



The Eastern Lancaster County Library (ELANCO Library) aspires to be **a community center aiding in the creation of a stronger and healthier community and civil society.** As the public library for approximately **25,000** residents of five rural municipalities (Caernarvon Township, East Earl Township, Earl Township, New Holland Borough, and Terre Hill Borough) and beyond, we've served the public for **90 years** since our establishment in **1933** by the New Holland Business and Professional Women's Club.

In **2023**, ELANCO Library focused on better serving residents of our service area and beyond by **removing barriers to access to library services, books, and other learning materials.** Recognizing that transportation and time constrain many, we conducted **56** outreach events, **conveniently bringing library programs, materials, and services directly to the public, at schools & and other community venues.** We distributed more than **1,700 free books** to residents of the municipalities we serve. While the formidable challenge of having to raise approximately two-thirds of our annual operating budget prevents us from following the national and local trend of eliminating overdue fines and fees at this time, we **made it a priority to raise funds to pay off library fines for 30 children, restoring their access to needed reading & learning materials.**

We received several awards from **PA Forward®, the Pennsylvania Library Association's 21st Century Literacies Initiative**, in recognition of our excellence in programming for adults, teens, and children that fosters the development of **Basic Literacy, Information Literacy, Civic and Social Literacy, Health Literacy, and Financial Literacy**, earning its highest award, **Gold Star** designation, in October 2023. Listening carefully to local families, schools, and other partner organizations, we offered an increased line-up of early literacy and school readiness programs, tailoring those offerings carefully to match the needs and desires presented to us and to aid young children in achieving goals enumerated in local and statewide early learning standards.

ELANCO Library made two infrastructure improvements 2023. We **replaced our hot water heater** and **migrated to a new online events scheduling/advertising & room reservation system**, which created operating efficiencies and improved services to the public.

We were thrilled to have helped to **prevent summer learning** loss in **1,107** children and teens who participated in the 2023 Summer Reading Program and to have **saved our users well over three million dollars** (\$3,408,793.53) simply by checking out books, audiobooks, DVDs, and other items from the library last year.

A new chapter begins at ELANCO Library in 2024: we are renovating and expanding our Children's Library! The project will include creating a new Early Learning Room, transforming our Board room into a space suitable for teen programming & community meetings, upgrading the HVAC system for improved air quality, and enhancing the entire Children's Library with some new furnishings, improved lighting, flooring, and more. Thinking farther ahead, we will be seeking creative solutions to obtain **stable, sufficient, and sustainable funding for the library** so that we make it to our **100th anniversary in 2033** to ensure that **our vital programs and services continue for many generations to come.**

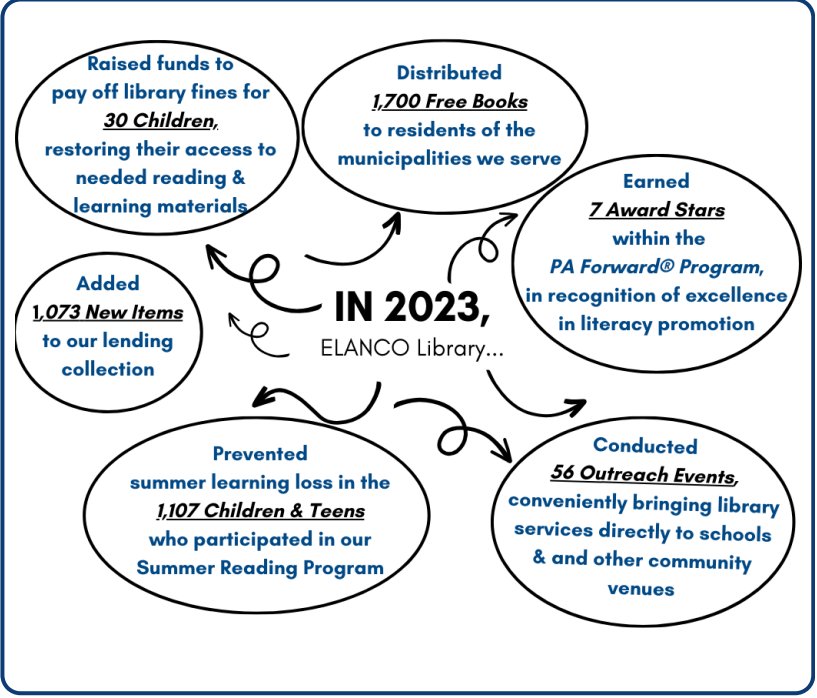
Sincerely, Anna D'Agostino, Library Director

SELECTED STATISTICS

Checkouts



Community Impact



In 2023:

3,509 used the library's public computers for a total of **2,360** hours.

6,573 unique devices connected to the library's free WiFi network.

www.elancolibrary.org was visited **49,861** times.

