



# Booth & Dimock Memorial Library



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



**July 2024-  
June 2025**

**Coventry,  
Connecticut**

# Personnel



## LIBRARY STAFF

## LIBRARY BOARD

Margaret Khan, MLIS  
Library Director

Joseph Jankowski  
President

Kayla Chamberlain, MLIS  
Head of Teen Services & Technology

Tim Timberman  
Vice President

Christa Kiedaisch, MLIS  
Head of Children's Services

Libby Parda  
Treasurer

Jennifer Chretien, MLIS  
Adult Services Librarian

Jacob Orcutt  
Secretary

Kaeleen Barr  
Library Assistant I

Donna Murphy  
Library Assistant II

Carolyn Arabolos  
Trustee

Aubrey Bond  
Library Assistant II

Tasha Murtha  
Shelver

Cory Chilberg  
Trustee

Nora Dexter  
Library Assistant I

Margaret Norris  
Library Assistant I

Richard Pearson  
Trustee

Juliana Didero-Mullen  
Library Assistant I  
Shelver

Caira Peterson  
Shelver

Claire Twerdy  
Trustee

Karen Duhamel  
Lambert, MLIS  
Library Assistant I

Joyce Peterson  
Library Assistant II

Kathleen Willett  
Trustee

Rachel Hora  
Library Assistant II

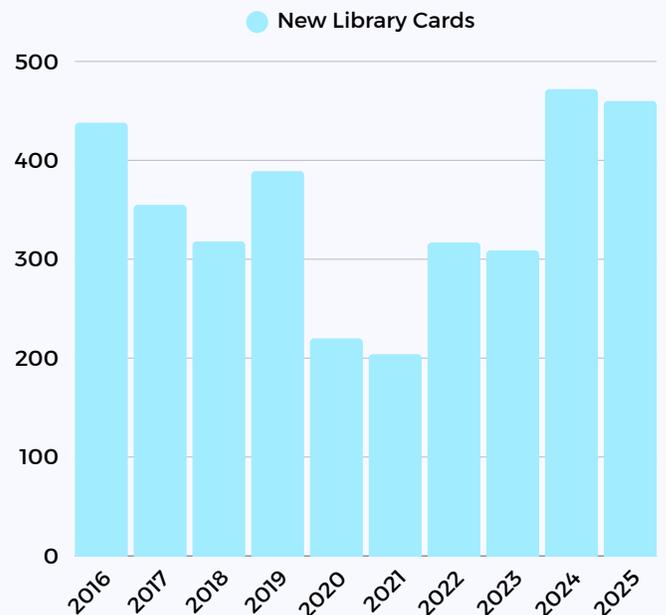
Janette Smith  
Library Assistant II

# Director's Note



The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library had a fun and busy year bringing services and resources to the Town of Coventry. The Library saw increases to total visits, circulation, inter-library loan transactions, programs and program attendance, desktop computer use, Wi-Fi use, and community room use! In particular, circulation and visits are at their highest since 2019, and for two years in a row new library cards are at a 10 year high! We are thrilled that the community has been taking advantage of all the varied (and free) services offered here.

In addition to the increase in services *at* the library, we have also been expanding outreach and developing ways to serve and interact with people *out* of the library. In particular, we focused on visiting the Coventry Farmers' Market, Coventry Senior Center, and Coventry Public Schools. Over the last year we hosted 21 outreach and off-site events that engaged a total of 1,611 people. In the coming years, we aim to continue collaborations with town departments and local organizations to enhance resources and services, and increase accessibility even more.



The new Stave Family Community Room has allowed the library to accommodate more people at larger programs, such as animal visits, puppet shows, yoga classes, and art activities. This year, the library saw a 17% increase in program attendance! The Stave Family Community Room is also available for use to individuals and community organizations—free of charge—and was used 64 times by outside groups.

In March, the Library closed for a few days to allow staff to rearrange the Children’s Room in order to promote collections and expand the play area. Additionally, the newly arranged space created a better flow of traffic, freed up work space around the circulation desk, and contributed to an increase in juvenile circulation. Other facility improvements included updates to the fiber network, made possible by a Fiber to the Library Grant, repairs to gutters on the historic building, and new landscaping.

Throughout the year, Library staff executed the Libraries Transforming Communities Grant awarded by the American Library Association. With this grant, we were able to improve and add services to help neurodivergent adults, including ALERT training for four staff members, a quiet study nook, alternative seating, and more large print books.



All of this would not have been possible without our fantastic and dedicated staff. The Library wants to recognize Adult Services Librarian Jennifer Chretien for her fifth anniversary with the library, and Library Assistant Kaeleen Barr for one year with the library. Thank you!

We hope that you visit the library soon and take advantage of our many services, which you can learn more about in this report.

