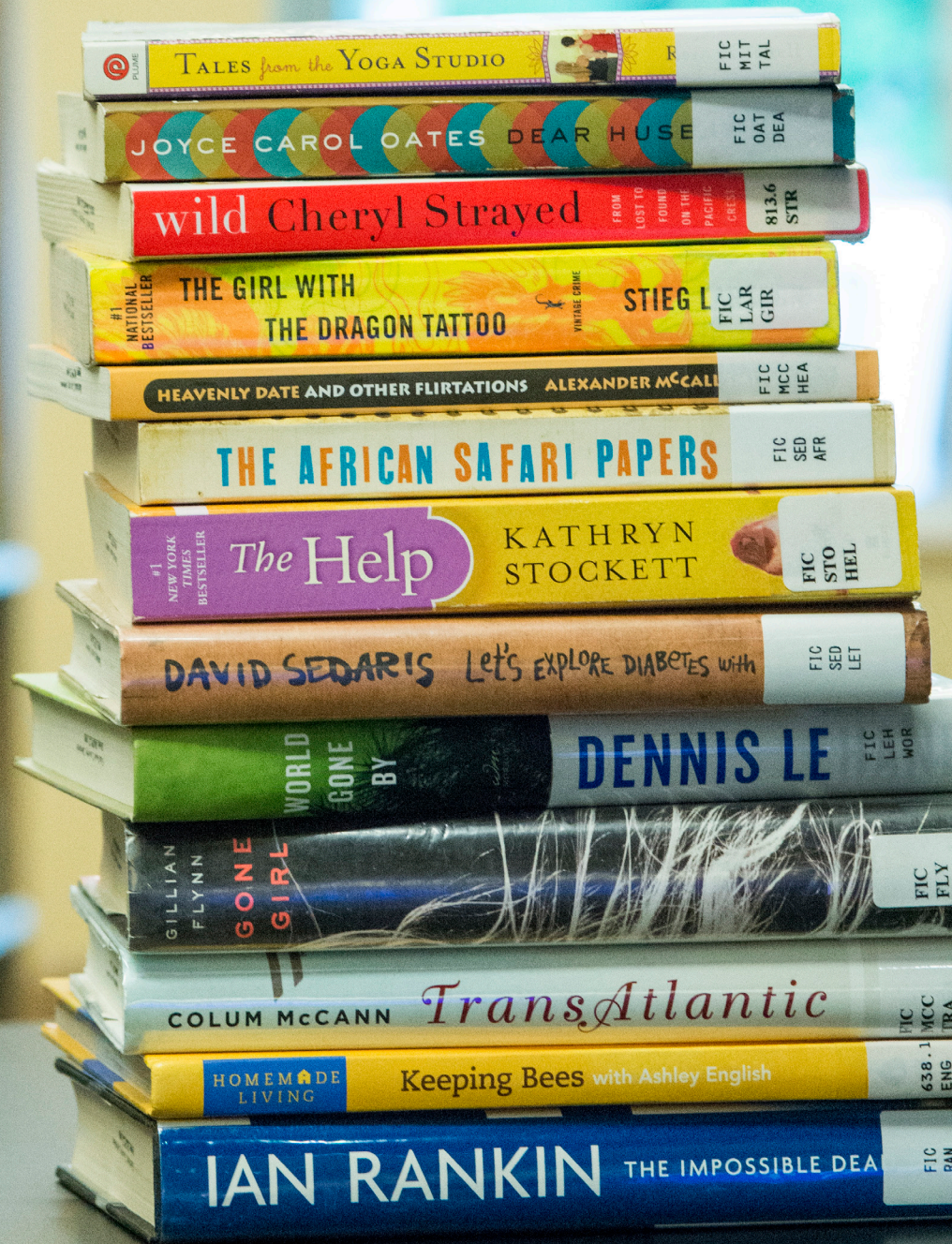


2014

ANNUAL REPORT



Find Your
STORY



GARFIELD COUNTY
LIBRARIES





Mission:

To connect our communities to a world of possibilities.

2014 was another exciting year of growth for the Garfield County Libraries. We shifted focus from building libraries, to building community.

Furthermore, we leveraged a public survey and information-gathering meetings at all our locations to gain a deeper understanding of how we can best serve the people in Garfield County.

In this report you will find the numbers showing what we are doing to support and empower our communities.



Community

In 2014, we undertook an effort to refocus our mission, vision and values. Out of that effort, a marketing study was conducted to better understand how we were communicating the libraries' resources to the community. We learned from the meetings and the survey that we needed to make our message clearer and easier to access. From this effort came five goals and fifteen recommendations on how to improve this part of our services. The full results can be seen on our website.



6

Community Meetings

1,258

Completed Surveys



Library Usage

While library use increased in 2014, use of the library's digital resources exploded. Downloading of eBooks increased by 35% and access to Zinio digital magazines increased by 93%. We put more funds into purchasing popular eBooks and eAudio Books, and a new website made access to these resources even easier. Our consortium also launched a first-of-its-kind database, where the interface became substantially more user-friendly. Additionally, more library users placed holds on materials they wanted, and increased the number of items borrowed from other libraries by 16%.

661,064

Visitors

738,990

Items Borrowed



Education

Storytime remained a strong component of the programming provided for preschool children and their parents. Other events throughout the District included Carbondale's One Book, One Town author visit by Franny Billingsley, Fridays @ Your Library for Garfield County Re-2 students out of school, art receptions in conjunction with Colorado Mountain College, expanded technology trainings, and the annual Summer Reading Program. The MADlab makerspace opened, and offered patrons a chance to try out 3D printers, digital cameras, green screens, Adobe software and more.



