



A playground for curious minds.



# 2019

## Impact Report



# BOARD MESSAGE

What is the purpose of a library?

To provide access to information. To help kids, teens, and adults imagine their future. To bring people together. To be a playground for curious minds. All of the above?

Yes, we have books, ebooks, audiobooks, movies, computer access, Wi-Fi, and digital databases. But wait, there's more.

We have concerts. (Dueling Pianos!)  
And game nights. (Game of Thrones!)  
And parades. (Kids in Halloween costumes!)  
And video game tournaments. (Mario Kart!)  
And tea parties. (Fairy tales!)  
And art projects. (Paint pouring!)  
And the list goes on. If we can imagine it, we do it.

At Grand Forks Public, we believe a vibrant library is at the heart of a strong community. With nearly 200,000 visits to GFP\_ in 2019, we're proud to serve Grand Forks County, a place bursting with possibilities and dreams.

We connect the community.  
We inspire innovation.  
We encourage curiosity.  
We change lives.

**WE ARE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC.**



**JUSTIN**



**KATIE**



**PETER**



**SANDI**



**DIANE**

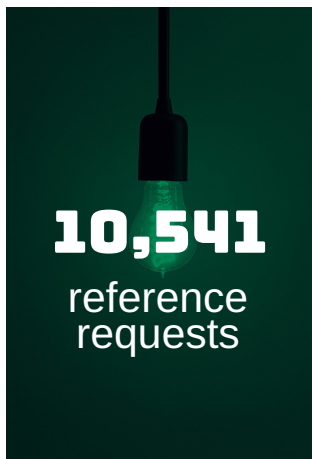
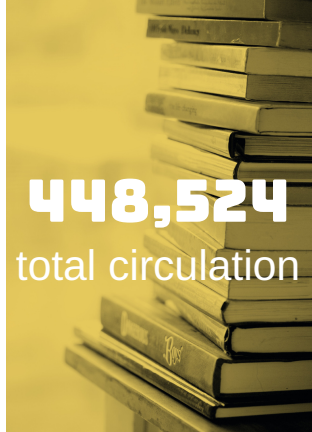


**FRED**



**TED**

Justin Berry, President | Katie Darling, Vice President | Peter Johnson  
Sandi Marshall | Diane Knauf | Fred Remer | Ted Sandberg



# FRIENDS MESSAGE

Grand Forks Public Friends is a group of enthusiastic volunteers that supports the library and its mission by raising funds and promoting library programs and services in the community.

While many of the Friends statistics in 2019 stayed level from the prior year, we realized increases in donations received, library programs impacted, and dollars provided to the library. We know our success was a result of outstanding support from the community, which allowed us to do more for the library! One contributing factor was our participation in the first-ever national #LibraryGivingDay, a one-day fundraising event that gave communities the chance to embrace support of their libraries. We were lucky enough to have a generous community member make an anonymous \$1,500 matching gift.

We would like to highlight two other initiatives from 2019. First, we were able to assist the library by providing funding for ten Early Literacy Outreach Kits for a newly created program. These kits – all of which have a different theme and include books, musical instruments, puppets and more – are used in outreach visits to daycares throughout the county. A library specialist visits and leads a special story time with the kit. The kit can then be left with the daycare to use for the following month until there is a repeat visit. The program has been well received and continues to grow.





# FRIENDS MESSAGE

Secondly, our Friends focus in 2019 was on Arts in the Library, which was a huge hit! We held ten different programs, classes, concerts and events related to a variety of arts and impacted over 500 library patrons. The splashiest of these events was the Dueling Pianos concert held inside the library. We definitely lived up to our goal of not being a quiet library that night!

Throughout the year, program attendees completed surveys which indicated, in part, that many of them could not have participated in the event if there had been a fee. A large portion of respondents also said that, before attending the event, they didn't realize all of the cool new things the library was doing.

If you'd like to be involved in this dynamic group, please consider becoming a member. Annual membership dues, which are minimal, can make a large impact when we work together. Membership information can be found on the library's website: [gflibrary.com](http://gflibrary.com).



**AIMEE**



**ALICIA**



**DEBBIE**



**KATHY**



**KAYLEE**



**THERESA**

Aimee Rogers | Alicia Walstad | Debbie McLennan  
Kathy Iverson | Kaylee Cusack | Theresa Brorby



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

In 2019, our Community Outreach department hosted 102 events, serving 1,930 patrons. Since its inception in mid-2018, the department has formed partnerships with many local organizations by volunteering or working alongside community groups, including:

- \_bell ringing for The Salvation Army
- \_serving at Northlands Rescue Mission
- \_learning how to better serve our New American patrons with Global Friends
- \_providing extra help at Special Olympics ND
- \_bringing 807 books to nursing homes
- \_developing a bereavement collaboration with Altru Health System
- \_setting up community book drops at the YMCA, Choice Health & Fitness, and Thompson Public School.