Sincerely,

**Margaret Khan**  
Library Director

# About the Library



## Mission

The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library provides materials and services to help all residents of the community meet their informational, educational, cultural, and creative needs.

## Services

The Library offers circulating collections of books, magazines, audiobooks, DVDs, video games, board games, and other items. Other free resources include Wi-Fi access, internet accessible computers, programs for all ages, parent and teacher resources, one-on-one technology assistance, reference assistance, inter-library loan, homebound delivery, curbside pick-up, museum discount passes, local history collections, and more!

## Hours

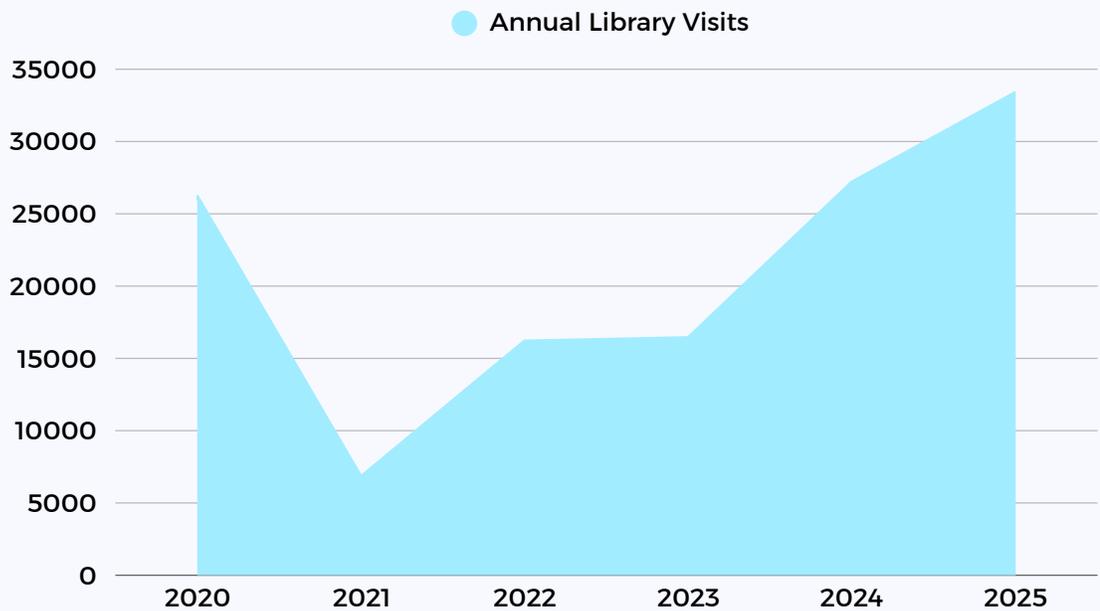
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-8  
 Friday 10-6  
 Saturday 10-3  
 Sunday & Monday - Closed



# Community Use



Usage is tracked several ways, including the number of people who visit the library, the number of reference questions asked, and the number of library cards in use. This year, annual library visits increased 23% from 2024! For the second year in a row, over 450 people signed-up for a new library card. A new library card is a first-time issued card, not a renewal or re-activation. Twenty-eight percent of the population has an active (not expired) library card, on par with the Connecticut average and median.



→ Annual Visits	<b>33,377</b>
→ New Library Cards	<b>460</b>
→ Total Library Cards	<b>3,404</b>
→ Reference Questions	<b>7,104</b>

# Collections



## The Value of Circulating Collections

The Library is home to a collection of over 46,000 items. This includes: books, audiobooks, e-materials, DVDs, puzzles, games, museum passes, and other unique items such as therapy lamps, a metal detector, and a telescope! Booth & Dimock Library utilizes its membership to the Connecticut Library Consortium to purchase books at a discount from a variety of vendors. Over the last year, the Library spent \$26,362 on new books, DVDs, audiobooks, newspapers, magazines, and video games. If an individual were to purchase those items independently, it would cost them over \$40,000!

When taking into account the total value of the items circulated last year, Coventry residents saved a total of \$1,357,031! Instead of buying new materials, community members borrowed them, reducing personal expenses on entertainment, education, and information.

