



# Annual Report

2020-2021



"Library space should be inclusive for everyone. Our library is a community hub, a place to gather, learn, grow and connect."

- Pam Williams

## A Message from the Director

One of the results of conducting business during a pandemic is providing space for people to function that is inclusive and welcoming to everyone. The reduction in foot traffic due to Covid-19 provided an opportunity for assessing and improving the space in the library building. Keeping in mind the changing landscape of the library space and recognizing the needs of our community, we are committed to presenting the library as a community hub, a place to gather, learn, grow and connect. This past year we met these goals by:

- Replacing upstairs carpeting with the financial backing of the Friends of the Library group.
- Making space for new ways to meet through the construction of two collaboration rooms, with a capacity of up to 5 people per room. Rooms can be utilized for video conferencing, small group work and tutoring. Reservations can be made or check at the front desk for availability. Thank you to the Gleaner Bavarian Arbor #762 for providing the funding for the technology in these rooms.
- Adding hotspots and Chromebooks for check out. Upgrading our public computers for a faster, seamless user experience.
- Merging all our e-content at one site (Overdrive/Libby) and making it available from anywhere.
- Joining the Valley Library Consortium to increase available materials from 29 other partner libraries. This improvement helped us launch a new cataloging system and brought back our library app.
- Increasing community partnerships and optimizing programming venues.

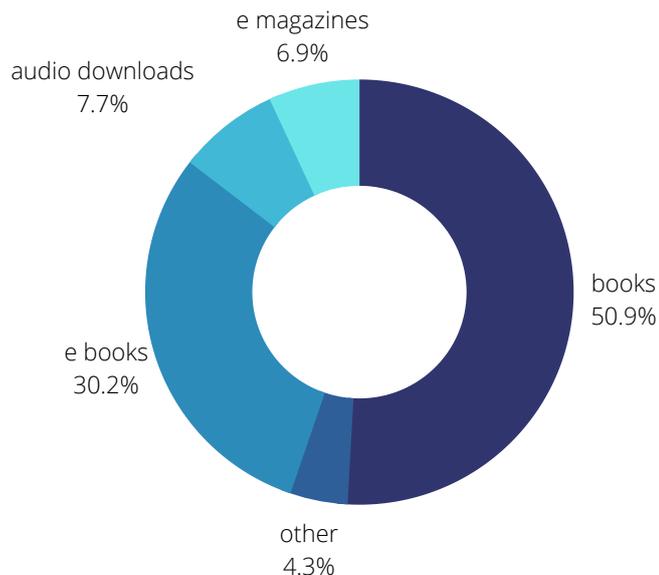
Within these pages you will find an annual report for your library. What a great opportunity to look back at what was accomplished and look forward to the challenges ahead. We are proud of what we were able to accomplish with your support.

359 S Franklin  
Frankenmuth, Mi 48734  
phone 989-652-8323 fax 989-652-3450  
[www.wicksonlibrary.org](http://www.wicksonlibrary.org)

**CONNECT**  
*Dream*  
**DISCOVER**

Open:  
Monday-Thursday 9am-7pm  
Friday 9am-5pm  
Saturday 10am-2 pm

# What is in the library collection?



**Use MeL for items not found in the VLC collection**

**Download our new vlc mobile app**

**Sign Up for a Library Card!**

**Did you know that signing up for a library card is free? All you need is proof of where you live and in 5 minutes, you will be ready to check out!**

