

2025

Annual Report

**Behind Every Great Community
is a Great Library**



Serving 19 Great Communities!

Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

The libraries of today offer more resources than ever. They are a place to learn about new technology, hear music, see magic, practice yoga, and be introduced to local authors. They are full of summer fun for kids and homework help during the school year.

They are a repository of history, knowledge, and fiction, a place to meet your neighbor, be introduced to a larger world, or discover a new hobby or interest.

Most importantly, they are a place to find a helping hand.

Sincerely,
David Conklin, Director

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About the Genesee District Library

The Genesee District Library (GDL) is a public library system serving the residents of Genesee County, Michigan. Our service area covers all communities within the county with the exception of the City of Flint, which is served by the Gloria Coles Flint Public Library.

The GDL system consists of 19 locations and includes services such as the Robert T. Bolo Business Center (Grand Blanc-McFarlen), the Talking Book Center and Homebound Service (Headquarters), and three Seed Libraries (Fenton-Winegarden, Montrose-Jennings, Forest Township).

In a typical year, well over one million items are borrowed from the GDL such as books, movies, music, and magazines. Residents within our service area also have online access to books, movies, music, magazines, comics, and TV series.

The GDL was formed on January 1, 1980 through a partnership between Genesee County and Grand Blanc Township. It is governed by an eight-member volunteer board. Funding is provided through a .9981 county-wide millage (excluding the City of Flint). The millage was renewed in August of 2016 by a 3-to-1 margin. The remaining revenue comes from fees and fines, state aid, grants and gifts.

Board of Trustees



*Library Director
David Conklin*



*Linda
Ryals-Massey,
Chairman*



*Dale Hostetler,
Vice Chairman*



*Anne Figueroa,
Treasurer*



*Joan Towarnicky,
Secretary*



*Brooke Gow,
Trustee*



*Jordan Johnson,
Trustee*



*Leah Johnson,
Trustee*

Genesee District Library

Class VI Library

Population Served:
300,000 – 500,000

Third largest Library System
in Michigan

Serving:

- 32 Municipalities
- 20 GISD Constituent School Districts
- 103 Separate Schools in Those Districts

- 15 Public School Academies
- 18 Non-Public Schools
- 136 Schools Total

Above & Beyond Award



Flushing-Phelps Librarian Sally-Adrina Taylor and Database Administrator Al Berry received the 2025 Above & Beyond Award at the annual In-service at Genesys Conference & Banquet Center on October 13.

Years of Service



L to R – Cindy Lo’Ree, Amy Houser, Roy Soncrant, Kelly Stack, Kelly Flynn, Kevin Collins, Ivan Smith, Sally-Adrina Taylor, Jason Bias, Julie Mendel, Kim Allen

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 10 Years
Kevin Collins
Kelly Flynn
Sally-A Taylor
Jennifer Wiles | 15 Years
Amy Houser | 20 Years
Jason Bias
Ivan Smith
Kelly Stack |
| | 25 Years
Kim Allen
Cindy Lo’Ree
Julie Mendel
Roy Soncrant | |

In-Service Entertainment



Johnnie Jones, Library Assistant, and Vaughn Mortimer, Delivery Driver, provided entertainment by singing several songs, including a comedy spoof on the song *If I Had a Hammer* by Peter, Paul, and Mary, calling it *If I Had a Bookshelf*, referencing life in a library.

Volunteers Make a Difference

Genesee District Library is happy to welcome volunteers into our branches. The GDL had 18 active branch volunteers in 2025, and they contributed 722.55 hours. Warmest thanks to these volunteers!

