

**BEHIND EVERY GREAT COMMUNITY
IS A GREAT LIBRARY**

SAYREVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



SAYREVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Susan Kaplan

A THRIVING LIBRARY FOR A THRIVING COMMUNITY

2014 was another extraordinary year for Sayreville Library. We continued to offer outstanding programming and give residents the opportunity to explore and learn, whether it be a new author, a foreign film, a classical music CD, or a nutrition workshop.

HELPING SAYREVILLE LEARN

- Computer classes to narrow the digital divide between computer users and non-users
- Financial workshops for help with personal and small business finance
- Information professionals offer accurate, timely research and answers
- Test preparation guides and free online instruction
- Online homework help
- Print, audio, and video instructional materials
- Quiet spaces, wifi, and reliable computers and printers
- Convenient evening and weekend hours and ample parking
- Free loans enable people to explore new authors, genres, documentary films and classics at no cost

HELPING SAYREVILLE GROW

The library offers collections and programs for all age groups, beginning with early childhood literacy. We support the changing curricula of the Sayreville schools by adding STEM programs and supporting summer reading. Parents of college-bound students fill our programs on college entrance and financial aid. Adult programs enable exploration and discovery for lifelong learning. Our growing collections of audiobooks and large print books are accessible for those with diminished vision. Our DVDs, music CDs, foreign language learning CDs, and cookbooks help families share their ethnic culture with the next generation.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

- Meet Your Neighbors @ the Library – the fifth event in this series celebrated the Indian community
- 514 children registered for the Summer Reading Club and logged 8,659 hours of reading time. 110 adults participated in the Adult Summer Reading Program for 2014, submitting hundreds of reviews in person and many on the Library's Facebook page.
- 274 patrons attended 39 computer classes
- Teen patrons participated in a Teen Robodyssey Competition
- New Jersey at 350 month-long celebration complete with birthday cake!

Sayreville MYTHBUSTERS

“Do people still go to the library?”

Over 214,700 visitors last year – 600-900 people a day!

“Only children use the public library”

Adult library users account for over 60% of circulation

“These days the library only lends out videos”

Only one third of circulation is audiovisual materials

“Nowadays everyone has a computer and everything is free online”

- 1. Not everyone has computer and Internet access.**
- 2. Not everyone has computer skills.**
- 3. Reliable online information is often hard to find and not free.**
- 4. The library is the only local provider of free computer access, help using computers, and computer classes**

“The library is only for books”

**Yes, and films
and downloadable audiobooks and ebooks
and music
and online courses
and workshops
and English conversation groups
and book discussion groups
and movie showings
and performers
AND ANSWERS!**

OUR VALUED PARTNERS

The Friends of the Sayreville Public Library continued to provide essential fundraising and volunteer support.

2014 revenues \$6245

2014 purchases mainly supplemented the library programming budget:

- Co-sponsorship of the Summer Reading Club Kickoff celebration
- Sponsorship of library programs
- Staff appreciation holiday luncheon

Adult and teen volunteers contributed hundreds of hours of their time preparing program handouts. They also provided occasional clerical support and packed items for Sayreville Day.

Sayreville Schools

Supporting Sayreville's teachers, students and parents:

- Practice SAT sessions
- Online study and practice for standardized tests
- Programs for college-bound students and their parents
- Visits to elementary schools and hosting nursery school classes
- Annual purchase of books for school reading contests and assignments
- Hosting test preparation sessions

Groups of students with special needs from **New Road School** and **Academy Learning Center** worked at the library one morning each week, re-shelving materials and cleaning tables and bookshelves. Several groups from other schools and group homes visited the library weekly.

Literacy Programs of New Jersey ran conversation groups and one-on-one tutoring for English as a second language.

LMxAC automation consortium enabled the joint purchasing of integrated library system software, centralized servers, and IT personnel. LMXAC expands our collections by enabling reciprocal borrowing with 28 area libraries. LMXAC trustee training workshops were attended by Sayreville trustees.

