



Riverside County
Library System

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2022-2023



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Letter from the Chief Librarian

I could not be more proud and grateful for all that we have achieved during the past year. **During Fiscal Year 2022-2023 we celebrated the 25 years of transformation, growth, and community enrichment in partnership with the Riverside County Office of Economic Development and Library Systems & Services (LS&S).**

From 24 branches in 1997, RCLS has grown to 35 branches, two museums, and four Library Connect Resource Vans. Each is a vibrant hub of knowledge, imagination, and opportunity. A substantial **increase in operating hours – now an impressive 69,370 annually** – is clear evidence of our unwavering commitment to meaningful public service. The past 25 years also brought a **118% increase in library visits and a staggering 1610% growth in programs.**

The success of the past 25 years is just the beginning. Our partnership with the Riverside County Office of Economic Development continues to lead us in new and exciting directions. The Edward Dean Museum and Gardens is now operated by RCLS and brings new cultural experiences to the County. A new literacy campaign, Read Today, Lead Tomorrow, comprises a variety of programs and workshops that inspire the next generation of readers and leaders.

Library staff are also lifelong learners. Operational partner Library Systems & Services' (LS&S) Leadership Academy provides professional growth training and support to RCLS managers. It is exciting to watch Academy graduates step into their roles as leaders.



Our commitment to community outreach continued to grow with the addition of two new Library Connect Mobile Resource Vans. These mobile libraries bridge educational gaps in underserved regions and embody our dedication to extending educational enrichment to all corners of the County.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to each and every member of the remarkable RCLS team and the Riverside County community for your unwavering support. Our 25-year journey is marked by achievements, growth, and innovation, and I am confident the future holds even more remarkable service. Here's to a future of new achievements, shared milestones, and the enduring impact of our collective work!

Joan Tyler | Chief Librarian



RCLS USE AT A GLANCE



>2.7 M
PHYSICAL ITEMS
CHECKED OUT



166,029
EBOOKS
CHECKED OUT



132,160
EAUDIOBOOKS
CHECKED OUT



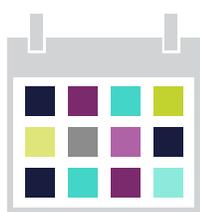
11,815
VOLUNTEERS



>1.9 M
LIBRARY VISITS



41,719
NEW CARDS
ISSUED



9,610
PROGRAMS
ATTENDED



161,143
USE OF
COMPUTERS



532,987
WIRELESS
SESSIONS

Partnerships

First 5 Riverside County

This organization promotes and supports early child development for prenatal through age five children, their families, and the community. First 5 promotes RCLS Library Connect mobile library services and Lunch at the Library, highlighting the mutual mission of promoting early child and family development. First 5 also connects families to their local library through programs like Raising a Reader where participants receive an RCLS library card. First 5 also donates bilingual "Kits for New Parents" and provides additional resources for new and expecting parents.

REFORMA

The Inland Empire chapter of REFORMA helps with recruiting and support of RCLS bilingual and bicultural library staff. REFORMA also helps develop Spanish-language collections and promotes the Library to Spanish speakers. Future plans include expansion of mentorships, programs, and events that showcase the interests and needs of Latinos throughout the County.

Friends of the Idyllwild Library

This dedicated group understands the critical importance of well-funded libraries and helps fund a variety of services for all ages. The Friends help provide programming that would otherwise be unattainable. The Friends of the Idyllwild Library have funded events with guest speakers including Mallory O'Meara, Judalon de Bornay, Brett Perkins, and Marcia Gawecki. They also purchase the books for the Youth Book Club in which each child gets to keep their own book. The Friends provide \$500 monthly for new books, magazine renewals, craft supplies, STEAM Kits, pickleball kits, and much more.

Riverside County Office of Economic Development

RCLS continues to benefit from strong partnership with the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and Riverside County Office of Economic Development. These partnerships bring valuable resources and programming.

A highlight was the Community Faire held at the French Valley Library in November 2022. More than 1,200 residents participated in STEAM activities including VR, 3Doodler Pens, geometric puzzles, sensory blocks, Picasso tiles, clip connects, digital blocks and magnetic tower, rig-ma-jig, and brainflakes. Staff created a self-guided interactive local history tour and a local history artifact display was unveiled.

In February 2023, the Third District office joined Riverside University Health System's Public Health team and the Blue Zones Initiative for a community assessment at the French Valley Library. The goal of the Blue Zone project was to make healthy choices accessible through community improvements such as street and park design, public policy, and social improvement.

April 2023 brought a Job and Resource Fair to the French Valley Library, bringing together 24 companies and government agencies seeking employees, seven non-profit organizations offering employment or veteran services, and over 300 community members. Programs like these are possible only through this valuable partnership.