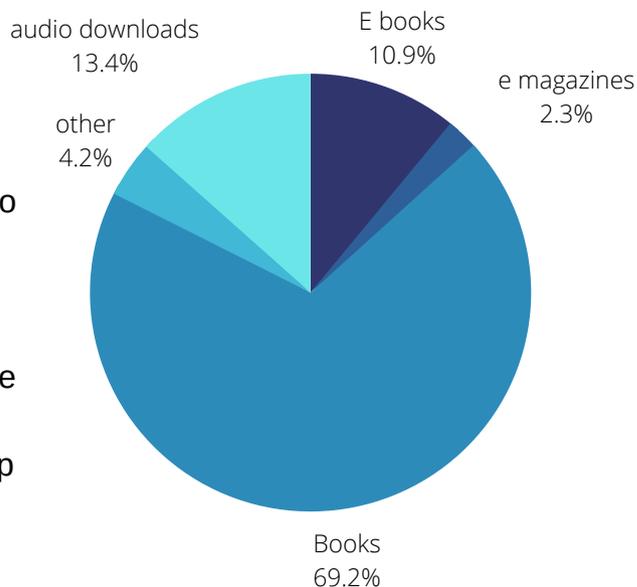
Our collection of over 59,000 items includes books in a variety of formats: regular and large text, audio cds, books paired with audio, digital downloadable books and audio downloads. The library is increasing its collection of "things" for check-out including sewing machines, hotspots, computers, kindle readers and CD and DVD players.

The Frankenmuth Library joined the Valley Library Consortium (VLC) in June of 2021, increasing our collection to 1.9 million books! This partnership reduces costs through shared resources and a cooperative use of an integrated library management system.

We hope you enjoy the wider selection of materials, and the timely manner in which your materials arrive. Every card holder received a new 14 digit number in June. Stop in anytime to pick yours up!

# What circulated last year?

The library circulated **51,710** items last year with physical books topping the numbers. Ebooks, audio books and magazine downloads continue to grow as we made it easier to access through one platform (Overdrive/Libby). It's easy to check out a digital book or audio download from anywhere in the world. Visit our website and follow the links, walk in or make an appointment with a staff member to help you navigate the process.



## Top 10 Titles checked out for Summer/Fall 2021

**Fallen** by Linda Castillo  
**The Good Sister** by Sally Hepworth  
**Stepsisters** by Susan Mallory  
**Golden Girl** by Elin Hilderbrand  
**Distant Shore** by Karen Kingsbury

**Legacy** by Nora Roberts  
**Local Woman Missing** by Mary Kobica  
**Unfinished Business** by Judith Jance  
**21st Birthday** by James Patterson  
**Dogman: For Whom the Ball Rolls** by Dav Pilkey

# What library programs did we offer?

Although in person programming was limited, the library stayed connected through the pandemic with flexible programming. Programs to vulnerable populations were put on hold until health concerns were addressed. Virtual, outside, off campus and limited attendance programming kept our patrons connected to the library. We are happy that many of you have returned to the library this past year, and we are excited to meet new faces every day!



## Early Childhood

**57 programs**

**1135 participants**

Outside and online Story Time sessions, Take and Make Story Time Learning Kits, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, Summer Reading challenges, Paws for Reading and outside creative activities



## Tweens and Teens

**32 programs**

**1010 participants**

Take and Make Kits, Summer Reading challenges, winter bingo reading challenge, passive programming in teen and tween areas, school support resource



## Adults

**25 programs**

**605 participants**

Books for Lunch Book Club, Constitution Seminar on Zoom, virtual birding program, Summer Reading challenges, winter reading bingo challenge, and outside author visits



## Family

**28 programs**

**852 in attendance**

Goose Chase virtual scavenger hunts, community wishing tree, Frankenmuth Farmer's Market events, farm visits, and Geocaching



## Outreach

**over 1000 reached**

Winter Village, Covenant Glen, school and home delivery, school field trips, Alzheimer's support group, meeting and conference room access

## How can you find out what is happening at the library?



**check out these places to see our calendar and program announcements**

- [www.wicksonlibrary.org](http://www.wicksonlibrary.org) website
- Frankenmuth Wickson District Library Facebook page
- @frankenmuthlibrary Instagram account
- Frankenmuth News library column
- Frankenmuth Library lobby bulletin board

# What library services did we offer?

When you needed us most, the library continued to provide you with important services. Installing personal protection equipment and following MiOSHA protocol for cleaning and disinfecting helped us create a safe environment for both staff and the public. The need for communication technology was important as ever as we helped you conduct your business. With the use of grant money, we were able to add technology for digital connectivity, which became useful for families participating in virtual schooling. These resources continue to support our community's need for connecting in a virtual setting.