New Jersey State Library

- Per Capita State Aid
- Statewide Databases

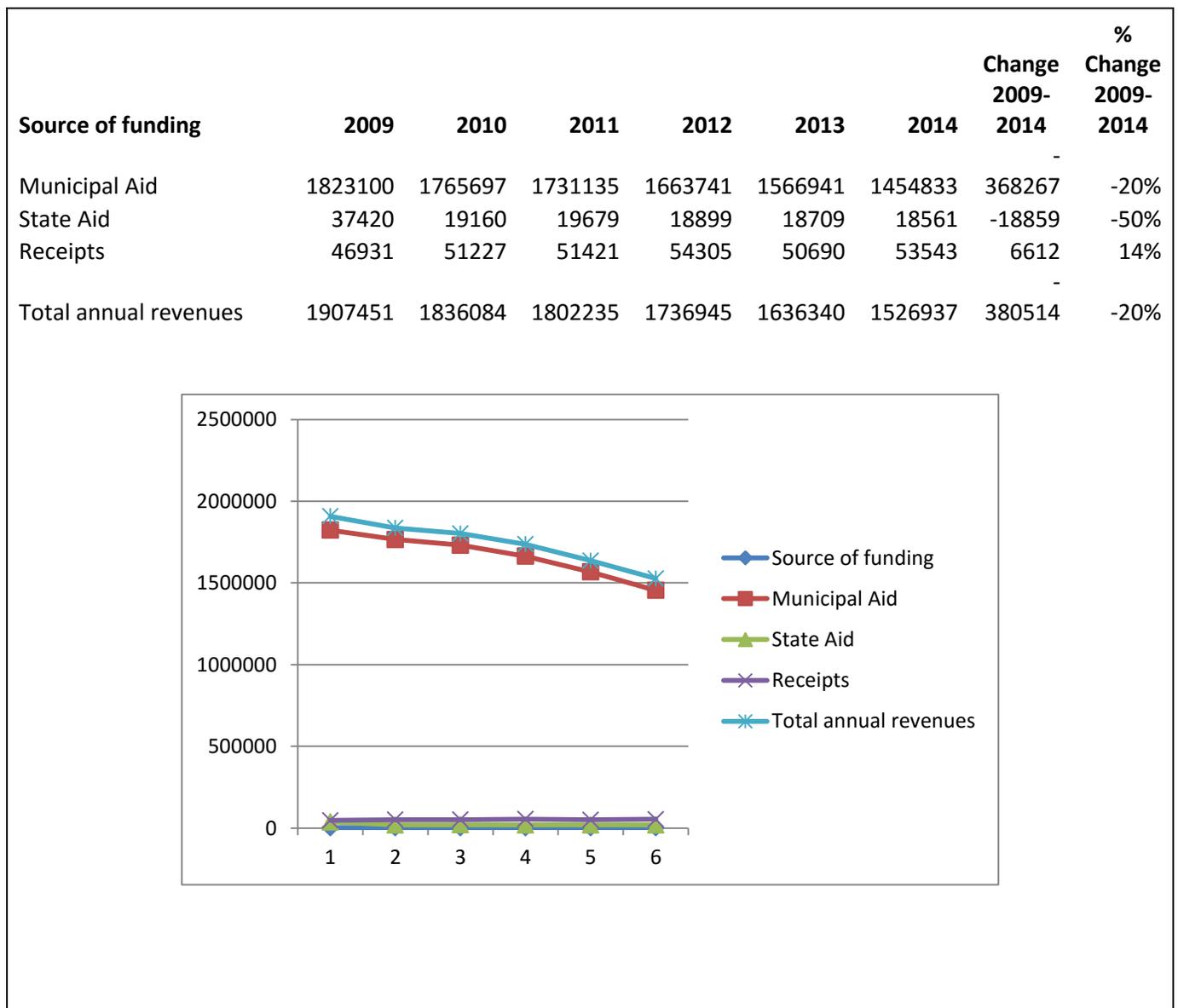
NJ Cultural & Heritage Commission

For the fifth consecutive year, the library was awarded a grant to present "Meet your neighbors @ the library". The 2014 event celebrated the Indian community.

Libraries of Middlesex provides a forum for library directors to share information and foster cooperation. LMX sponsors Books to Keep, a December program to collect new children's books and distribute them to needy families.