Inland Counties Legal Services

Lawyers in the Library, a program that offers free legal services in consumer, family law, housing, immigration, public benefits, and more, is available at five branches. This initiative connects individuals with qualified pro bono lawyers, ensuring equal access to legal assistance. Patrons can easily register for a one-hour consultation by walking in or calling for an appointment, providing the community with easy access to valuable legal guidance.

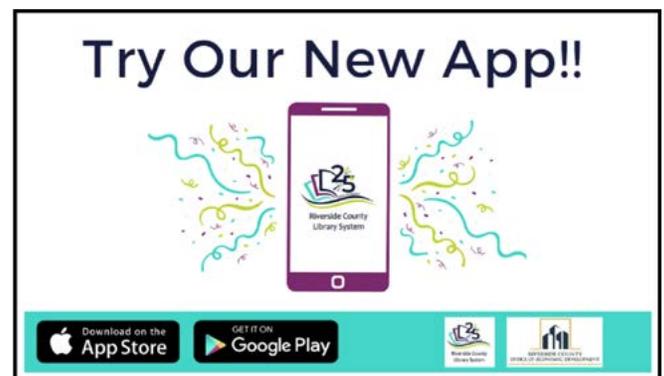
Services and Innovation

Library Card Kiosks

Patrons can quickly and easily register for a library e-Card and instantly receive their card number at these convenient stations. eCards are valid for up to three months and can be converted to a full-use card.

The RCLS app

Available via the App Store, the RCLS app provides self-checkout, a list of all digital resources, a list of new items in the libraries, and a digital copy library card. Patrons may also select their preferred language.



Library Connect Vans

Two new vans were added to Literacy Services to better serve the north and south areas of Riverside County. The vans bring crafts, library books, and hotspots for checkout to every corner of the County, particularly underserved rural areas.



California State Parks Library Passes

Park Passes available for checkout provide free vehicle day-use access to over 200 parks, lakes, beaches, and monuments in the California State Parks system.

Diversity and Inclusion

The Home Gardens Photographic Discovery Project took place in the Fall of 2022 in partnership with UCR ARTS and Inlandia Institute Publications. Teens took inspiration from local award-winning author Isabel Quintero's graphic biography of a celebrated Mexican photographer, *Photographic: The Life of Graciela Iturbide*. By exploring their neighborhoods through photography, teens engaged with their communities and published *Home Gardens: Photographic Discovery*.

The Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library continued to offer Inclusive Storytimes. These events provide hands-on activities and opportunities and bring children of all abilities together. Children are encouraged to learn through play and organic social interactions occur between children with and without special needs. Congressman Darrell Issa's Deputy District Director, Michael Hileman, visited the Ronald H. Roberts Temecula Public Library during Storytime and nominated the Library for the 2023 National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

Community

RCLS hosted the French Valley Community Faire. The event featured the unveiling of the French Valley Historical Society's new local history exhibits. Celebrations included the French Valley Library's first birthday and the 25th Anniversary of RCLS. Community and County Resources – including the Fire Truck from Station 83 – storytimes, live characters and entertainment, kids zone activities and crafts, lunch provided by the In-N-Out Food Truck, and more entertained the community. The Faire also featured walk-through history tours and docent talks about the development of the French Valley Community from the early 1870s to today.

Lunch At The Library

Many students rely on school lunches. When they are not available during the summer, Lunch at the Library (LATL) provides grants, training, resources, and technical assistance to help libraries establish successful summer meal sites or provide learning programs at other community meal sites. Libraries may participate in LATL as library meal sites, pop-up libraries to community meal sites, or a combination of the two. Participating libraries may also incorporate Youth Development programs into their Lunch at the Library programs to create opportunities for teens to support summer meals in either or both settings.





Riverside County
Library System

LITERACY SERVICES

July 2022 - June 2023

ADULT LITERACY STATS

The purpose of this report is to highlight the Riverside County Library System's Literacy Services end-of-the-year programs and services data between July 1, 2022 to July 30, 2023.

Literacy Programs Offered

Adult Literacy

- One-on-One Tutoring
- Small Group Sessions
 - Advanced Grammar Class
 - Beginner's Creative Writing
 - Citizenship Preparation Class
 - English Conversation Club
 - English Learners' Book Club
 - Financial Literacy Class
 - Intro to Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word
- Career Online High School (COHS)

Family Literacy

- Library Connect Family Take-home Activity Kits
- Family STEAM & Play Workshops
- Promoting Early Literacy at Home Workshops

Learning Session Information

12 We had **12** different types of learning opportunities. Program offerings above.

Our learners had a total of **590** learning sessions with their volunteer tutor or literacy staff person.

1,872 Our learners spent **1,872** hours learning with their volunteer tutor or literacy staff person.

Learner Information

We had a total of **21** COHS students, **3** students graduated with a diploma and career certificate. **16** learners returned to our adult literacy program and **52** new learners enrolled.

