

2023 Impact Report

Lexington Public Library

For more than 228 years, Lexington Public Library has worked in partnership with the Lexington community to create educational opportunities, spaces, and programs designed to connect people, inspire ideas, and transform lives. With a steadfast mission to provide **access** for all, our library system operates six locations open seven days a week, houses a carefully curated collection, and has made continued investment in the digital library. Each month we offer hundreds of free programs including educational support, workforce development, social services, and many more.

The combination of public tax dollars, philanthropic gifts from donors, and partnerships with countless organizations make this community-wide impact possible. Whether through your tax dollars as resident, direct financial support, or your professional collaboration, we extend heartfelt gratitude for your investment in your public library.

-Heather Dieffenbach, Executive Director



Access is reading.

152,135 Cardholders as of December 31, 2023

Lexington Public Library circulated a total of **4,441,179** items in 2023, an 11% increase over 2022.

“Our community loves to read.

I know a lot of libraries across the country are struggling with circulation numbers. Not here in Lexington. Our numbers have reached pre-pandemic circulation numbers.”

-Mariam Addarrat,
Collection Services Manager



2023
2022

4,441,179

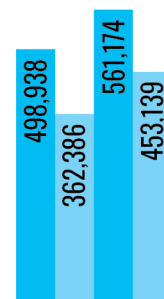
4,010,791

Access is digital.

In 2023, Lexington Public Library surpassed 1 million e-checkouts for the first time. Our elibrary received a total of **1,014,313** transactions, an 18% increase over 2022.

In 2023, our Virtual Services team...

- ➔ launched a new website, with **54,614** more visitors in 2023 than in 2022.
- ➔ introduced a digital library card that can be saved to customers' mobile wallet, issuing **957** digital library cards during the first 7 months of operation.
- ➔ migrated the library to a new and more robust program and room reservation software, with room reservations increasing by **53%** from 2022 to 2023.



2022 2023

ebooks

audiobooks

Access is learning.

3,235

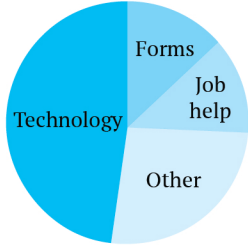
Programs at the library in 2023

55,831

Program attendees

900

People served through job fairs, trainings, and other workforce development initiatives



1,439 people used Book a Librarian to schedule a one-on-one consultation with a librarian. **49%** of individuals who booked an appointment needed help with technology, **16%** were seeking help with filling out forms, and **14%** were seeking resume assistance and/or job help.

The library expanded English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs in 2023, offering **27.75** hours of classes and conversation groups each week. Students in these classes were from over **20** different countries, and they reported that their overall quality of life improved after regularly attending these programs.



SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

The library hosted a record-breaking **805** programs in summer 2023. We also served **1993** hot meals throughout the summer in partnership with Fayette County Public Schools.

Access is space.

1,000,000

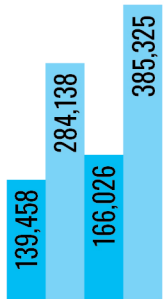
Library visitors in 2023

30%

Increase in computer and WiFi sessions from 2022 to 2023

In 2023, we opened...

- ➡ the Beaumont Branch drive-thru, making it easier to pick up holds and drop off returns.
- ➡ the Central Library Tween Space, with books, DVDs, games, and other items for tweens.
- ➡ the Tates Creek Branch collaborative play space for tweens and teens.



2022 2023

Computer sessions
WiFi sessions

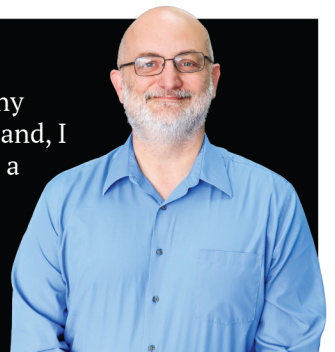


Marksbury Family Branch

Opening in spring 2024, this new branch will triple the space (with **30,000** square feet) in the footprint of our former Village Branch — plenty of room for more activities and books, services, partnerships, and learning.

“This really is the culmination of many years of hard work and, I think, a promise to a community.”

- Brian Hocevar,
assistant manager,
Northside Branch



Access is possible because of you.

Your support of the Lexington Public Library makes it possible to meet our community's needs. To see a full list of philanthropic supporters who donated to the Lexington Public Library Foundation in 2023, scan the QR code or visit lexpublib.org/foundation/donors.

