



NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

MARCH 2025



NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2028

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- a. Increase NBPL usage and the number of card holders.
- b. Provide program offerings geared to community needs (social issues, housing, employment, education, health, technology training).
- c. Meet the community where they are (outreach and promotion of services).

GOAL 2: COMMUNITY

- a. Develop and implement DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) initiatives for the particular needs of our Staff, Board of Trustees and New Britain population.
- b. Work with Central Connecticut State University (CCSU), the Chamber of Commerce, New Britain Public Schools, and Religious, Civic and Community Partners to develop programs connecting all of us.
- c. Improve and expand programming and interaction with New Britain youth in grades 6-12, and young adults ages 18-24.
- d. Recruit and appoint members to the Board of Trustees who reflect the diversity of the community including young people.
- e. Expand the reach of NBPL services including ways to go to the community rather than have them come to us, via bookmobiles, traveling programs, etc.

GOAL 3: BUILDING: PROVIDE HEALTHY, SAFE SPACE AT NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

- a. Work with the New Britain Institute Board of Managers to monitor the NBPL endowment and the use of funds to maintain and improve its buildings.
- b. Continue monitoring and funding building improvements.
- c. Complete fundraising for Phase II of outdoor renovations.
- d. Create a fundraising plan for parking lot entrance renovation.
- e. Explore additional small meeting rooms and a small business center.
- f. Expand space or change location of Local History Room and explore the possibility of re-establishing a New Britain Historical Society.

GOAL 4: OPERATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

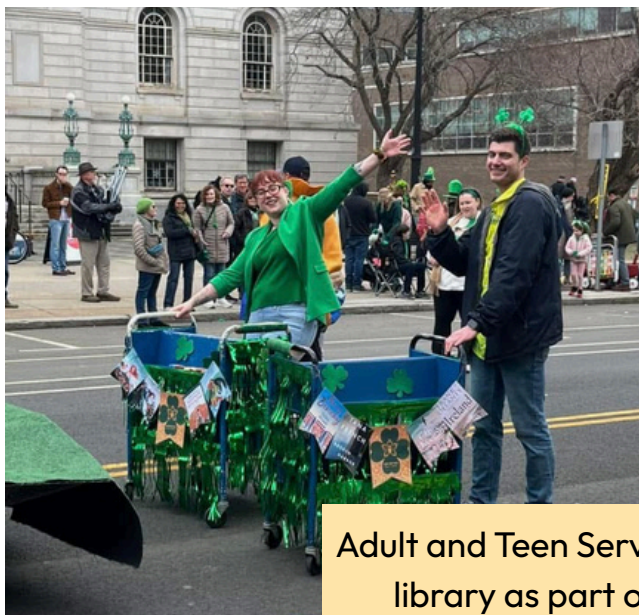
- a. Review personnel policies and procedures.
- b. Conduct a Staff climate survey annually in order to promote a positive, creative and inclusive culture.
- c. Review backup and recovery supports for all technological systems; adjust as needed.
- d. Expand training opportunities for Trustees in the areas of DEI, fundraising, library services and programming.
- e. Invite staff to make quarterly presentations on programs and/or services to the Board so members can be better stewards of the NBPL.

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

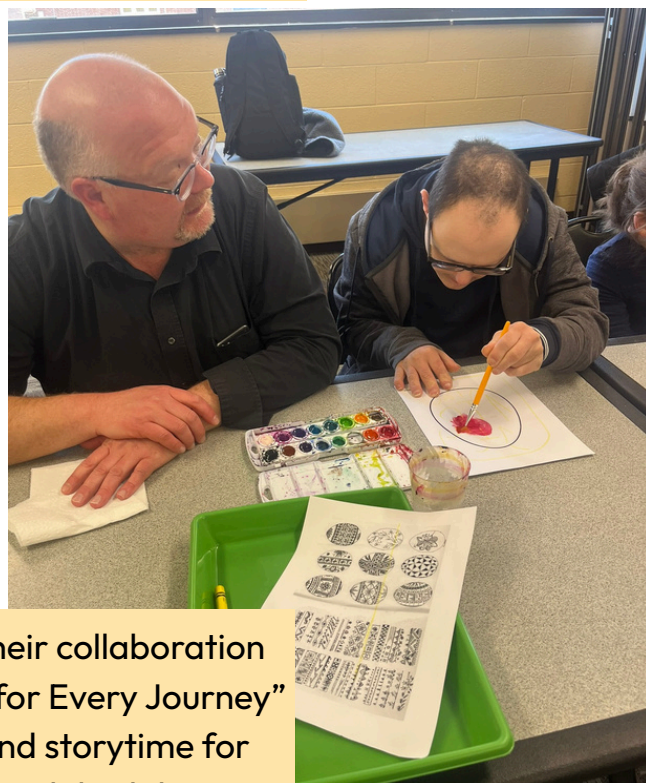
ADULT SERVICES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

& GOAL 2: COMMUNITY



Adult and Teen Services represented the library as part of the New Britain Contingent at the annual Hartford Saint Patrick's Day Parade!



