



# Central Rappahannock Regional Library

## Annual Report FY25

JULY 1, 2024-JUNE 30, 2025



*Serving Fredericksburg, Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Westmoreland*

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# Letter from the Executive Director

I am pleased to present Central Rappahannock Regional Library's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025. This report provides the Library's stakeholders throughout Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Westmoreland counties and the City of Fredericksburg with a snapshot of how the library meets the growing needs of the region by improving lives through the transformative power of information, learning, and ideas.

Central Rappahannock Regional Library was created 56 years ago and continues to stand as a model for regionalism locally and in the Commonwealth. It is positioned to assist with the strategic priorities of the funding jurisdictions--most notably, providing quality educational opportunities and in building community.

The Library employs 237 local residents who have a tremendous impact on the communities they serve. Through their work of inspiring lifelong learning for everyone in the community, they fulfill customer requests and provide access to educational opportunities, technology training, and unique experiences, all while maintaining quality service in the face of rising costs.

Area residents continue to rely on their Library for reading and research materials, computers, and gathering spaces that their tax dollars fund, as demonstrated by the increased number of library card holders. Usage of the library is increasing in many areas, including the circulation of eMaterials, use of library computers, meeting and study rooms, and attendance at library classes and events.

As I celebrate the conclusion of my first year as the Library's Executive Director, I am looking forward to another year of collaborating with the jurisdictions to ensure that the Library is able to provide the outstanding customer service and educational opportunities that customers expect from their local public library system.

*Rebecca*

**Rebecca Purdy**  
Executive Director

# Highlights

## Branches Mark Milestone Anniversaries of Public Service

Salem Church Branch celebrated 30 years of serving the public on Thursday, September 19, 2024. In its first week of operation in September 1994, the branch checked out 16,000 books, videotapes, and CDs. This branch was the first in the county to provide public meeting rooms, including a 140-seat theater. Located on a busy road with numerous homes and businesses nearby, Salem Church Branch remains one of Central Rappahannock Regional Library's most-used locations.

On Tuesday, June 17, 2025, the Library's Abraham and William Cooper Memorial Branch in Colonial Beach celebrated 25 years of service. A major renovation in 2000 increased its size to 4,720 square feet, which includes a meeting room that holds up to 50 people.

Aimée Dillon, Westmoreland Branch Services Manager, shared: "Known for its charm and welcoming atmosphere, Cooper Branch is a place where children enjoy storytimes and other engaging events, teens gather at the video gaming center, and adults love having a meeting room to visit with friends at programs..."

Both Salem Church and Cooper branches held cake-and-punch receptions for visitors throughout the day, with special recognition ceremonies in the late afternoon.



## Library Board Votes to Extend Evening Hours at Spotsylvania Branches

At its June 9, 2025, meeting, the Board of Trustees of Central Rappahannock Regional Library approved expanded hours for its Spotsylvania County branches to include additional evenings, effective Monday, August 4, 2025.

"This is a major win for the citizens of Spotsylvania County," said Lori Hayes, Lee Hill District Supervisor and member of the Library Board of Trustees. "We're thrilled to be able to offer the extended access our community deserves. I want to thank my colleagues on the Library Board for their support in making this possible."



# Summer and Winter Reading Challenges

Learn more at [librarypoint.org/reading-challenges](http://librarypoint.org/reading-challenges).

The Library sponsors a number of reading challenges throughout the year to encourage maintaining and growing a healthy reading habit. Without a doubt, the two most popular are the all-ages Summer Reading challenge and the adult Winter Reading challenge.

Readers log books or minutes read, whether on a computer or on paper or on a device via the popular Beanstack app, earning virtual badges and chances to win donated prizes that appeal to book lovers.

While reading is naturally front and center, the Winter and Summer challenges also encourage participants to enjoy seasonal activities offered at the Library. Children and teens enjoy library visits and can have Lunch at the Library, with free, nutritious lunches provided courtesy of Library regional partners.

## Winter Reading challenge

January 1-March 31, 2025

622 total participants

## Summer Reading challenge

May 15-August 15, 2025

2,420 participants

2,939,569 minutes read by youth

3,886 total lunches served to children and teens



Rebecca Purdy, Executive Director for Central Rappahannock Regional Library, added, "Library staff are excited that library customers now have additional time to find books, use computers, and connect with their neighbors at library events and community meetings."

Snow and Salem Church branches' hours are now aligned with those of the Fredericksburg, Howell, and Porter branches. Spotsylvania Towne Centre Branch now follows a similar schedule, with a 10:00 a.m. opening in accordance with Towne Centre's hours.