## Technology

- 11 Hot spots
- 16 Chromebooks
- 24/7 wifi
- 11 public computers that logged **1,955** sessions and **50,451** minutes this year



## Office Services

- We printed **6,356** pages and faxed **672** pages for you this year
- Offered free scanning to email
- Provided one-on-one "technology tutoring" by appointment



## Reference and Reader Advisory

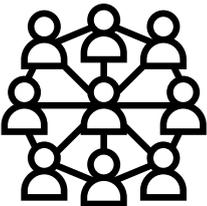
- The Frankenmuth News digital archives logged **2,869** sessions
- Mel was used **2,393** times
- Staff answered over **21,500** reference questions



## Meeting Spaces

We offered a variety of spaces to the public:

- the Mossner silent study
- upstairs tutoring tables
- study areas
- community room reservations
- glass collaboration rooms



## Community Services

- Braille and Talking Book Library demo site
- provided volunteer opportunities

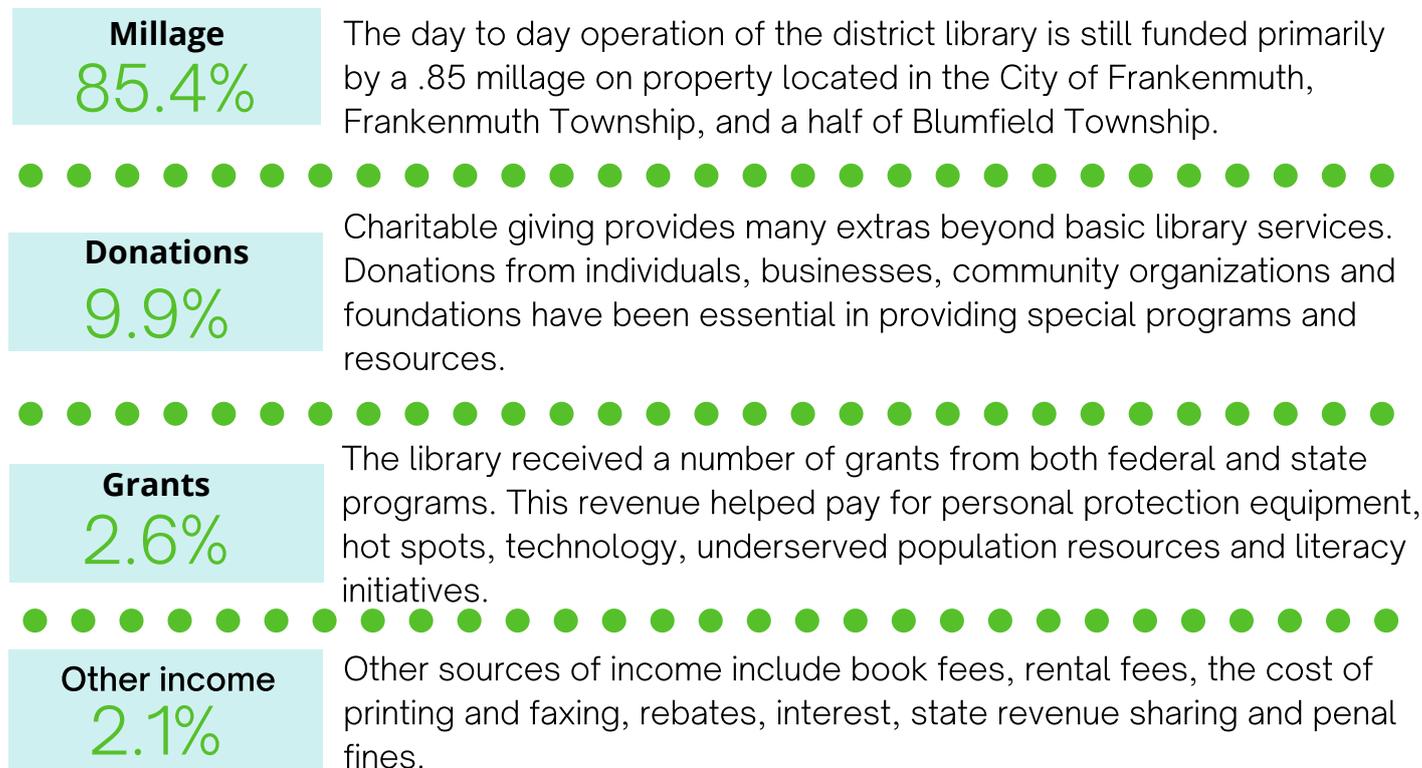
### *We were a drop off location for:*

- Toys for Tots
- Coats for Kids
- school supply drive
- shoe drive

**CONNECT** *Dream* **DISCOVER**

# How was the library funded?

The library functions through a number of funding resources. We are grateful for the value our community places on the library through its generous giving.