Friends of the Library

Generous. Enthusiastic. Dedicated. The Genesee District Library is fortunate to have several wonderful Friends groups that support our libraries in dozens of ways. We are grateful for their service:

- Baker Park Friends Group
- Vera B. Rison Library Friends
- Friends of the Burton Memorial Library
- Friends of the Clio Area Library
- Fenton Library Board
- Friends of the Fenton-Winegarden Library
- Friends of the Flushing-Phelps Library
- Friends of the Forest Township Library
- Friends of the Johnson Library
- Friends of the Goodrich Library
- Friends of the Grand Blanc-McFarlen Library
- Linden Library Board
- Friends of the Montrose-Jennings Library
- Friends of the Mt. Morris Library
- Friends of the Perkins Library

William F. Delaney Headquarters Librarian Curtice Taylor provided a rousing comedy spoof of the song *Pacific Coast Party* by Smashmouth, calling it *Librarians Party*, about life in a library.



Programming Highlights

1,114 Total In-Person Programs

21,792 Attendees

6 Virtual Programs

2,440 Viewers

106 Outreach Events

7,004 People Reached

45 Library Visits

1,859 People Visiting

186 Tech Tutoring Appointments

48 Take & Make Kits

Grand Total Programs—1,271

Grand Total Patrons Served—33,143

SRC Statistics

- ▶ **1,833** People Registered
- ▶ **1,202** Active Readers
- ▶ **17,590** Hours Read
1,055,400 Minutes Reading
- ▶ **281** Book Reviews Submitted
- ▶ **797** Completions
- ▶ **24,591** Badges Earned
- ▶ **122** Prizes Given Away
- ▶ **700** Completion Book Prizes
- ▶ **878** Minutes/15 Hours Average Time Ready by Active Readers

5,111 Niche Academy tutorials were viewed on our website, making it easier than ever for patrons to access our digital services.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge ran from June 7 to August 2, and the theme was Color Our World. The purpose of SRC is to encourage kids to read in the summer when school is out, though all ages can participate. Patrons read, logged their hours online, and entered prize drawings for very cool prizes. Every person who completed the Challenge won a prize book.

GDL Road Trip Adventure

The GDL Road Trip Adventure ran from June 7 to August 2, to encourage people to visit all 19 of our branches. At each branch patrons collected a token unique to that branch that was printed in-house on our 3D printer. When they collected all 19, they earned the Bonus 20 Golden Token.

In 2025 we handed out 2,540 regular tokens and 123 gold tokens, for 2,663 total tokens collected, and 123 completions.

National Library Card Signup Month

In 1987, Secretary of Education William Bennett stated: “Let’s have a campaign . . . Every child should obtain a library card and use it.” Since that time, National Library Card Signup Month has been held across the country each September to mark the beginning of the school year and to ensure that every child has a library card.

In that spirit, GDL once again promoted a September campaign to encourage library card signups:

- Reached out to all Genesee County schools to assist them in obtaining cards for their students.
- Offered a free GDL cloth tote bag to anyone who came into the branch to sign up for a card between September 1–30.
- Entered those people in a drawing to win an Apple iPad.

In September, the Genesee District Library issued 909 new library cards to patrons, compared to the monthly average of 744.

Black History Celebration

The 24th Annual Black History Month Brunch was held on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at Genesys Conference & Banquet Center with 500 guests attending. Awards of Excellence were presented to Baba Kevin Collins, Mayor Sheldon Neeley, and Dr. Rabon L. Turner, Sr. The Partner in Progress Award was presented to Floyd J. McCree Theatre. Former Major League Baseball Player Chris Singleton provided the keynote address, and local vocalist Alina Oliver performed. Matt Franklin from ABC12 emceed the event.



Former Major League Baseball Player Chris Singleton provided the keynote address at the 24th Annual Black History Month Brunch.