**2,304**



**New Items added in 2025**

**46,114**



**Total Physical Collection**

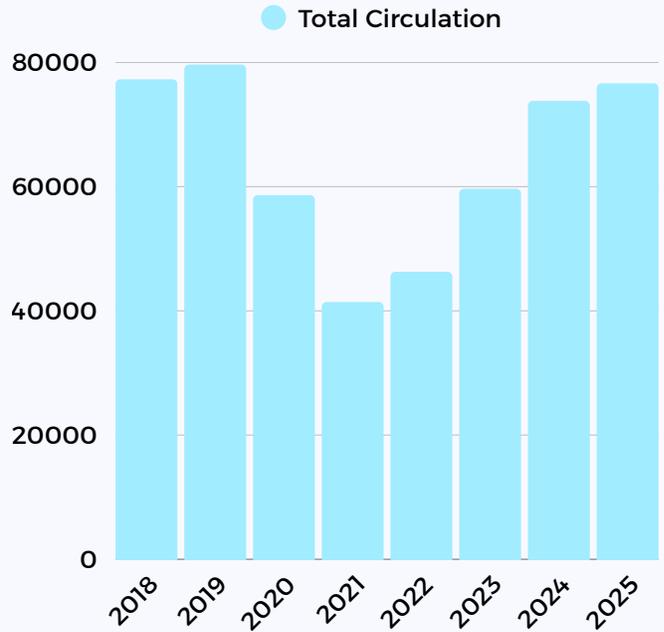
# Circulation



Nearly all of the materials in the library’s collection are available for circulation, and circulation has been rebounding to pre-covid levels after pandemic and renovation disruptions. There were a total of 76,638 circulations over the last year, and an additional 5,947 items were used in the library without being checked out. Included in

the total circulation are inter-library loan (ILL) transactions. Through the Connecticut State Library, and supported by our membership to Bibliomation, Booth & Dimock lent out 4,692 items to other libraries’ patrons, and received 6,862 items from other libraries for our patrons through ILL. Lastly, residents from 47 other Connecticut towns visited Booth & Dimock Library and checked out a total of 4,676 items at our circulation desk!

The number of circulations are tracked two ways. First by materials: books, serials, audiobooks, DVDs, museum passes, electronic materials, and other items. Secondly by age: adult, teen, and juvenile. Below are percentages of adult, teen, juvenile, and electronic circulations as part of total circulation.



**36%**

Adult Circulation

**5%**

Teen Circulation

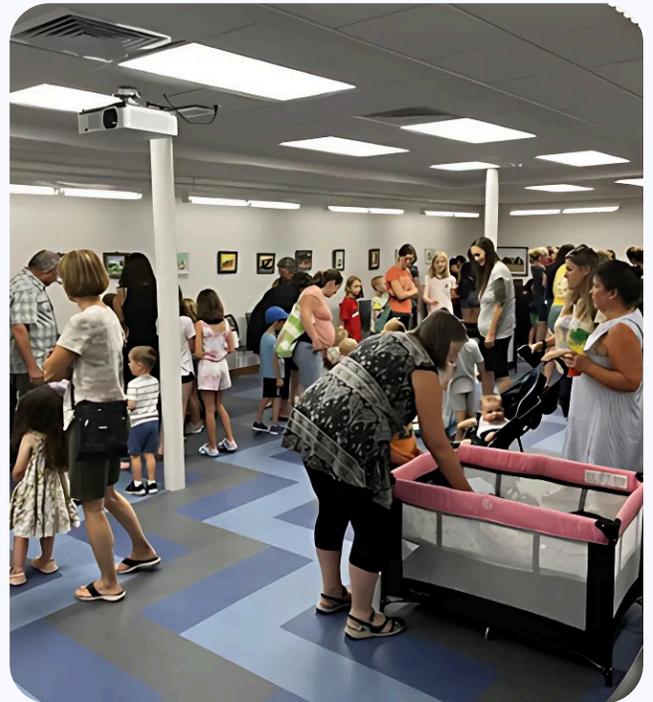
**43%**

Juvenile Circulation

**16%**

Electronic Circulation

# Programs



**285**

### Total Programs

The Library offers programs for children, tweens, teens, adults, and seniors, as well as special all ages programs. Programs take place in-person as a group, in-person at your own pace, by “take-and-make” program bags, or through ongoing self-paced stations.

**9,527**

### Total Participation

Program offerings increased by 28% and program attendance increased 17% over the last year. Our most popular programs included the Annual Ice Cream Social, Horizon Wings Owl Program, Library Laser Tag, Furry Scaly Friends, Tea Explorers, and Spice Life.

**1,621**



### Adult Participation

**600**



### Teen & Tween Participation

**5,961**



### Children Participation

**1,345**



### All Ages Participation

# Technology



Patrons can access free internet on the Library's Wi-Fi, available inside and outside the building, and on desktop computers. In March, the Library updated its desktop computer work stations and added seating to better accommodate the use of laptops and personal devices.

The Library maintains a digital presence on its website and social media accounts, both of which are instrumental in communicating library services and programs.

The following metrics have all increased since the previous year!



→	Wi-Fi Sessions	<b>79,178</b>
→	Wi-Fi Devices	<b>2,330</b>
→	Desktop Sessions	<b>1,907</b>
→	Website Visits	<b>15,989</b>
→	Social Media Reach	<b>88,722</b>

# Booth & Dimock Memorial Library



Phone

**860-742-7606**



Email

**bdlibrary@coventry-ct.gov**



Website

**www.coventrypl.org**



Address

**1134 Main Street Coventry, CT 06238**