According to the iLoveLibraries "value of library use calculator," in 2020-2021, the Frankenmuth Wickson District Library supplied \$921,702.45 worth of resources to our community.

## Summer Reading Sponsors

The library is grateful for the generous donations of these community groups and businesses and their commitment to literacy. These sponsors helped us execute a successful 2021 summer reading program.



## How can you help?



Consider volunteering with our Friends of the Library group. Help organize our book sale and other special events and projects at the library.



The library accepts **monetary donations** to the general fund, as a memorial to someone you would like to honor, or toward the future health of the library in the **Johanson Endowment and Capital Improvement Funds** through the Frankenmuth Foundation. Donation envelopes are available at the library or you can easily donate from our website through **Paypal**.

We also accept **new and gently used books** for our Friends of the Library book sale. Proceeds from this sale go toward our Summer Reading Program and other special projects and library upgrades.

You might also have something the library can use: office supplies, crafting tools and materials, as well as usable technology, are also accepted. We appreciate your generosity.

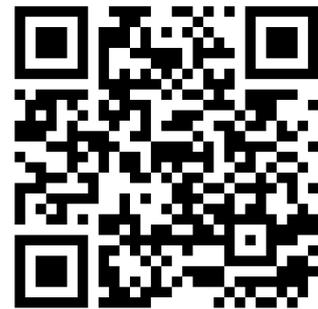
# What is the future of the library?

This year has taught us that the role a library plays in a community should be flexible. Your library met needs during the state shutdown by, among other things, providing masks, helping with unemployment claims and getting you connected to electronic resources. We are excited about the future of Frankenmuth and will be considering ways the library can use resources and partnerships to impact our community. A new strategic plan will be developed this year with a goal of defining our mission, vision and core values. If you would like to be a part of this process, please contact us at the library. Although you may pay taxes for the library, we recognize that not everyone reading this uses the library. We are gathering feedback from regular users and non-users of the library to help assess our current and future library services.

## Take our survey

Help us make our library better than ever by participating in our survey. Scan this QR code with the photo feature on your device to go to the digital copy of the survey. Surveys are also available in paper and digital copy at the library or online at [wicksonlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:wicksonlibrary@gmail.com)

## Scan for survey



## Keep an eye out for:

The return of more in-person programming, a community Story Walk, local author book fair, school literacy initiatives and community partnerships

## Library Mission

The mission of the Frankenmuth James E. Wickson District Library is to provide quality services including books and other materials, programs, facilities and access to all forms of available media to help meet the educational, informational, cultural, and leisure time needs of the Frankenmuth service area.

### Library Staff

Pamela Williams: Library Director  
Kathy Wiese: Assistant Director  
Cheri Stainforth: Early Learning Specialist  
Barb Barger: Youth Services  
Deb Allport: Librarian  
Kelly Philp: Cataloging  
Michelle Duclos: Librarian  
David Woodke; Building Manager  
Roslyn Weedman: Community Relations  
Olivia Zielke: Jr. Librarian  
Emma Maki: Library Page  
Quinn Andreotti: Library Page

### Board of Trustees

Dan Wortman: President  
Lisa Roethlisberger: Vice President  
Sharon Block: Secretary  
Tom Pepera: Treasurer  
Mary Anne Ackerman: Trustee  
Carol Lenard: Trustee  
Amy McAvoy: Trustee  
Susan Todd: Trustee

### Friends of the Library

Nancy Birdsall: President  
Barb Heuvers: Vice President  
Karen Uebler: Secretary  
Kay Maier: Treasurer