



Our Story

Year in Review

2024-2025

This past year, Green Hills Public Library District continued to cultivate curiosity across the community. Guided by our mission and strategic goals, we have embraced new opportunities to serve our community, while building on the strong foundation of our existing offerings.

There are even more materials for our patrons to browse and check out from GHPLD. Our recently added Beyond Books collection was enhanced with new items including a coin counter, balloon pump, portable projector screen, and giant outdoor games. We also welcomed more than 50 new online databases to our existing suite of digital resources, all thanks to the Illinois Office of the Secretary of State and Illinois State Library. And for those who enjoy a quick game of Wordle, or reading The New York Times, our community now has free daily access. Finally, at the tail end of our fiscal year, we installed a 24-Hour Library at the main entrance where patrons can check out materials and pick-up holds at their convenience – day or night.



24-Hour Library



Micropantry

In an effort to tailor services to specific needs and interests, we introduced new and unique offerings. A micropantry was installed at the main entrance of the Library, where patrons can donate or take non-perishable food items and toiletries as needed. We also joined the world of podcasts with the debut of our own series, *Checked Out*, where staff hold lively discussions about books, movies, music, and more. To level up our youth volunteer program, the Youth Services Department provided new and meaningful opportunities for tweens and teens to give back to their community. And we can't forget about our youngest patrons, who can now participate in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, an online program self-led by parents to foster a love of reading early on.

From early learners to lifelong explorers, we have created and maintained a welcoming space for discovery and growth. We once again teamed up with Artist Sonata Kazimieraitiene to design a ceramic mural in the Screened Porch Room inspired by community contributions. In addition, the Youth Play Area took on a new look with a new theme – The Campground. Children can now enjoy a multitude of toys and interactive play items to spark their imagination and creativity while supporting learning and development. And lastly, as part of our maintenance efforts, new flooring was installed to replace worn carpeting, and updated furniture was added to various spaces of the Library.



Ceramic Mural

Our program offerings proved to be successful with a wide reach, totaling 16,708 community members. And while the numbers are interesting, the positive impact is a key component of our story. In our Youth Services Department, what has stood out most is how our youth patrons have interacted with one another. Children have met new friends, worked as a team, shared knowledge, and gone out of their way to make others feel welcome, all while learning new skills themselves. In our Adult Services Department, adults have come together to share their enjoyment and interest in local history, health and wellness, creative outlets, and technology, to name a few. And to further bring our community together, we hosted several programs for all ages and families, including our first-ever Roller Disco Day, when we turned the Library's meeting room into a roller-skating rink.



Jane Jenkins

Jane Jenkins,
Library Director

As of this writing, we are well into our 2025-2026 fiscal year with some exciting initiatives in the works. I invite you to follow along with us by looking at our Action Plan at greenhillslibrary.org/about/strategic-plan.

Thank you to our community, staff, and Board of Trustees for their ongoing support. We hope to see you soon!



Green Hills Public Library District By the Numbers 2024-2025

226,107

Circulation of
Items

64,989

Physical Items
in Collection

111,875

Patron
Visits

16,708

Program
Participation

12,381

Library
Cardholders

10,015

Reference
Transactions

299,690

Computer &
Internet Sessions

20,914

Database
Usage



What Our Community is Saying About GHPLD:

"Keep up the fantastic work, library staff! Love our library!"

"Everyone is so nice + kind! An amazing library all around ☺"

"We love our library! Such a wonderful place for children and adults. So many services!"

"The library is always well organized, clean, quiet, and the staff members are extremely knowledgeable, friendly, and helpful."

"Best library and staff ever!"

"I love to see the growth of this fantastic staff! Thank you to each for helping make our library such a treasure!!"

"LOVE THIS LIBRARY BECAUSE OF ALL THE HELPFUL, KIND AND INFORMATIVE STAFF!"

"Cool staff"