Gifts & Donations

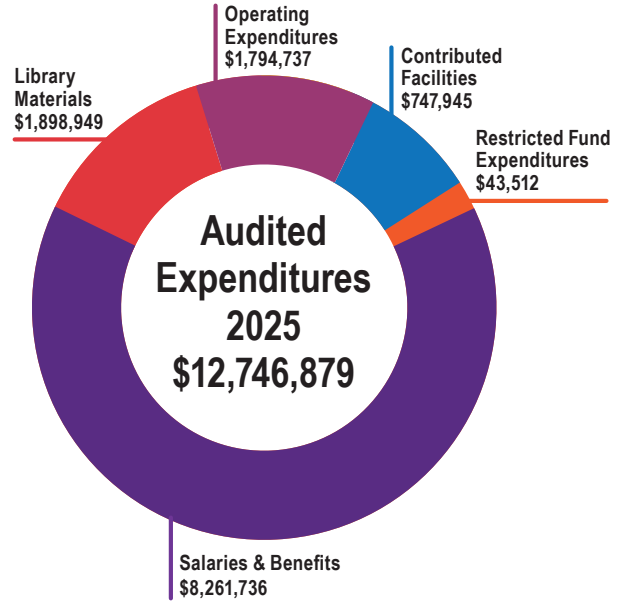
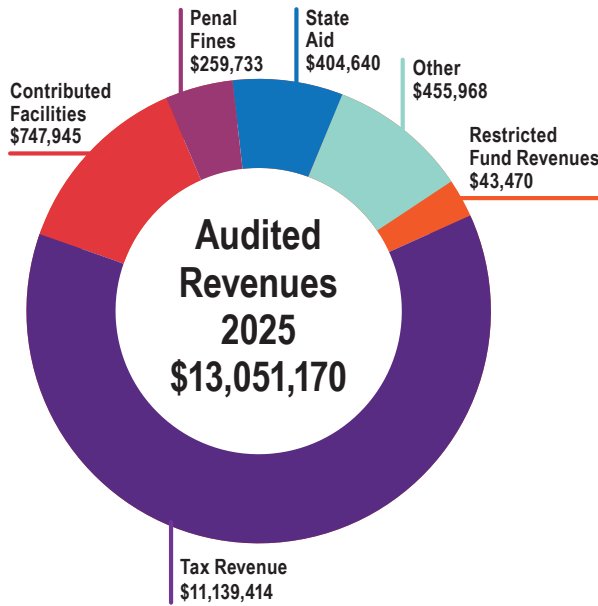
Thanks to the following people and organizations for giving generously to the Genesee District Library in 2025:

- 15 Anonymous Donations
- Chakraborty, Meena
- Hughes, Michelle and Family
- Roth, Terri
- Howard, Phoebe
- Uhlian, Tyler (Sequoia)
- Gonsler, Leta
- Bartasius, Jacqueline
- Neiberg, Judith
- Renfroe-Scott, Sharon
- Fortin, Susan & Gregory
- Matuszek, Leonard
- Friends of the Mt. Morris Library
- Bandyke, Martin & Kimberly Silarski
- Huebner, Laura
- Albert, Michael
- Friends of Lori Ferguson Book Club
- Wright, Tara
- Mikolay, Kristine
- Shantaram, Rajagopal
- GFWC Flushing Women's Club
- Friends of the Grand Blanc-McFarlen Library
- Rotary Club of Burton
- Hamel, Krysten & Patricia Rice
- Belinda
- Grand Blanc Care & Library Bridge-A-Rama
- Smith-Cooper, Renee
- Scheidemantel, Marilyn
- Hummel, Paulette & William
- Dotson, Jim
(Clio Library Board President)
- Mikolay, Kristine
- Flushing Women's Club
- Crawford III, James B.