Our learners met **62** goals during this year, such as passing their citizenship test, getting a job, and getting a drivers license!

Families received a total of **301** books and educational materials to build their home learning environments.

Volunteer Information

We had a total of **25** volunteer tutors conducting either one-on-one or small group sessions.

Our tutors spent **425** hours preparing for their learning sessions with their learners.

Riverside County Library System's Literacy Services accepts learners and volunteers year round! For more information, please call (951) 685-6901, email Literacy@rivlib.net or visit <https://www.rivlib.net/services/literacy>.



Riverside County
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LITERACY SERVICES

July 2020 - June 2021

LITERACY STATS

The purpose of this report is to highlight the Riverside County Library System's Literacy Services end-of-the-year programs and services data between July 1, 2020 to July 30, 2021.

Literacy Programs Offered

Adult Literacy

- One-on-One Tutoring
- Small Group Sessions
 - Basic Grammar Class
 - Citizenship Preparation Class
 - Computer Basics Class
 - English Conversation Club
 - Learn How to Stay Healthy Class
 - Work Ready! Workshop
 - Reading & Writing Club
- Career Online High School (COHS)

Family Literacy

- Literacy Care Packages
- Raising a Reader
- Small Group Sessions
 - Family Learning Place

Learning Session Information

12 We had **12** different types of learning opportunities. Program offerings above.

Our learners had a total of **419** learning sessions with their volunteer tutor or literacy staff person.

1,894 Our learners spent **1,894** hours learning with their volunteer tutor or literacy staff person.

Learner Information

We had a total of **15** COHS students, **5** returning learners and **87** new learners enter our program. There was a 45% increase in new learners from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021.

Our learners met **64** goals during this year, such as passing their citizenship test and getting a drivers license!

70 We had **70** families participate in family literacy services.

Families received a total of **110** books and educational materials to build their home learning environments.

Volunteer Information

We had a total of **40** volunteer tutors conducting either one-on-one or small group sessions.

Our tutors spent **670** hours preparing for their learning sessions with their learners.

Riverside County Library System's Literacy Services accepts learners and volunteers year round! For more information, please call (951) 685-6901, email Literacy@rivlib.net or visit <https://bit.ly/RCLSadultliteracy>.



Funding

Project Connect Now | California State Library.....\$21,232
Free onsite and/or virtual social welfare and legal services

Zip Books | California State Library.....\$24,725
Patron-direct online book purchasing

California Library Literacy Services | California State Library.....\$93,511
Literacy Services

California Public Library Meal Programs | California State Library.....\$131,882
Programming materials at library summer meal sites



RCLS Key Partners

- Riverside County Board of Supervisors
- Riverside County Office of Economic Development
- California Baptist University's College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
- California Family Life Center
- County of Riverside Community Action Partnership
- Desert Hot Springs Historical Society
- Desert Recreation District
- Edward Dean Museum
- First 5 Riverside County
- French Valley Historical Society
- Inland Counties Legal Services
- Inlandia Institute
- Lake Elsinore Unified School District
- Malki Museum
- Mount San Jacinto College
- Norco College
- Quality Start Riverside County
- REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking
- Riverside County Law Library
- Riverside County Library System Foundation
- Riverside County Office of Education
- Riverside University Health System
- **Riverside County Library System Friends Groups:**
 - Friends of the Cabazon Library
 - Friends of the Cathedral City Library
 - Friends of the Desert Libraries: Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indio, Lake Tamarisk, La Quinta, Mecca, Palm Desert, and Thousand Palms
 - Friends of the Idyllwild Library
 - Friends of the Jurupa Libraries: Glen Avon Chapter, Friends of the Jurupa Libraries: Louis Robidoux Chapter
 - Friends of the Nuview Library
 - Friends of the Meniffee Library
 - Friends of the Perris Library
 - Friends of the San Jacinto Library
 - Friends of the Sun City Library
 - Friends of the Temecula Grace Mellman Library
 - Friends of the Temecula Public Library
 - Friends of the Wildomar Library
 - Friends of the Woodcrest Library



RCLS Locations



rivlib.net

Visit us online or in one
of our locations!

Anza
Cabazon
Calimesa
Canyon Lake
Cathedral City
Coachella
Desert Hot Springs
Eastvale
Edward Dean Museum
El Cerrito
French Valley
Glen Avon
Grace Mellman Community
Highgrove
Home Gardens
Idyllwild
Indio
La Quinta
La Quinta Museum
Lake Elsinore
Lake Tamarisk
Lakeside
Library Connect Desert Van
Library Connect West Van
Louis Robidoux
Mead Valley
Mecca
Menifee
Norco
Nuview
Palm Desert
Perris
San Jacinto
Sun City
Temecula Public Library
Thousand Palms Art Sampson
Valle Vista
Wildomar
Woodcrest