



# 2024 Annual Report

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

2024 was a fun, busy year for Colfax Public Library. We had Summer Reading, Story Time, Lego Club, holiday parties, The Bubbler, a children's cello concert, and a teen acting troupe's performance of "As You Like It" in our park. Altogether 2,365 children and adults attended our events.

## CORE MESSAGE

We broadened our community outreach by reading to residents in assisted living, visiting HeadStart, and having a booth at the Colfax Free Fair. We also added a "Library of Things" with a health and wellness theme, started a Little Free Pantry in our hallway, and installed a blood pressure testing station in our library.

## OTHER KEY POINTS

Colfax Public Library remains committed to our mission of promoting literacy and being a welcoming, inclusive, and useful place for the community. With a collection of over 10,000 books and movies, membership in the IFLS/MORE library system (providing patrons with access to all the resources of our 54 member libraries), and great staff, Colfax Public Library is dedicated to serving its community well.



## IMPACT SNAPSHOT

47%

Increase in program participation

89

New library cards issued

3696

Free Wi-Fi logins



# Literacy and Community



Children are a BIG part of our library. In 2024 children's materials counted for over 55% of all checkouts.

**“Discover the joy of reading and develop a love of learning.”**

**1,076**

Number of new books added in 2024

Adult readership at Colfax increased by 7%

**2045**

Number of reference questions answered

“Our staff are knowledgeable and motivated to help.”

**E-MATERIALS  
ON THE RISE**

Up 10% in 2024

“Easy, convenient, and paperless.”

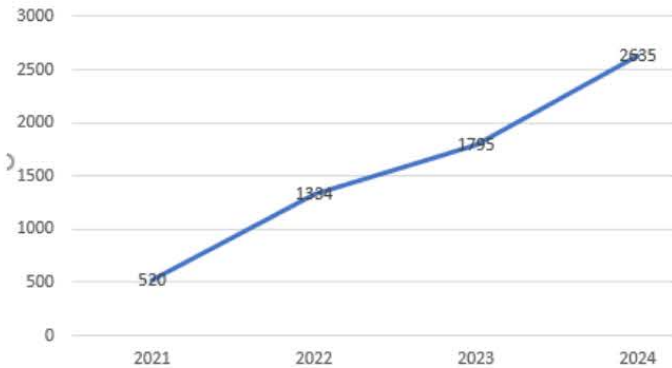
**PRINT BOOKS  
REMAIN POPULAR**

Less than 0.4% of children's checkouts are e-materials

Less than 15% of all library checkouts are e-materials

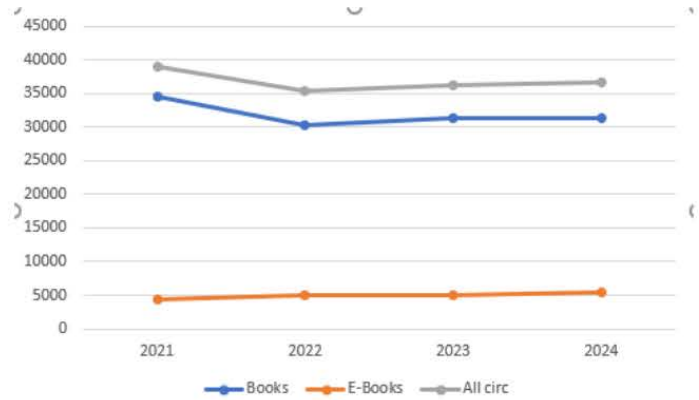
# By the numbers

## Program Attendance



Word is getting out! In-person attendance for children's programs increases every year!

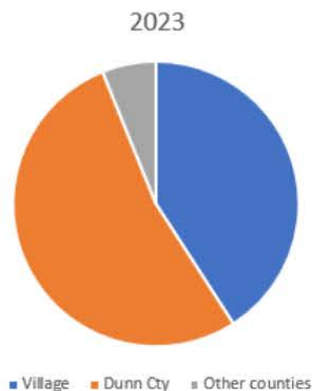
## Circulation



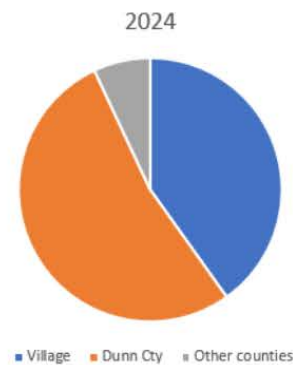
E-books are appreciated, but physical books are still the library's most popular checkout items.

## Circulation Trends

**In 2023, 41% of our checkouts were from village residents**



**In 2024, 40% of our checkouts were from village residents**



**So very similar usage pattern.**



# We couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you to: our trustees, donors, patrons, Dunn County, and the Village of Colfax

Thanks to Boy Scout Cooper Gibbs and his family, we started a Little Free Pantry in our hallway in 2024. So far all the food in it has been donations from the community, but going forward we have a partnership with Stepping Stones in Menomonie to keep the pantry stocked.



## Community partnerships

Local businesses have been great about helping support the Library's Summer Reading program. Greta's Play & Stay, Woods Run, Pleasant Valley, Dairy State Bank, The Blind Tiger, Colfax Chevrolet, Mom's Restaurant, Cafe Il, Anderson Bridges, Little Italy, and Kyle's are just some of the businesses that have been helpful.

Local organizations have also been great, particularly the Kiwanis, the Colfax Woman's Club, The Sweet Adelines, the Community Foundation of Dunn County, and the United Way.

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The American Library Association gave us a \$10,000 grant this year to add an automated door to the back of our building. When door costs exceeded the grant amount, the Village of Colfax chipped in with an additional \$4000+. Thank you!!!

Individual donors have been great this year, too, both to the Library and to our Elevator Funds savings. Many people also donated their time and expertise to the library, including Jim Eggert, Mark Mosey, Pat Eggert, and James Frisch. This library is very well-supported by it's community, and it shows!

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