# Highlights

## Privacy Pods for Public Use

In addition to more traditional meeting room spaces, the new option of privacy pods came to six library branches in 2024. Privacy pods take up minimal space but can be used by one to four individuals, depending on the model, for study, virtual meetings, telehealth appointments, job interviews, and other meetings.

Privacy pods at Fredericksburg, Salem Church, and Porter branches are made possible by a generous donation from the trust of Christopher Finley and Mary Campbell Finley. Pods at all three Westmoreland County branches are provided with support from the Library of Virginia and a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more information about reserving privacy pods, meeting rooms, and study rooms, visit [librarypoint.org/room-request](https://librarypoint.org/room-request).



## New Leadership, Familiar Faces

In FY25, the Central Rappahannock Regional Library community welcomed Rebecca Purdy as its new Executive Director and Adriana Puckett as the new Deputy Executive Director. Rebecca was chosen by the Library Board after a national search that attracted more than 40 applicants.



# Awards

## ■ Virginia Public Library Innovative Service Delivery Award

from the Virginia Public Library Directors Association, recognizing Fredericksburg Branch's vital services to vulnerable populations



## ■ Public Library Innovator Award

from the Virginia Library Association, presented to library staff Craig Graziano, Erin Creighton, Kristi Lisech, and Josie Wold for organizing and coordinating outreach to connect vulnerable populations with local services



## ■ Fredericksburg Parent & Family's 2025 Family Favorites

First-place winner in three categories--Activities & Lessons: Tutoring, Family Fun: Indoor Activity - and- Free Things to Do

Since 2016, she served as Deputy Director, alongside Director Martha Hutzler, before taking on her new post. Rebecca previously served as the library's Youth Services Coordinator.

The new Deputy Executive Director, Adriana Puckett, is also a longtime Central Rappahannock Regional Library employee and served as Collection Discovery Manager, as well as Collection and Customer Services Coordinator.

Both Rebecca and Adriana lead Central Rappahannock Regional Library's mission of providing lifelong learning to everyone in the community. Shortly after assuming their new duties, they traveled to library branches throughout the region to answer customers' questions and take suggestions on improving library services.





# Grants

## **The Community Foundation's Fredericksburg Savings Charitable Foundation Fund** Smart Board technology

This grant was used to purchase additional smart boards for library meeting rooms to allow users the opportunity for teleconferencing. Offering smart boards with video conferencing functionality in the library's public meeting rooms is a key feature of the Ingenuity and Innovation focus of the Strategic Plan.





# Strategic Plan

## Mission

Inspiring lifelong learning for everyone in our region

## Vision

Central Rappahannock Regional Library improves lives through the transformative power of information, learning and ideas to meet the growing needs of our region.

## Key Strategic Priorities

1. Community outreach
2. Customer centricity and inclusion
3. Staff training and development
4. Ingenuity and innovation
5. Meaningful partnerships

## Values

### Learning

We promote learning and literacy in all forms.

### Inclusion

We are committed to maintaining a culture where diversity is celebrated and everyone is included.

### Adaptability

We are agile and responsive, while making resources and services available to all.

### Accountability

We serve as a responsible steward of public resources and trust.

### Community

We provide opportunities to meet, exchange ideas, and participate in the lives of our customers.



BY THE NUMBERS

# How did the Community Utilize the Library in FY25

## Circulation

Materials  
Checked Out

Total FY Circulation

**1,674,069**

Print Circulation

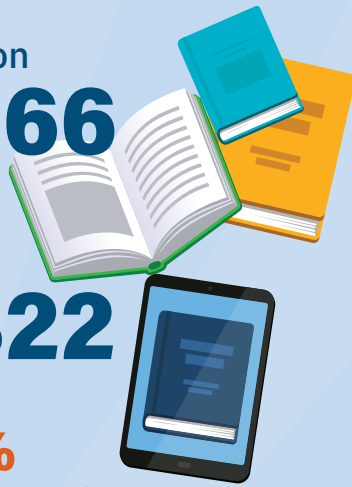
**935,966**

E-Circulation

**683,322**

**8.6%**

increase from previous year



## Meeting & Study Rooms

Spaces for Collaboration  
and Connection

### Meeting Rooms: 21

Total sessions by  
non-library  
groups:

**4,389**

**9.69%**

increase from previous year

Attendees

**65,105**

**10.82%**

increase from previous year

### Study Rooms and Privacy Pods: 21

Total sessions by  
non-library groups:

