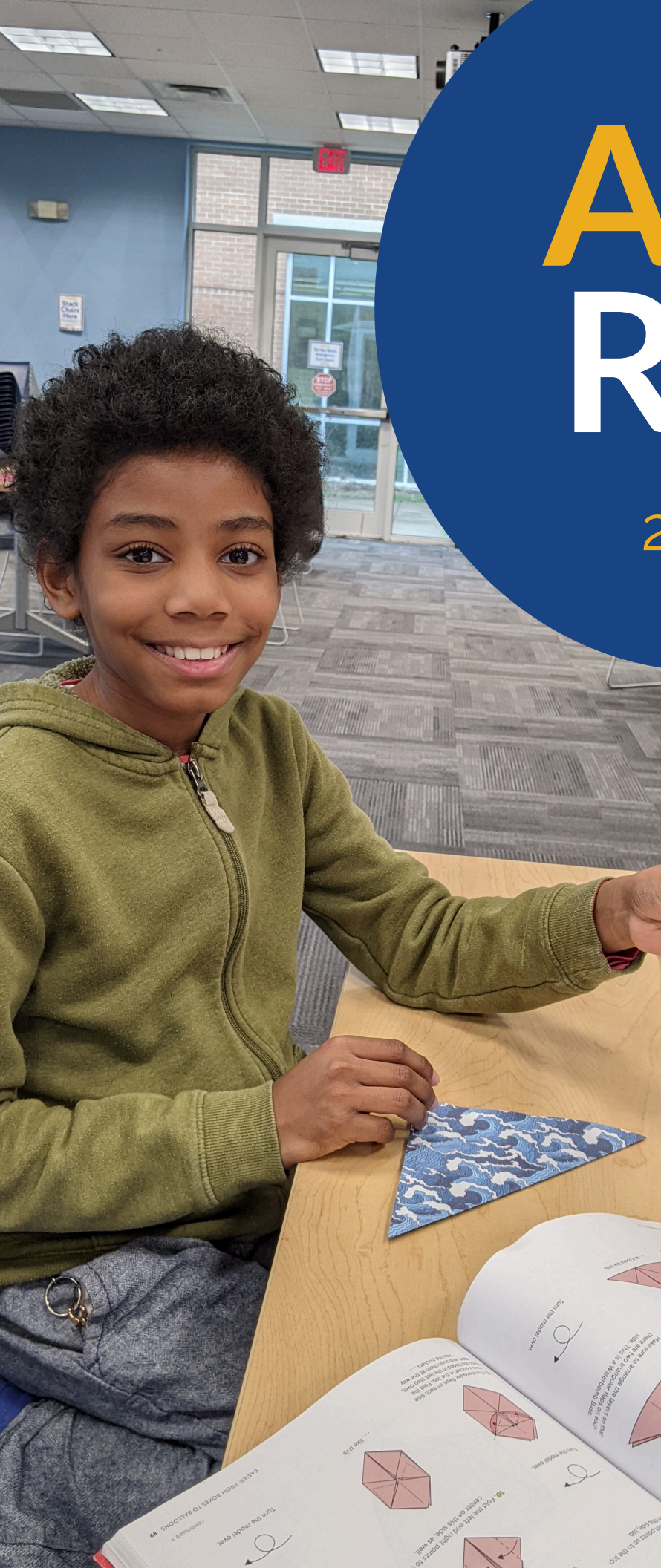




Annual Report

2024 - 2025

Fiscal Year
2025
Community
Impact

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Library

"I just wanted to let you know that, hands down, this is the best library I've ever been in!"
-Judy, Leonardtown Library customer

1,027,029 Items Checked Out

Items checked out include children's, teen, and adult books, DVDs, digital content, and so much more. Did you know St. Mary's County Library even has hotspots and ukuleles to check out?

Curious what our most popular titles were in 2024-2025?

Check out our most 'checked out' books.