The library started their collaboration with CCARC, "Stories for Every Journey" a monthly activity and storytime for adults with intellectual disabilities

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADULT SERVICES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

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Adult, Teen, Children's and the Makerspace all collaborated in hosting a Connecticut Invention Convention competition at the library, culminating in a display of invention and achievement.



We welcomed back the New Britain Symphony Orchestra for a Steel Drum Concert!

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADULT SERVICES AND MAKERSPACE

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

& GOAL 2: COMMUNITY

Kari Burgess, Head of Adult Services & Community Engagement (left) and Amaly Zubeidy, Makerspace Coordinator, brought the Makerspace to the New Britain Reads, New Britain Leads Fundraiser held on March 20th.

A 3D printer was on display, showing the process of creating a project.

Many finished projects were also on display, including jewelry, 3D-printed objects, buttons, stickers, and more—all created in the Makerspace.



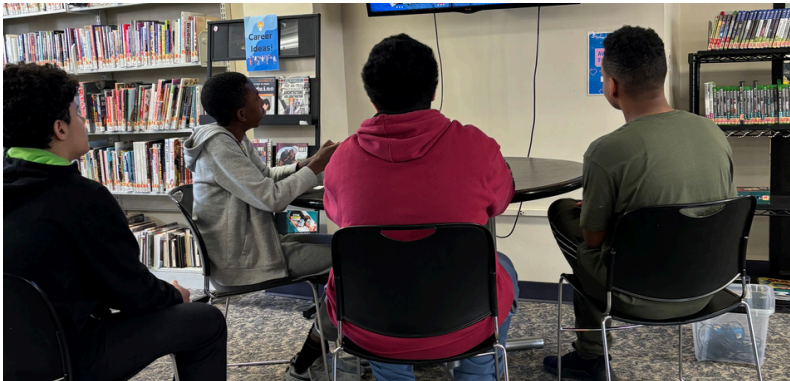
Attendees were invited to use paint pens to decorate earrings, necklaces, or keychains (each made in the Makerspace with the Glowforge laser printer) as a fun project to complete at the fundraiser and take home.

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUNG ADULT SERVICES

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

& GOAL 2: COMMUNITY

Another video game tournament was hosted due to multiple requests by teens to continue. (Goal 2c) . A Nerf program was also held, where teens had the chance to test their aim by shooting at targets set up around the teen room.



The Teen department was present at the New Britain Reads, New Britain Leads fundraiser to show off various teen services to donors, with a special demonstration of our VR headset. The Invention Convention program also finished, with all of our participants getting accepted to the state finals.



NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

& GOAL 2: COMMUNITY



In March, the Children's Department started offering Saturday programming twice a month. We hosted two STEAM programs (lego maze building and paper rocket races). We plan to build on these offerings in the coming months by providing more Saturday programs. (Goal 1 & 2)



The Children's Department table at New Britain Reads, New Britain Leads featured puppets, each that came with their own story. Visitors could also make a bookmark from provided materials.



We also continued our weekly meeting of the Crafty Creative's Club. Our most well attended craft was library bag decorating where we had 22 attendees! (Goal 1)

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY


CIRCULATION

GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

& GOAL 2: COMMUNITY



Chloe Santana, Elizabeth Tucker and Lucy Werkheiser enjoyed highlighting the Circulation Department at our New Britain Reads, New Britain Leads Fundraiser held on March 20th.



Elizabeth Tucker created a festive St. Patrick's day display for the fiction area.




March 2025

168 New Cards

104 Cards Renewed

11603 Total Cardholders

21604 Items Circulated



Fifty-five books were delivered to eight home bound patrons in March. (Goal 1c: Meet the community where they are)

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY TECHNICAL SERVICES



GOAL 1: PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Louise and Janet volunteered to table at the **New Britain Reads, New Britain Leads** fundraiser. Armed with book giveaways, newly designed bookmarks, and information on the life flow of library materials, they did an exceptional job representing the Technical Services department and our everyday contributions to the Library!

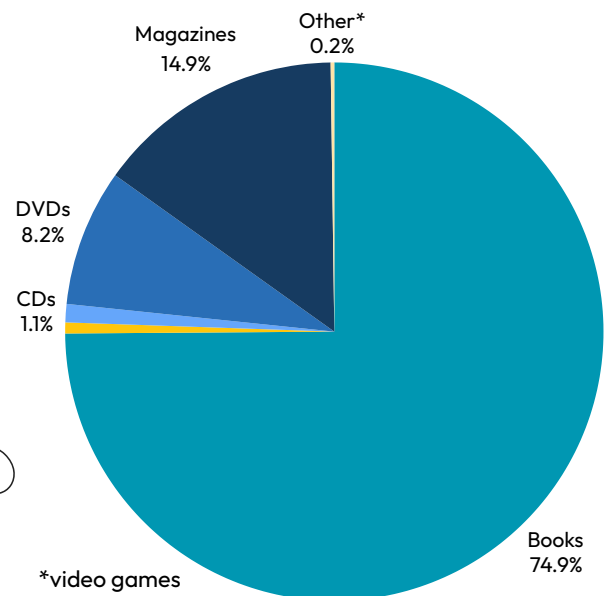
Our projects in March included the ongoing work of increasing access **(Goal 1a)** through relabeling the adult fiction collection, adding spine labels to Children's graphic novels, and working with our colleagues at LCI to make improvements within our bibliographic database