Community Partnerships

We have many valuable partnerships throughout Genesee County. Some are new, and some are long established:

- Academy West
- American Connection Corp.
- Argentine Early Learning Center
- Atherton Elementary School
- Atlas Silver Foxes
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- Barron's Fest, Gaines
- Burton Senior Center
- Carman-Ainsworth Senior Center
- Central Elementary School, Davison
- City of Grand Blanc
- City of Linden
- Cook Elementary School
- Davison Senior Center
- Dillon Elementary
- Dowdall Elementary School
- Eisenhower Elementary
- Erik Jones Foundation
- Federal Communications Commission/
Affordable Connectivity Program
- Flint & Genesee Literacy Network
- Flushing Community Schools
- Flushing Early Childhood Center
- Flushing Senior Center
- Food Bank of Eastern Michigan
- For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
- Gaines Elementary
- GCCARD Head Start
- Genesee Community Health Center
- Genesee County
Board of Commissioners
- Genesee County Parks & Recreation
- Genesee Health System
- Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center
- Genesee Intermediate School District
- Genesee Prevention Coalition
- GISD Career Coaching
- GISD Literacy Birth-3rd Grade
and School Readiness
- Gloria Coles Flint Public Library
- Grand Blanc Community Schools
- Grand Blanc Senior Center
- Greater Flint Health Coalition –
Connecting Kids to Coverage
- Great Start Collaborative and GISD
Center for County-Wide Programs
- GSRP and Parents as Teachers
- Hamady Elementary School
- Hamady Middle School
- Hill-McCloy High School
- Hyatt Elementary School
- KinderCare Learning Center, Fenton
- Lake Fenton Middle School
- Linden Charter Academy
- Linden Elementary School
- Loose Senior Center
- McMonagle Elementary School
- Michigan Financial Wellness Network
- Michigan State University
Extension Service
- Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs
- Morrish Elementary
- Mott Community College
- Mt. Morris Head Start
- New Standard Academy
- North Road Elementary School
- Northridge Academy
- Parents As Teachers, Perry Center
- Randels Elementary School
- Reid Elementary School
- St. George Preschool
- St. John Preschool
- St. Robert School
- Salvation Army
- Swartz Creek Kiwanis Club
- Swartz Creek Senior Center
- Syring Elementary School
- Therapy Dogs International
- United Way of Genesee County
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- WJRT ABC12
- Woodland/Summerfield Elementary
- World of Wonder, Fenton



Return on Investment (ROI)

	Circulation/Use	Estimated Value	Cost
Print Books	404,446	\$31.25	\$12,638,938
Magazines	3,548	\$17.95	\$68,687
Audiobooks	3,462	\$40.00	\$138,480
DVD/Bluray/4K	128,794	\$24.00	\$3,091,056
Music CD	5,539	\$15.00	\$83,085
Video Games	2,903	\$50.00	\$145,150
PC usage	59,269	\$25.00	\$1,481,725
eBooks	302,309	\$22.50	\$6,801,953
eMagazines	54,475	\$14.95	\$814,401
Database Search	121,099	\$25.75	\$3,118,299
eMusic	97,197	\$1.29	\$125,384
eVideo	8,886	\$5.99	\$53,299
eAudio	171,171	\$35.00	\$5,990,985
Interloan Requests	18,035	\$48.25	\$870,189
Program Attendance	31,849	\$10.00	\$318,490
Operating Budget			\$12,746,879
Total			\$35,735,048

ROI Summary

For every \$1 spent on the library it provides \$2.80 in services.

GDL vs. Peer Libraries

Library	Service Population	Branches	Hours Open	FTEs	Millage Rate	Per Capita Spending	Annual Budget
KDL	439,194	18	49,527	255	2.38	\$64.69	\$28,413,362
GDL	334,645	19	39,012	83	0.9981	\$26.97	\$9,026,508
CADL	244,451	14	40,576	134	1.56	\$51.38	\$12,558,702
GCFPL	81,252	1	1,215	32	4	\$51.86	\$4,213,390

(KDL – Kent District Library, CADL – Capital Area District Libraries, GCFPL – Gloria Coles Flint Public Library); *2025 State Aid Report Data