Adult Fiction

What Storm, What Thunder by Myriam J.A. Chancy

Adult Nonfiction

The Ultimate Scholarship Book: Billions of Dollars in Scholarships, Grants, and Prizes

Children's Fiction

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth by Jeff Kinney

Children's Picture Book

Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons by James Dean and Eric Litwin

Young Adult Fiction

The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins

Digital Audiobook

The Women by Kristin Hannah

Digital Book

Onyx Storm by Rebecca Yarros





'The library is my home away from home. I always feel like I'm getting my tax money's worth when I'm here!'

-Roseanne, Leonardtown Library customer

"I don't know what I'd do without the library."

-Charlotte Hall Library customer



218,328 digital items were checked out in Fiscal Year 2025

Palace, Libby, and hoopla provided hundreds of thousands of eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, movies, music, and more all available to stream or download onto your device.

In FY 2025, we added over 5,000 always available audiobooks and a collection of exclusive content from Audible to Palace.

In FY 2025, we answered 14,138 Information (Reference) Questions!

Did you know the Library has online resources beyond media and books?

Need some help with a new job skill or hobby? Try LinkedIn Learning. Looking to keep up with the news? Through the Library you have access to *The Baltimore Banner*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal* online!

We provide access to many online resources including Consumer Reports, Mango Languages, test preparation and homework help services, and a variety of resources on topics such as genealogy (even Ancestry.com!) and finance.





"You are all doing a great job of offering enticing and important community programs. Makes me happy."

-Becki, Lexington Park Library customer

"The library is always a nice place to go. I really appreciate you!"

-Shelby, Charlotte Hall Library customer

331,501 visits to our Libraries in FY2025

We provided 1,749 free events that 35,535 people attended. Our attendance for events was up 15% over last year! In addition, we participated in 185 outreach events reaching 10,222 additional community members.

Events included professional performances, classes on topics such as crafting, 3D printing, gardening, archaeology, STEM, and more; book discussions, children's programs, and several nationally recognized experts and authors.

Our Meeting Room and Study Room Use Increased by 5% in FY 2025

Meeting rooms and quiet study rooms are free and available for the public to use for meetings, parties, study groups, and so much more! In FY25, 1,876 groups used the meeting rooms and 5,525 individuals or groups used study rooms for a total of 7,692 sessions.





"The things you do are very nice. I come to the library every week and if I need help finding something you always help. You are very kind and friendly. Please keep doing what you do. Thank you for working hard. You all benefit the community by letting us check out books. Thank you again for everything!"

- Ellie, Lexington Park Library customer



St. Mary's County Library has 35,436 active card holders

Library cards are free and you can register online or in any of our locations. Library cards allow you to check out 75 items at a time and use all of our online resources.

Kids' Cards and SMCPs SMART Cards are special cards available for our youngest residents under the age of 18, to help get library cards in the hands of children and encourage reading. All SMCPs students receive a SMART card number (unless parents choose to opt out).

Our Mobile Library is loved by the whole community!

Our Mobile Library team held 136 community stops, and with help from Library staff, attended 319 events throughout the County. All together, we visited over 18,000 community members this year.



"We're very happy with the library. It is so important to the community."

-Lexington Park Library customer

"We're so thankful for you, librarians!"

-Sara, Leonardtown Library customer

We continue to provide vital technology access.

Our free-to-use public computers have internet access and Microsoft Office, and we have workstations at each location that provide assistive technology to citizens of Maryland protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Our computers had nearly 33,000 sessions logged.

In addition to computers, we offer all visitors free WiFi and we have **printers** at each location that can print full color, **scanners**, **faxing** capability, and **laptops** that can be checked out to use in the Library.

Need to take your internet home? **We checked out 2,589 mobile hotspots** to customers in FY 2025, an 86% increase over FY 2024!

Our friendly and professional staff will help you with your technology questions! **Schedule a one-on-one** with one of our staff to learn how to use your device, get computer help, or learn how to use Microsoft Office or Google Workspace.

Our app continues to grow with now over 2,000 installations!

Find our app on both Google Play and the Apple Store. Now you can add multiple Library cards, check your account, search the catalog, place holds, and even scan a book's ISBN to instantly see if we have it in our collection! You can access all of our digital content with quick links to apps from Libby and Palace.



