





# LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY TO EDUCATION, INFORMATION, AND INSPIRATION.







## **HIGHLIGHTS**

The library became fine-free, minimizing barriers to checking out books and accessing computers. This was well-received by the public and checkouts increased by 18%. There was no increase in overdue and lost items, or delays in people receiving the materials they placed on hold.

New self-checkout machines were added with updated technology to streamline the user's experience.

The library enhanced the local history web pages to improve access to research. The public responded to the upgrade and local digital archive use increased 90%.

To mark the 50th anniversary of the 1972 Flood, the library developed a new podcast voicing the powerful stories of victims and survivors.

A New Strategic Plan was developed from extensive community feedback. The plan identifies the evolving needs the library will work to meet over the next five years.

Merchandising was established with requested items like USB cords, earbuds, and even bike locks. Logo-branded water bottles and mugs are also offered. The library went green, eliminating single-use plastic bags and now offers logo-branded reusable nylon bags.

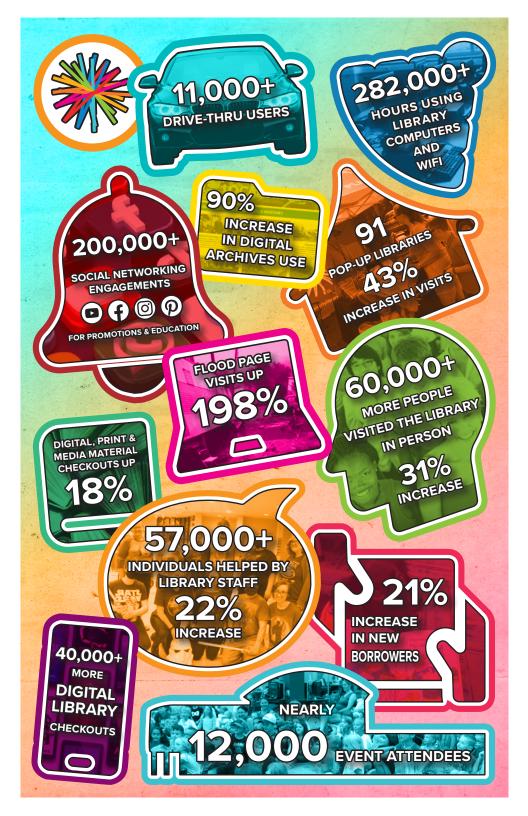
A Teen Advisory Board (TAB) was started to give local teens an opportunity to voice what they would like to see in their library; from teen area layout, services, and events, the feedback they've been providing has been invaluable.

A New Winter Reading Program encouraged children, teen, and adult literacy during the holiday break.

Rapid City Indian Boarding School Lands and Children's Memorial used the library's sound recording room to conduct oral history interviews. By working together, we will make significant cultural information and regional indigenous history available to the public.







### HITS ALL OF THE MARKS!

"At their best, libraries are not only filled book shelves. At their best, libraries are community centers, incubators for friendship, and a respite from a loud, rushing world. The Rapid City Public Library hits all of these marks and more."

### IMPRESSED!

"I am impressed with all who work for the library. The staff is helpful, friendly and an asset to the library. Thank you."

# FABULOUS SELECTION!

"As a fairly recent transplant from a large city, I was so pleasantly surprised by the Rapid City Public Library's convenient location. spacious and beautiful building, friendly and helpful staff, and unique programs. The library has a fabulous selection of books. a small used book market, a maker's space, board games, tool rental, computer and printer use, etc. etc. etc."

### I LOVE COMING HERE!

"I am from Rapid City growing up and have always been fond of our library. In my years I have been to many cities east and west coast, and I can honestly say I love our library here more than all of them. Recently I've been coming in for the board games, but you also sought out a book for me from another library. Thank you all so much for all you do. I love coming here."

# VERY USEFUL!

"Very clean, quiet and computer/print so very useful! Couldn't get jobs or medicine without this! Thank you so much."



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