

Carol Drungil

Claibourne Dungy

Christine Frey

Robin Gard

Monica Gavin

Sue Glasscock

Mary Hamilton

Cindy Haraway

Miriam Harris

Jacob Hautaluoma

Joey Hoefler

Lynda Hoffman

Linda Hopkins

Sonia ImMasche

Karen Lampke

Diane Lapierre

Kathleen Lewis

Michael Liggett

Sheila Long

Amy Lyons

Scott McKenzie

Rebecca McKeown

Harry Mueller

William Mygdal

Karen Nesler

Cara Neth

Dorothy Orazem

Selena Paulsen

Judith Plows

M. Virginia Pool

Corey Radman

Georgia Ray

Susan Rayner

Theresa Reid

Margaret Reeves

Cynthia Ross-Bell

Connie Salts

Kris Saucke

Judy Sayre Grim

Matt Schild

Cynthia Stansfield

Jon Stephens

Phil Teague

Patricia Throgmorton

Barbara Walton

Maddy Wawro

Ryan Wedel

Janice Whitaker

Michelle Renee White

Kurt Woolner

John Yule

**JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE DONATIONS Poudre LIBRARIES RECEIVED AND FROM WHOM, ARE THE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS LISTED BELOW THAT THOSE DONATIONS HELPED FUND IN 2022.**

Children's Programs

Adult Literacy Programs

Fort Collins Book Fest 2023

Summer Reading Challenge 2022

ESL Mentoring Program

Old Town Library Renovation

Fort Collins Comic Con 2022

IMAGINANTES 2022

Book Club Kits

Outreach Mobile Library (Evie)

Electric Book Bike

Gift-A-Book

Collections

Noches en Familia at the Museum of Discovery

eBooks and Audiobooks

For donors who contributed unrestricted funds, contributions were used for a variety of programming and capital needs, including new document and photo scanners (to be installed in 2023), facilities upgrades to the Council Tree Library, and a new roof at the Old Town Library.

# 2022 LIBRARY LEADERSHIP TEAM

## **DIANE LAPIERRE**

Executive Director

**TOVA ARAGON** Collections Manager

**KATIE AUMAN** Communications & Development Manager

**KRISTEN DRAPER** Old Town Library Manager

**MARK HUBER** IT & Facilities Manager

**SABRINA LESLIE** Human Resources Manager

## **KEN DRAVES**

Deputy Director

**AMY LYONS** Finance Officer

**CURRIE MEYER** Council Tree Library Manager

**IRENE ROMSA** Community Outreach Manager

**MOLLY THOMPSON** Harmony Library Manager

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**FRED COLBY** President

**MATT SCHILD** Vice President

**COREY RADMAN** Secretary / Treasurer

**RANDYN HEISSERER-MILLER** Member at Large

**ANUJA RILES** Member at Large

**BECKI SCHULZ** Member at Large

**JOE WISE** Member at Large

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2022