7,956

Summer Reading Attendees

42,264

Total Event Attendees



Finances & Support

Revenues were up in 2014, but we continued to be impacted by refunds from the Nobel Gas Settlement, which were withheld throughout the year and reduced sales tax income by \$400,000.

The Garfield County Public Library Foundation continued to provide financial support to the libraries, board books to new babies through local doctor's offices, and books on grieving through Hospice of the Valley. Ongoing book sales also provided financial support to the libraries, and Friends hosted fundraisers for additional support.

Grants, private donors, and partners provided support for specific projects. Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District approved two grants; one for hearing loops in four facilities, and the other to complete a meeting room on the second floor in Rifle.

13.1

Borrowed Items Per Capita

\$5.61

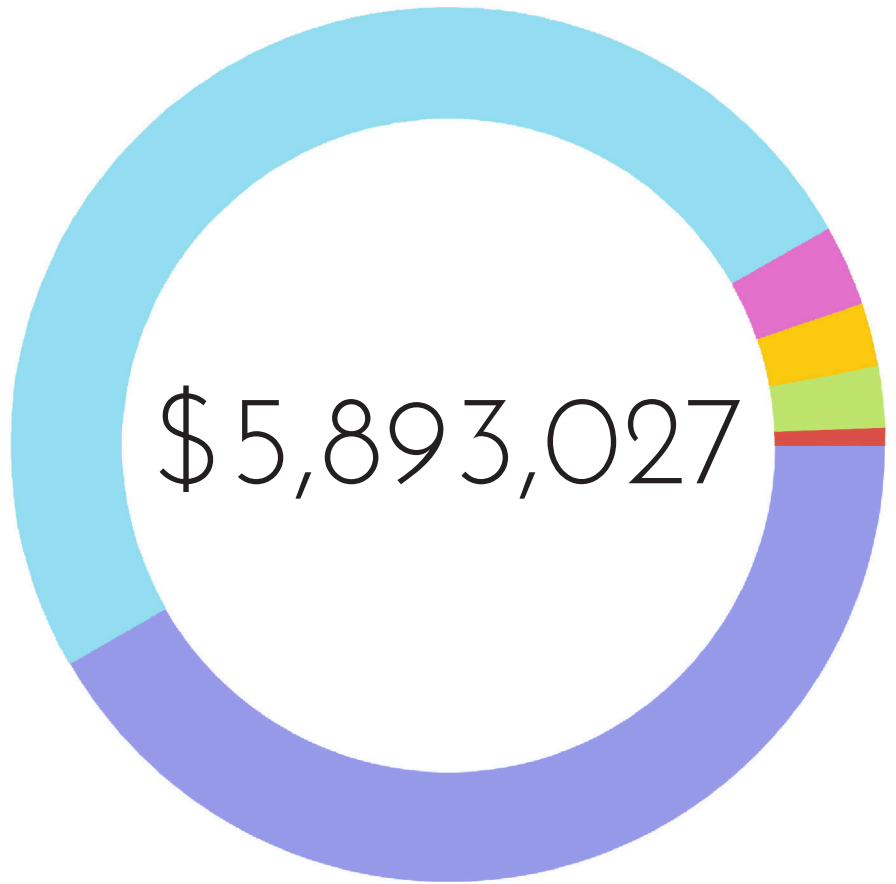
Return Per Dollar Invested*

*ROI calculated by using data from the Library Research Service (www.lrs.org).



Revenues

- Sales Tax
- Property Tax
- SO Tax
- Grants, Etc.
- Interest
- Fines & Forfeitures



Expenses

- Employee Costs
- Library Materials
- Debt Service
- Building Overhead
- Operating / Other





Our Lead Partners

We at the Garfield County Libraries realize that nothing worthwhile can be accomplished in a vacuum.

There are incredible organizations throughout our area, and we are proud to call some of them partners!

Literacy Outreach

Raising A Reader

Gus the Bus &
The Sunshine Bus

Colorado Mountain
College



With Special Thanks to our Donors & Grantors

Gerald and Wanda Adams
Alpine Bank - New Castle Branch
Alpine Bank - Rifle Branch
Alpine Bank - Glenwood Springs Branch
Kelley Amdur
Kathleen Arthur
Patty Brennan
The Bridge Friends
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Pat and Alan Conway
Charles and Penny Donelan
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Dr. Megan Gamble
Randall and Erin Gorsett
Gary Hershoren and Ilene Harris
Growing Food Forward
Louise Jackson
Johnson Carter Architects
Susan Knox
Pamela Lauman
Lowe's
Roy and Sandra McPherson
Mary Lee Mohrlang

Mountain View Tree Farm
Neil-Garing Agency, Inc.
Ann and David Nicholson
Michael and Wilma Paddock
Jayne Poss
Brian and Kathie Prunty
City of Rifle

American Library Association
Aspen Community Foundation
Colorado State Legislature
Colorado Special Districts
Colorado State Library
Community Office for Resource Efficiency
Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District
Garfield County Health - Livewell
Kathryn E. Williams Advised Fund
Library Services and Technology Act
National Endowment for the Humanities
Roaring Fork Rotary Foundation
Southside Conservation District Natural Resources Grant
Statewide Internet Portal Authority
USDA

Rifle Creek Stone
Marilee and Gregg
Rippy
Amelia Shelley
L.K. and Peggy Shultz
Bruce Strasinger
Pam Szedelyi

Sandy Tippett-Smith
Leslie Titus
Becky Trembley
RB Turner
Mandi Whitt
Margaret Wierenga
Ella Zupcsek-Rhine