LIBRARY FUNDING

The library is funded by municipal aid, state aid, and receipts from fines and fees. Municipal aid is set by statute at 1/3 of a mil (33 cents per \$1000) of the total equalized valuation of the municipality. This formula adjusts automatically in response to fluctuations in property values. Due to lower equalized valuation of property, municipal aid has decreased every year from 2009-2014. State aid has decreased every year since 2008 and is now 1% of library funding. In 2014 surplus library funds initially reserved for capital improvements were used to supplement the operating budget to sustain the current service levels.



**SAYREVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
2014 RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

	# of Uses	Per Use Value	Total
Adult Books Borrowed	54,300	\$17.00	\$923,100
Children's/YA Books Borrowed	76,839	\$12.00	\$922,068
Magazines Borrowed	2,867	\$5.00	\$14,335
Newspapers Browsed	1,300	\$1.50	\$1,950
Movies Borrowed	47,995	\$9.95	\$477,550
Audiobooks Borrowed	5,787	\$9.95	\$57,581
CD's Borrowed	9,078	\$9.95	\$90,326
E-books borrowed	11,238	\$10.00	\$112,380
Magazine Use in Library	9,600	\$5.00	\$48,000
Interlibrary Loan	9,125	\$25.00	\$228,125
Meeting Room Use per hour	72	\$50.00	\$3,600
Adult Programs Attended	2,837	\$15.00	\$42,555
Children's Programs Attended	4,104	\$7.00	\$28,728
Hours of Computer Use	24,048	\$12.00	\$288,576
Reference Questions Answered	7,500	\$7.00	\$52,500
Database searches	7,575	\$20.00	\$151,500
Total Value of Library Use			\$3,442,874
Total 2014 Expended			\$1,646,062
Value of services per dollar spent			\$2.09

STATE OF THE LIBRARY FACILITY AND GROUNDS

The library building and grounds are maintained and necessary repairs are performed by the Borough of Sayreville. Some systems and equipment, such as HVAC, are maintained by commercial services and paid from library operating budget funds. Routine maintenance is performed by a designated Borough employee and is paid from the library budget.

SHORT RANGE ASSESSMENT

The present condition of the building is satisfactory; but its original furnishings are in need of replacement or additional maintenance:

- The meeting room should be renovated as a multipurpose room to accommodate current and future programming goals. Additional space would enable us to increase the room's capacity to meet community demand.
- The largest rooftop HVAC unit has been repaired and patched repeatedly and will be replaced in 2015.
- The lobby has outlived its usefulness. It should be renovated to alleviate crowding at the circulation desk and to accommodate traffic patterns for patrons entering the building. The circulation desk and the circulation workspace should be renovated to meet current needs for additional checkout terminals and more processing space.
- The walls throughout the building are dirty and wallpaper adhesive stains can be seen in several areas. The wallpaper should be removed and the walls either repapered or painted.
- The carpeting is worn and discolored and should be replaced in all areas except the children's room and Quiet Room.
- The basement should be remodeled to meet current needs for storage and temporary workspaces. The staff break room should be renovated.
- Window panes should be replaced with energy efficient UV glass to eliminate drafts and glare.

LONG RANGE ASSESSMENT

The current facility was built in 1968 and additions were done in 1979 when the population was at 20,000. Its 19,000 square feet do not enable the library to meet the needs of the current or future population. There is not enough space to house library collections or enable additional classes, programs and meetings.

2014 BALANCE SHEET

2014 revenue

Municipal aid	\$1,454,833	
State aid	\$18,561	
Receipts	\$53,543	
Grants/donations	\$1,000	
Total 2014 revenue		\$1,527,937
*Surplus funds		\$143,041
Total 2014 revenues		\$1,670,978

2014 expenditures

Salaries and wages	\$969,581	
Benefits	\$298,578	
Materials and supplies	\$162,484	
Other general expenses	\$215,420	
PCSA (state aid) expenses	\$23,915	
Grant program expenses	\$1,000	
Total 2014 expenditures		\$1,670,978

*Surplus library funds previously set aside for capital improvements were used to supplement library revenues and maintain service levels.