We continued to assist with coverage for the Children's department, as well as other public service points

924 Items Added
1277 Items Withdrawn
45 Items Mended
66 Orders Coordinated
583 Bibliographic Records Managed



BREAKDOWN OF ITEMS ADDED BY TYPE



NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



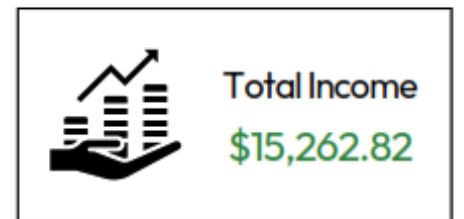
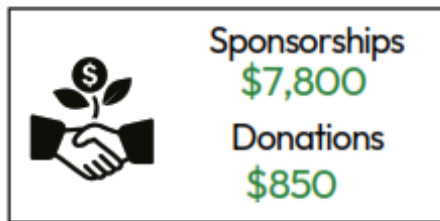
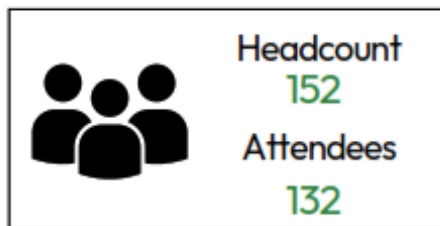
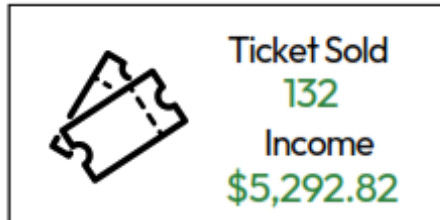
The Library Board of Trustees held its 9th annual fundraiser, New Britain Reads New Britain Leads, on March 20th at the Crystal Ballroom of New Britain. The event featured keynote speaker, Emely Rumble, an author, psychotherapist, and New Britain High School alumna. As well as honored The Friends of the New Britain Public Library for their 50 years of service. Each department was represented at the event with a table showcasing their services. The event was well attended by community and non-community members, local partners and organizations, sponsors, and staff. An outcome report of the event can be found on the next page.



NEW BRITAIN READS NEW BRITAIN LEADS

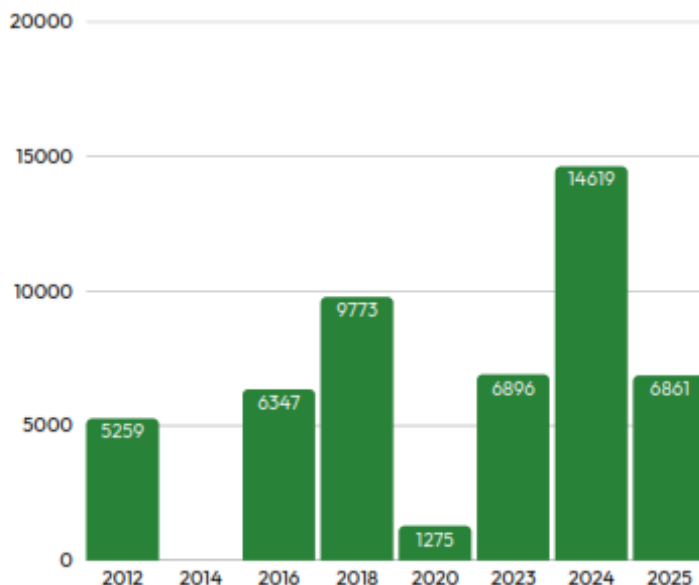


2025 Outcome Report



Literary Libations Profit Year-Over-Year Comparison

● Profit (\$)



Expenses



Food, Beverage & Venue - \$6,130.98

73%



Printing, Postage & Marketing - \$1,467.80

17%



Music - \$500

6%



Decorations & Supplies - \$216.52

3%



Finance & Permit Fees - \$86.17

1%

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

GOAL 3: BUILDING PROVIDE HEALTHY SAFE SPACE AT NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

IN PROGRESS



Study Room Project: The construction of the Study Rooms in the Cooper Building is still underway. Floor leveling, painting, header installation, drop ceiling grid, and HVAC have been installed. The final installation of the study room walls and doors are currently underway, once completed electrical and HVAC final tie-ups will be completed. Furniture is anticipated to be delivered at the end of April. Technology is currently being quoted for each of the rooms by the Library's IT Dept.

The Study Rooms will serve as multi-functional spaces to provide quiet space for studying or meeting one-on-one, or conference spaces for larger groups. Patrons, staff, and local organizations will be able to utilize these rooms free of charge through a reservation system or walk-in upon availability.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- Island for the Circulation/Reference Desk
- Erwin Wing Roof Replacement
- Cooper Wing Partial Roof Replacement
- Replacement of Heat Grates in Children's Dept.
- CCTV Surveillance Upgrades to Building Exterior
- Waterproofing of Hawley Basement