## ONE IN THREE

Grand Forks County residents has a GFP\_ library card.



# MISSION, VISION, VALUES

## MISSION

To connect the community, inspire creativity, & encourage curiosity.

## VISION

The Grand Forks Public\_ is a playground for curious minds of all ages. It is our community's place for innovation, inspiration, & creativity.

## VALUES

### Curiosity

We encourage the desire to explore, learn, & grow.

### Connection

We connect people to information, possibilities, & each other.

### Innovation

We challenge assumptions through bold & creative problem-solving.

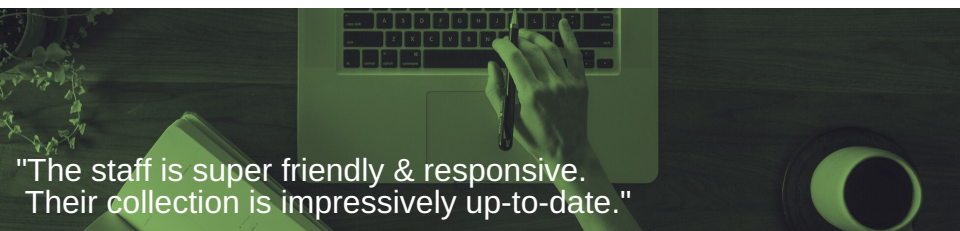




"We love the library! I'm a daycare provider & the Early Literacy Outreach program has been a major asset to my daycare kids."



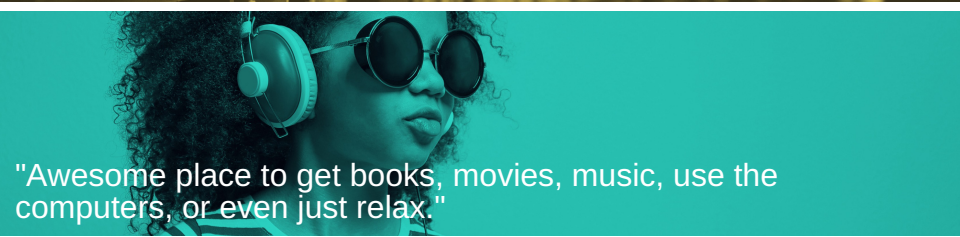
"Always enjoyed going to the Grand Forks Public Library when my children were young & now on my own. Wonderful getaway."



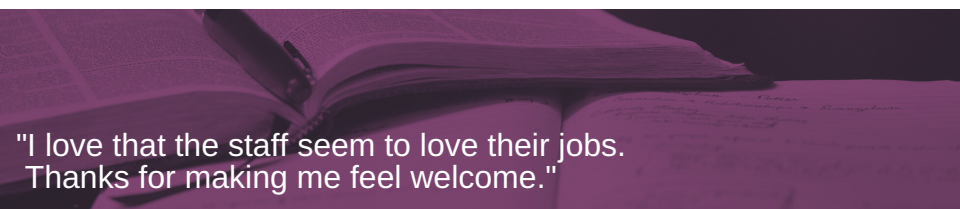
"The staff is super friendly & responsive. Their collection is impressively up-to-date."



"I love my library card. It's like a passport to new worlds!"



"Awesome place to get books, movies, music, use the computers, or even just relax."



"I love that the staff seem to love their jobs. Thanks for making me feel welcome."



# BY THE NUMBERS

## REVENUE

	2019	2018
City of Grand Forks	\$1,946,075	\$2,005,120
Grand Forks County	\$765,057	\$604,414
State Aid/Intergovernmental	\$161,110	\$144,482
Grants	\$5,000	\$9,750
Library Fees/Services	\$31,241	\$44,816
Donations/Interest	\$55,735	\$28,380
Total	\$2,964,218	\$2,836,962

## EXPENDITURES

Wages & Salaries	\$1,276,986	\$1,329,992
Benefits	\$500,064	\$485,382
Supplies	\$63,400	\$53,165
Utilities	\$61,768	\$71,520
Services & Contracts	\$200,970	\$154,902
Building Maintenance	\$69,640	\$64,206
Operating Expenses	\$81,584	\$66,704
Books & Periodicals	\$180,629	\$188,252
Capital Expenditures	\$4,502	\$16,530
Transfer to Capital Account	\$350,000	\$328,916
Other		\$1,568
Total	\$2,789,543	\$2,761,137



Grand Forks Public\_  
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gflibrary.com