"You've so helpful; you've really made me excited to use the library!"

-Bella, Leonardtown Library customer

What a super fun day at the library! We got all kinds of goodies and loved the Olympics program! Thank you sooooo much!

-Katie, Charlotte Hall Library customer

It's been an unforgettable year!

On July 1, 2025 St. Mary's County Library officially went Fine Free! The new fine free policy will ensure that all St. Mary's County Library residents have access to the Library's resources and services, while eliminating the financial barrier of overdue fines.

Charlotte Hall Library and Lexington Park Library updated the audio visual equipment in all meeting rooms.

St. Mary's County Library was awarded \$14,000 through the Public Library Association to hold nearly 50 computer classes and digital literacy trainings.

Leonardtown Library held several Indigenous History events in partnership with the Piscataway Tribe and acquired several unique pieces of art that will be on permanent display in the Maryland Room.

Friends of the St. Mary's County Library held two very successful book sales during FY 2025, and have raised over \$974,000 and counting for St. Mary's County Library.





*I'm just in awe of how many wonderful programs you have,
It's amazing what the library does"*

-Jan, Lexington Park Library customer

"This is the nicest place to walk into because you all always smile."

-Charlotte Hall Library customer

And there's more!

Lexington Park Library raised \$96,000 for a new family-focused Makerspace! A matching TEDCO grant was awarded in mid-2025 that will allow the space to start construction in early 2026.

Lexington Park Library has already purchased many of the pieces of equipment for the Makerspace including pottery wheels, chompsaw, glowforge, large format printer, and so much more! Watch for upcoming events to try out the equipment!

Leonardtowntown Library's Makerspace added two new 3D Printers. Charlotte Hall Library and Lexington Park Library each added a new 3D Printer.

St. Mary's County Library launched Perks Partners in January 2025. If you are a current Library card holder, you can now visit 22 local businesses to receive 10% off your purchase! (Some exclusion may apply.) All you have to do is show your Library card (or your card in the Library app) at the time of purchase.



The library is a great place for kids. That room back there (the children's area) is a magic room. You guys are very crafty!

-William, Leonardtown Library customer

"You guys are always so friendly and helpful. Every time I come, it's just awesome!"

-Leonardtown Library customer



Financials

Total budget: \$5,614,007

Total Budget by Source:

- Local: \$4,318,036
- State: \$948,721
- Federal: \$0
- Grants (incl. LSTA): \$95,009
- Fines, replacements, services: \$87,047
- Donations (incl. Friends of the Library): \$122,277
- Other (interest, etc.): \$25,696
- Use of Fund Balance: \$17,221
- Capital: \$0

Expenditures: \$5,614,007

- Personnel: \$4,309,227
- Materials: \$334,727
- Furniture & Equipment: \$207,466
- Other: \$762,587

Personnel (Total FTE, normalized to 40 hours work week): 52.5

Information (Reference) Questions Answered: 14,138

Registered Borrowers (Active in last 3 years): 35,436

Number of Library Visitors: 331,501

Number of Programs and Attendance:
1,749 programs; 35,535 attendance

Meeting and study room use: 7,692 sessions

"Let me just tell you: every time I've been in here, you all have been so friendly and helpful. I'm new to the area and I'm always so impressed with this Library"

-Lexington Park Library customer

"This library has been a godsend for me and my family."

-Lexington Park Library customer



Materials Owned

Materials Owned:

- Total Count – 287,565
 - Print – 118,177
 - Physical Video – 19,036
 - Physical Audio – 2,278
 - Other Physical - 226
 - eBooks – 77,592
 - eAudio - 65,416
 - eVideo – 4,840
- Electronic Collections - 24

Circulation

Total Circulation: 1,027,029

- Total Physical Circulation: 808,701
 - Adult: 339,527
 - Children: 432,358
 - In-House: 36,816
- Total Digital Circulation: 218,328
 - Adult: 188,281
 - Children: 30,047

Interlibrary Loan - ILL (received and loaned)

- Received: 3,350
- Loaned: 6,570