

**To: Greene County Legislature**

**From: Greene County Libraries' Association**

**Re: 2017 Annual Report**



In 2016, Greene County Libraries circulated 316,923 items *an increase of more than 7,000* over 2015.

(Note: 2017 figures are not yet fully available)

At an average cost of \$20 per item, this represents a savings of \$6,338,460 to library patrons/taxpayers. This does not include the cost savings of participating in free programs or having access to online databases such as *Consumer Reports* and hundreds of other magazines, newspapers, and Chilton (car repair) online. Also, community rooms can be reserved, free of charge, to nonprofits. To see what your library can save you, use the Library Value Calculator found on library websites.

Program attendance during this period rose from 28,471 to 28,680.

Library programming included the following:

- Pre-literacy programs for infants and toddlers
- G.E.D.
- Gun safety and permit training and certification
- S.T.E.M. programs including Painting Based on Fibonacci, Elephant Toothpaste and Exploding Slime, DIY Sensory Bottles, Hatching Chicken Eggs, Dino Dig
- Read to a Dog programs for reluctant Readers
- Exercise programs—Qigong, Yoga, Aerobics for Active Seniors, Introduction to Ballet for Kids
- One on one computer instruction and assistance
- Chess Clubs, Lego Clubs, Science Clubs, Coloring Clubs
- Painting, Drawing, Creative Writing for teens and adults as well as lectures. These programs employ local artists and experts.
- In-county programming done by the Museum of Innovation and Science
- Museum passes including Thomas Cole, Olana, and MiSci
- Movies for children, teens and adults
- Summer Reading Programs
- Opioid addiction recognition and NARCON training
- Music concerts
- Space provided to health insurance navigators and tax preparation facilitators
- Collaborations with other organizations including Cornell Cooperative Extension, Greene County Council on the Arts, YMCA, BOCES, Summer Recreation Programs, local businesses for traveling story time programs, local schools, Columbia-Greene Community College and 23arts Initiative .



## County Funding:

County funding helps to equalize library services within the county and to provide services to those county residents who are not within a chartered area. For the **2017** year, \$20,500 of total county funding was divided among the 8 libraries to help offset the costs of serving residents from Halcott, Lexington, Prattsville, Jewett, Durham and New Baltimore.

Residents of these towns have free use of the libraries but are not directly taxed for services.

In **2017**, the remaining county funds were used for the following services:

- \$1,125 went to technical support
- \$1,882 went towards online databases that provide access to reliable health info, business resources, job and career resources, history and genealogy, and homework help.
- \$1,907 went for eBooks and audiobooks\*
- \$1,833 went for tax preparation, outreach (brochures), *Book Pages* subscription, and a subscription to Hudson River Valley Heritage. Hudson River Valley Heritage consists of digital collections from libraries and cultural heritage institutions that document the rich heritage of the Hudson River Valley. Browse by county at <https://hrvh.org>

Expenditure in 2017: \$27,247

*\*In January 2018, an additional \$5,000 of the 2017 funds was dispersed for ebooks and audiobooks to meet increasing requests.*

Total: \$32,247

## In 2016

- \$20,500 went towards Greene County resident support
- \$1,949 went to technical support
- \$2,047 went to online databases
- \$6,927 went towards eBooks and audiobooks
- \$2,278 went towards tax preparation, outreach, and subscriptions

Total expenditure: \$33, 701