Circulation

BRANCH	2025	2024	%
Baker Park	19,609	18,808	4.26%
Beecher-Vera B. Rison	11,873	12,380	-4.10%
Burton Memorial	23,516	27,487	-14.45%
Clio Area	42,522	46,297	-8.15%
Davison Area	72,755	80,635	-9.77%
Fenton-Winegarden	64,052	61,599	3.98%
Flint Township-McCarty	17,863	21,487	-16.87%
Flushing-Phelps	39,196	38,910	.74%
Forest Township	14,907	16,317	-8.64%
Gaines Station	2,113	2,199	-3.91%
Genesee-Johnson	12,456	13,388	-6.96%
Genesee Valley Center	13,117	13,107	.08%
Goodrich	12,460	13,314	-6.41%
Grand Blanc-McFarlen	109,499	112,272	-2.47%
William F. Delaney Headquarters	29,172	30,740	-5.10%
Linden	766	19,932	-96.16%
Montrose-Jennings	16,579	17,627	-5.95%
Mt. Morris	24,908	25,883	-3.77%
Swartz Creek-Perkins	23,163	22,899	-1.15%
Talking Book Center	37,689	28,782	30.95%
Physical Items Total	588,215	624,063	-5.74%
eDatabases	121,099	70,805	71.03%
eAudio	405,404	293,249	38.25%
eBooks	302,309	265,020	14.07%
eVideo	8,886	7,215	23.16%
eMusic	97,197	109,307	-11.08%
eMagazines	54,475	46,445	17.29%
Digital Items Total	989,370	792,041	24.91%
Grand Total	1,557,585	1,416,104	11.40%

Visits & Access

BRANCH	2025	2024	%
Baker Park	20,114	20,539	-2.07%
Beecher-Vera B. Rison	19,172	14,351	33.59%
Burton Memorial	22,452	25,352	-11.44%
Clio Area	32,743	31,753	3.12%
Davison Area	49,011	53,417	-8.25%
Fenton-Winegarden	67,917	59,966	13.26%
Flint Township-McCarty	18,447	19,913	-7.36%
Flushing-Phelps	39,962	37,514	6.53%
Forest Township	19,419	21,478	-9.59%
Gaines Station	1,182	1,134	4.23%
Genesee-Johnson	9,811	10,532	-6.85%
Genesee Valley Center	29,957	26,943	11.19%
Goodrich	14,258	15,264	-6.59%
Granch Blanc-McFarlen	111,049	108,226	2.61%
William F. Delaney Headquarters	36,757	36,836	-0.21%
Linden	734	23,017	-96.81%
Montrose-Jennings	15,321	17,282	-11.35%
Mt. Morris	19,631	17,279	13.61%
Swartz Creek-Perkins	31,036	34,031	-8.80%
Physical Visits Total	558,973	574,827	-2.76%
Virtual Visits Total	691,512	669,438	3.30%
Grand Total	1,250,485	1,244,265	.50%
PC Usage (Logins)	70,268	73,792	-4.78%
PC Usage (Hours)	59,269	53,110	11.60%
Wi-fi Logins	107,947	91,370	18.14%

Genesee District Library and Your Hometown

A Unique and Mutually Beneficial Partnership

Genesee District Library (GDL) was formed in 1980 through a partnership between Genesee County and Grand Blanc Township.

These two forward-thinking entities collaborated to create a unique and mutually beneficial arrangement, uniting in the establishment and operation of a district library. The result is 19 libraries throughout Genesee County making library services affordable for all.

As such, each participating municipality is responsible for providing and maintaining a building to house the library. Genesee District Library is responsible for providing the necessary staff, materials, and equipment.

By sharing library costs and responsibilities, the Genesee District Library system provides convenient, free library services in 19 locations throughout Genesee County.

Genesee District Library currently provides books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, comics, video games, graphic novels, music streaming, TV series, databases, eBooks, audiobooks, computers, and programs, in addition to services like wi-fi, print, copy, and fax. Patrons have access to over 20 million digital items.

GDL is governed by an eight-member volunteer board. Funding is provided through a .9981 county-wide millage (excluding the City of Flint). The remaining revenue comes from fees and fines, state aid, grants, and gifts.

