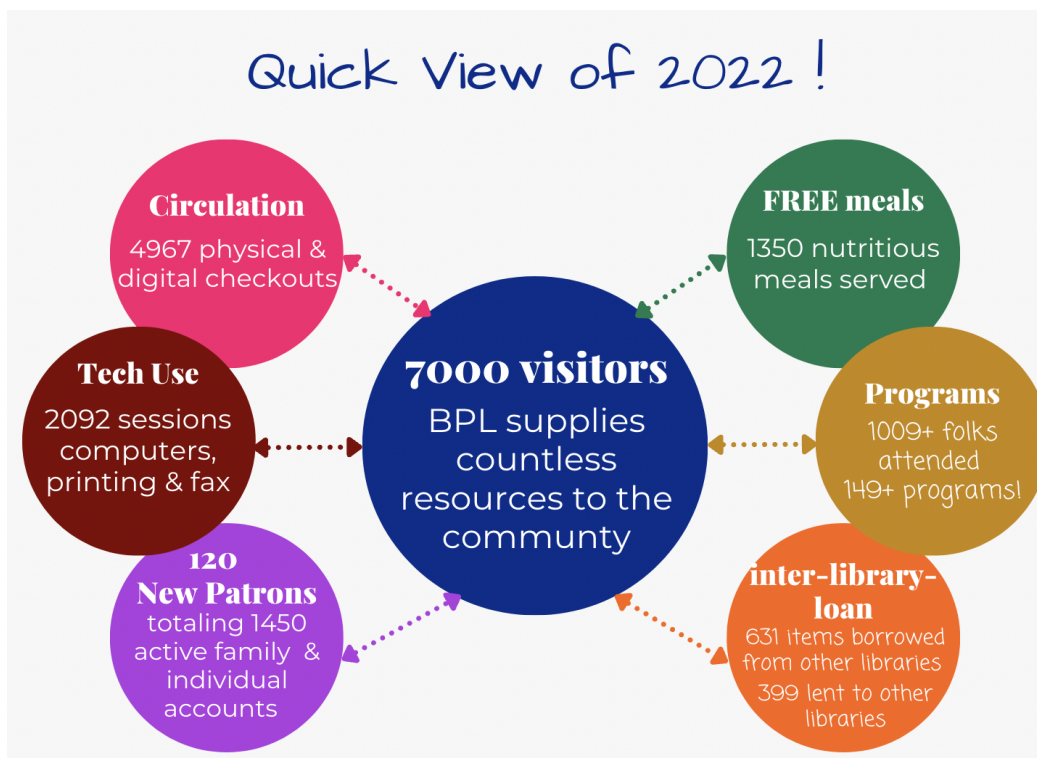


Bradford Public Library
Annual Report
January 12, 2023

Year three of the global pandemic brought insight and perspective in how Bradford Public Library services have changed and continue to evolve. Most notable is that we have increased library staffing to 2 persons during hours of operation. In doing so we are better able to serve the community and to ensure the safety and well-being of library patrons and staff.



Technology upgrades in 2022 include wi-fi extenders allowing stronger broadband and access curbside and throughout the building. This increase in download speed supports coursework and virtual meetings for many of our patrons, with clients, and teachers. In addition, three refurbished desktop computers were installed for public use and federal

funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) made possible the purchase of new and up to date staff computers and a Meeting Owl Pro video conferencing camera. As a go-to-spot for open wi-fi and public computers, more remote workers, students, and visitors to the area are taking advantage of the library for virtual meetings, classes, and other forms of personal and professional development. In effect, library programs and event participation has grown through our ability to meet both in person and virtually in a hybrid format.



Librarians actively seek grant opportunities and partnerships to support the programs and resources which are open and free to the community. We continue to offer ongoing support for those dramatically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (meal pickup, resume and application assistance, access to veterans services and legal services, etc.) while continuing all other library services and resources, including collection development, materials lending, tech access, children and adult programming, book discussions, and more. Close to \$10,000 was awarded to BPL through multiple grants in 2022.

AWE Early Literacy Station	Poetry Circle		
BPL Reads book discussion group	Open WiFi		
MANGO Language Learning	Spanish Language Class		
Toddler Story Hour	STEAM Programs	After School Program	
Tech Support	School Visits	Author Visits	
Guest Speakers	Vermont Reads	Spice cooking program	
Listen Up Vermont	Guest Artists	State Attraction Passes	FREE Meals

*The 5th Annual *Bradford Poem Town 2022* displayed over 112 Poems submitted by 69 local poets of all ages.

The addition of a monthly rotating art exhibit in the Reading Room has brought new visitors through our doors. The BPL Gallery showcases local talent through pen & ink, collage, photography, embroidery, painting , mixed media, etc.

Two new *Free Little Libraries* were constructed and donated by Copeland Furniture and placed in Boch Park and Elizabeth's Park this year. Four others are located at Upper Valley Pediatrics, the Bradford Academy Building, at 148 Main Street, and on the front steps of the library. All are maintained by library volunteers and supplied by donation.

We are fortunate and appreciate the community and more than 55 hours of community volunteer service.

Lastly, BPL librarians continue to gain new skills and training opportunities through ongoing professional development. We have been approached by the state library and colleagues for our thoughts and ideas from experience. As library director, Gail serves the state mentorship program for new librarians and has been invited to speak at the 2023 Vermont Library Association Conference in April.



Respectfully submitted by Gail Trede, Library Director