


2023-2024 Year in Review



 (770) 479-3090

 116 Brown Industrial Pkwy
Canton, GA 30114

 SequoyahRegionalLibrary.org

 **SEQUOYAH**
REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM
CHEROKEE • PICKENS • GILMER





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Revenue Sources



We appreciate all the financial support we receive and consider it a privilege to serve our community.

We are able to impact our community because of funding from:

Cherokee County Commissioners

Pickens County Commissioners

Gilmer County Commissioners

City of Canton

City of Woodstock

City of Ball Ground

City of Nelson

City of Waleska

City of Holly Springs

City of Ellijay

City of East Ellijay

City of Jasper

Town of Talking Rock

Gilmer County Board of Education

We appreciate additional funding from:

Friends of Cherokee County Public Libraries, Inc

Friends of the Pickens Library

Friends of the Gilmer County Library

Ellijay-Gilmer Library Foundation, Inc.





Message from the Executive Director



Angela Coretellino

Executive Director, SRLS

As we wrap up another fiscal year, we are pleased to share this annual report that allows us to reflect on our accomplishments and successes. It has been a remarkable

year filled with growth, learning, and community engagement.

We are thrilled to share that we welcomed over **400,000 visitors** through our doors, hosted countless events and programs, and added over **15,000 new items** to our collection. Your enthusiasm for our community spaces and love for reading continue to inspire us to provide exceptional library services.

This annual report reflects on our past fiscal year, July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Throughout these pages I hope you see not only the reflections of the hard work and excitement of our staff in our community, but I hope you see yourself reflected. The services utilized, the programs you attended, the items you borrowed, are all reflected in our numbers, stories, and photos collected throughout those twelve months.

For the third year in a row, we connected library borrowers to over **1 million items**. We ended FY24 circulating **1,112,255 items**! This marks our highest circulation year since FY12, when Sequoyah Regional Library System circulated 1,137,412 items. In addition, our FY24 circulation is **3% higher** than last year. This is achieved by your patronage and with the dedication from every staff member, who

Message from the Executive Director

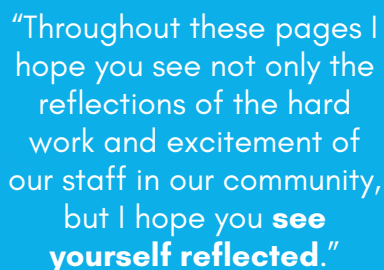
works hard to connect people with ideas and opportunities to explore.

For the entirety of the fiscal year, our Hickory Flat Public Library was closed

for a renovation and expansion. We began this work in January 2023 and were beyond thrilled to reopen in July 2024. The finished renovation of the Hickory Flat Public Library building, originally built in 1993, includes an addition of **7,800 square feet** to the building. The building was designed by CAS Architecture and built by Hollandsworth Construction. With an expanded and renovated library facility, the Sequoyah Regional Library System community will have more space for books and technology; larger areas for programs, meetings, collaboration, and creation; and additional seating for study and quiet reading.

Since 1958, the Sequoyah Regional Library System has served the citizens of Cherokee, Pickens, and Gilmer Counties. By sharing our resources, the communities served by the system capitalize on economies of scale, resulting in greater effectiveness, improved quality, and access to more services and materials. Our public libraries provide great value to the community and return on investment for taxpayers.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners for their unwavering support and hard work. Together, we have created vibrant and



"Throughout these pages I hope you see not only the reflections of the hard work and excitement of our staff in our community, but I hope you **see yourself reflected.**"

Message from the Executive Director



welcoming spaces where everyone can **learn, explore, and connect**. Thank you again for making this library year so successful. We look forward to serving you better in the years to come.

We hope that you find this report informative and exciting. Your continued support is important to the library's success, so we invite you to contact us with any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns. This report only touches on the highlights, so we are very happy to provide more detailed data or information on any of the topics included here.

Thank you for allowing us to be your **Dynamic Destination for Discovery!**



Angela Cortellino

Angela Cortellino, Executive Director
Sequoyah Regional Library System

**"The Sequoyah Regional
Library System strives to be
the community's *dynamic
destination for discovery.*"**



130,220

Community
Members with a
SRLS library card

1,112,255

Total Items
Checked out from
our Collection

**Serving 3
Counties**

Cherokee
Pickens
Gilmer



Pickens County Library

One Year Open



Grand Opening May 11, 2023

1,298

Library Card
Sign-Ups

54,601

Visitors

90,598

Items Checked Out



152

Programs





Hickory Flat Public Library



Grand Opening July 25, 2024

Reservable Rooms

Large Room

100 Guests

Medium Room

10 Guests

3 Small Rooms

1 - 4 Guests

\$6,754,039

Total Renovation Cost

7,800

Square Footage Added



26

Parking Spaces
Added





Sequoyah Spotlight

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation

An early literacy initiative encouraging parents to read with their children before age 5.



36

Graduates

1,598

Participants

60,007

Books Read

55

Balloons
Dropped



Sequoyah Spotlight

Programs Offered

952

Total
Programs



Programs Offered

Summer Discovery

Winter Literacy

Sequoyah-Con

Sequoyah Space Explorers

Knowledge Base

Local Author Market

National Library Week

eBook Month

**Programs
for
All Ages**



Youth



Teen



Adult



Your Dollars at Work

33,303

Program Attendance

\$10.00

Value Per One

\$333,030

Total Value of Service



**Increased library
borrowers by
5.89%**



Sequoyah Spotlight

Services Offered

Library Cards
Ask Us! Sessions
Community Spaces
Computers & Printers
Digitizing Equipment
Experience Passes
EZ Student Access
Interlibrary Loans
Library of Things
Proctoring
Seed Libraries
3D Printing





Sequoyah Spotlight

Outreach Snapshot

8,933

Patrons Served

166

Sign-Ups

265

Check outs

179

Total Events





Sequoyah Spotlight

Collections Spapshot

853,662

Books
Checked Out

1,738

Experience
Passes
Checked Out

142,073

E-Books
Checked Out

116,520

Digital
Audiobooks
Checked Out

8,011

Library of Things
Items
Checked Out



Sequoyah Stories

"[My library] has provided valuable experiences and resources that otherwise wouldn't be available for this homeschooling mom. It provides the community with fun, interactive, and learning experiences that you can't find anywhere else nearby!"