**21,483**

**8.64%**

increase from previous year

Attendees

**35,689**

**10.66%**

increase from previous year



# Connections

## Library Access Online and in Branches

Total mobile app sessions

**640,019** **12.2%**  
increase  
from previous year



Total website sessions

**1,674,670** **4.7%**  
decrease  
from previous year

Total database sessions

**300,000+**



Total public computer sessions

**369,323** **8.5%**  
increase  
from previous year



Total visits to library buildings

**1,099,975**



Registered Cardholders



**266,159** **4.78%**  
increase  
from previous year

New registered accounts

**12,996**

New Library Cards for Kindergarteners

**433**

**13,871** Volunteer hours

Total program attendees

**64,522** **3.74%**  
increase  
from previous year

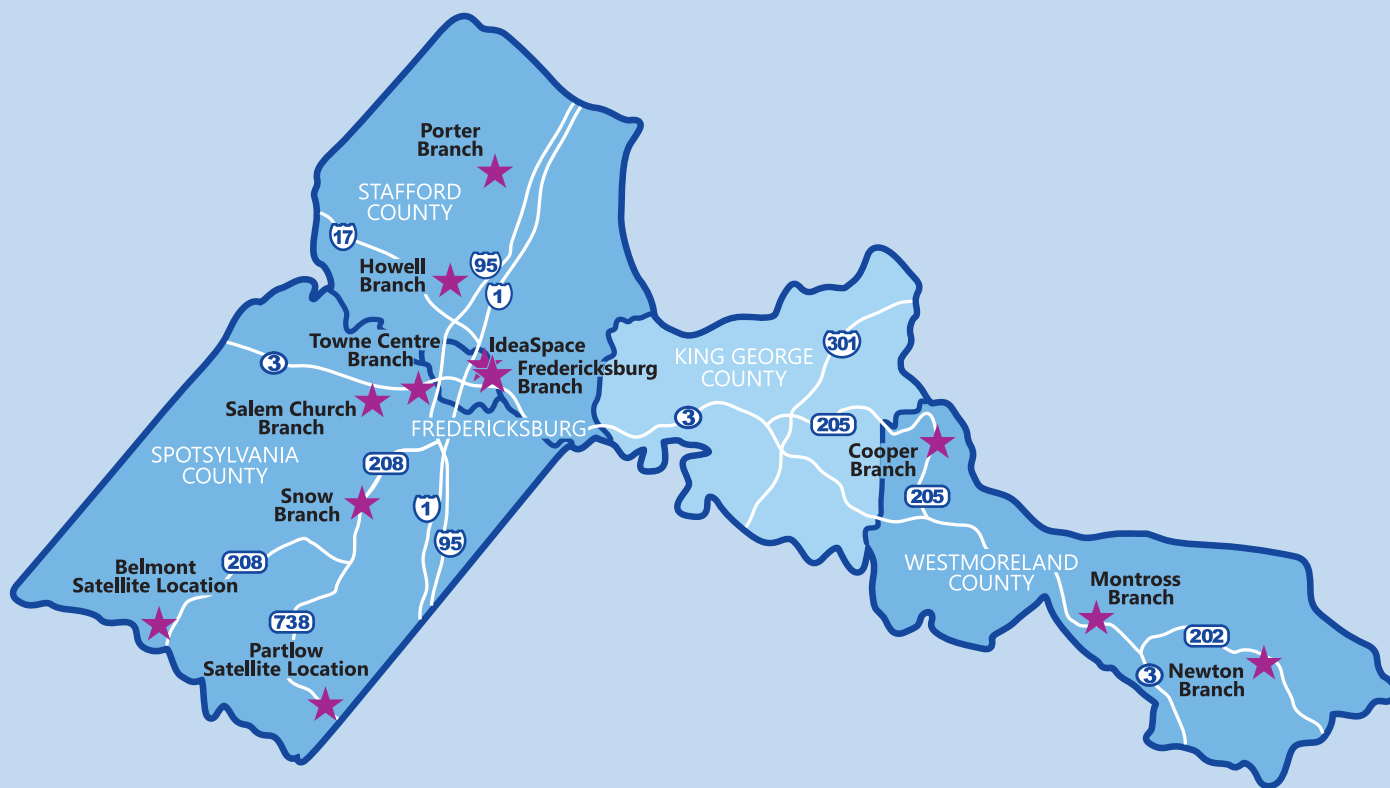




# Central Rappahannock Regional Library

INSPIRING LIFELONG LEARNING

*Serving Fredericksburg, Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Westmoreland*



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