Vanessa, R.T. Jones Memorial Library



"I recently visited the Woodstock Public Library in order to conduct research on its history and importance for a college paper. Thank you for persisting in preserving this free, accessible space available for all to learn. It, along with the rest of the Sequoyah Regional Library System's branches, is truly one of most crucial institutes in all of Georgia and it is my pleasure to have conducted research on its history."

Mackenzie, Woodstock Public Library

Sequoyah Stories



"[A staff member] helped me set up a Google distribution list for emails. I have not used Google this way before but used other programs for email lists. [The staff member] did a zoom call so that I could be at my desk computer. She was very thorough and explained how to set up my list for our HOA. This allowed me to do an email blast to the residents."

Dianne, Pickens County Library

"I am an author of a children's book and I needed some help using Facebook to advertise or promote my book. One of the staff members told me how to fill out the form to ask a librarian for help. I did that and made an appointment. At our appointment, she was patient and considerate of me and the help that I needed. She showed me how to promote my book on my Facebook page. In return, I got sales of my book! I received over 100 sales."

Carol, R.T. Jones Memorial Library

Your Dollars at Work

Books Borrowed

814,656

Times Used

\$15.00

Value Per One
Service

\$12,219,840

Total Value
of Service

Magazines Borrowed

5,116

Times Used

\$5.00

Value Per One
Service

\$25,580

Total Value
of Service

DVDs/BluRays Borrowed

16,026

Times Used

\$20.00

Value Per One
Service

\$320,520

Total Value
of Service

Audiobooks Borrowed

116,520

Times Used

\$20.00

Value Per One
Service

\$2,330,400

Total Value
of Service

eBooks Borrowed

142,073

Times Used

\$20.00

Value Per One
Service

\$2,841,460

Total Value
of Service

Your Dollars at Work

Computer Usage

49,687

Times Used

\$5.00

Value Per One
Service

\$248,435

Total Value
of Service

Chromebooks Borrowed

801

Times Used

\$200.00

Value Per One
Service

\$133,000

Total Value
of Service

Hotspots Borrowed

362

Times Used

\$200.00

Value Per One
Service

\$72,400

Total Value
of Service

State Park Pass Borrowed

336

Times Used

\$5.00

Value Per One
Service

\$1,680

Total Value
of Service

Zoo Pass Borrowed

653

Times Used

\$75.00

Value Per One
Service

\$48,975

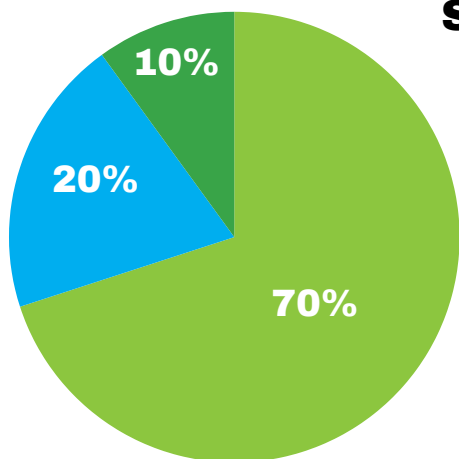
Total Value
of Service

Revenues Expenditures



Sequoyah Regional Library System received numerous grants totaling in excess of \$164,000.

Awarded grants include Great Stories Club Grant, Cobb EMC, Faith Hope & Charity, PCCRA, State Lib Tech, State Major Repair and Renovation, Sandra Deal Summer, and FEMA.



SRLS Operating Funds

70% Local Governments

20% State Government

10% Other Sources*

*Fines, Fees, Donations, Federal Grants





Your Sequoyah Locations

Ball Ground Public Library

435 Old Canton Rd
Ball Ground, GA 30107

Gilmer County Library

268 Calvin Jackson Dr
Ellijay, GA 30540

Hickory Flat Public Library

2740 East Cherokee Dr
Canton, GA 30115

Pickens County Library

100 Library Lane
Jasper, GA 30143

Rose Creek Public Library

4476 Towne Lake Pkwy
Woodstock, GA 30189

R.T. Jones Memorial Library

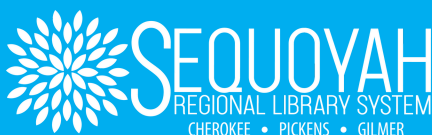
116 Brown Industrial Pkwy
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Woodstock Public Library

7735 Main St
Woodstock, GA 30188

Law Library

Frank C. Mills III Justice Center,
Suite 250
90 North Street, Canton, GA 30114



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Sequoyah Regional Library System is a three-county library system with seven locations and a law library. Gilmer and Pickens Counties each have one location in their county. Cherokee County has five locations and a law library at the courthouse. SRLS is governed by a Board of Trustees composed of nine members from the local county boards. Appointments to the Regional Board include five members from the Cherokee Board, two members from the Pickens Board, and two members from the Gilmer Board. The County Boards oversee the operations of the local library and report to the Regional Board.