Door Count



2020: 21,223



2021: 38,354



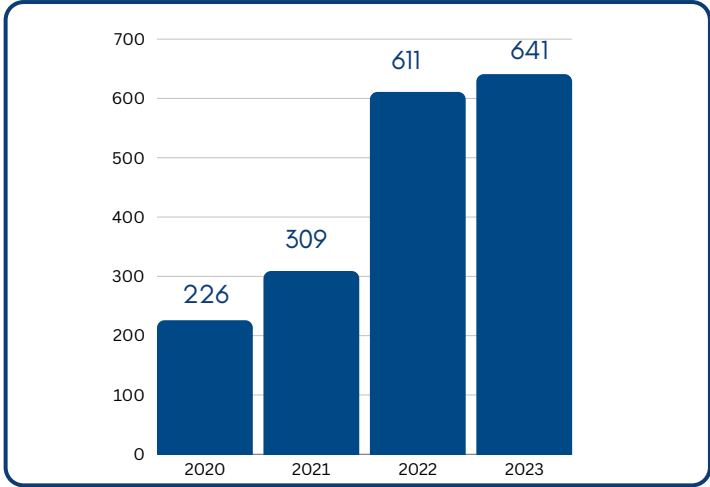
2022: 52,277



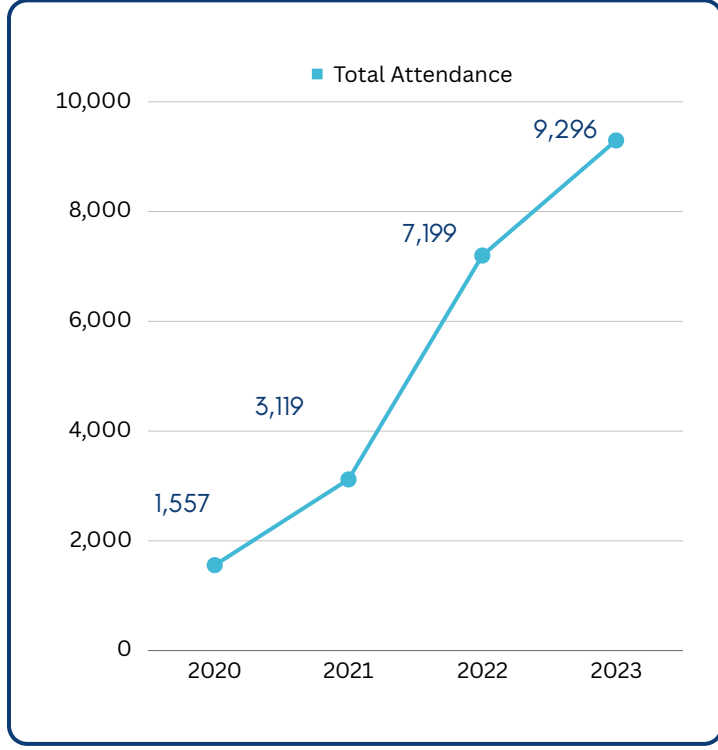
2023: 56,186



New Library Card Registrations



Educational Programs & Special Events



ELANCO Library offered

332

in-person programs in 2023!

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717-354-0525 | ADAGOSTINO@ELANCOLIBRARY.ORG

SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS TO AREA RESIDENTS



ELANCO Library's Service Area includes Caernarvon Township, Earl Township, East Earl Township, New Holland Borough, and Terre Hill Borough.

2023 TOTALS FOR SERVICE AREA

Items checked out from ELANCO Library by service area residents: **82,569**

Children who participated in the Summer Reading Program: **1,107**

Total funding for ELANCO Library from Municipalities in Service Area: **\$47,300**

Average Cost per resident*: **\$1.79**

Cost savings provided by ELANCO Library to residents*, **: **\$3,408,793.53**

Average Per capita cost savings for residents*, **: **\$133**

*Based on 2020 census data.

**Based on checkouts of print and AV materials from library only.

ELANCO Library saved residents of our service area *more than* \$3,408,793.53 in 2023!**

3,171 service area residents are active cardholders!

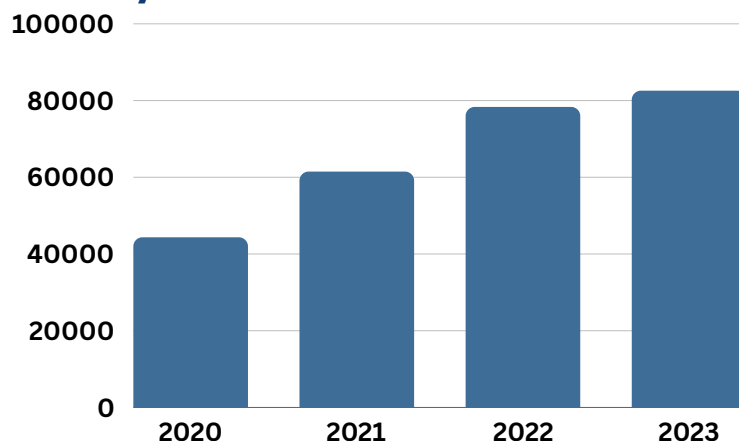
**(cards must be renewed by a patron every three years to remain active).*

Since initially signing up for a library card with us, our cardholders have checked out 1,427,433 items to date!

ELANCO Library also offered over 332 free educational programs to residents in 2023.

ELANCO Library provides access to public computers & internet, interlibrary loan, assistance from trained staff, access to eBooks & eAudiobooks, an accessible, open facility, and much more, at no charge to the public.

Checkouts of Library Materials by Service Area Residents



SUMMER READING STATISTICS

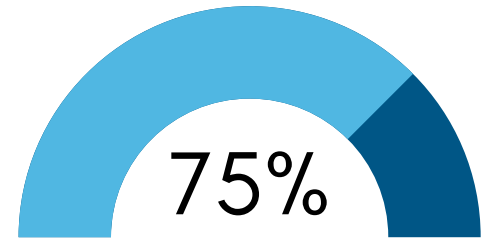
ELANCO 2023 TOTALS

Registered for reading program: **1107**
 Completed reading program: **830**
 Participated in GO! Lancaster: **148**
 Completed GO! Lancaster: **39**

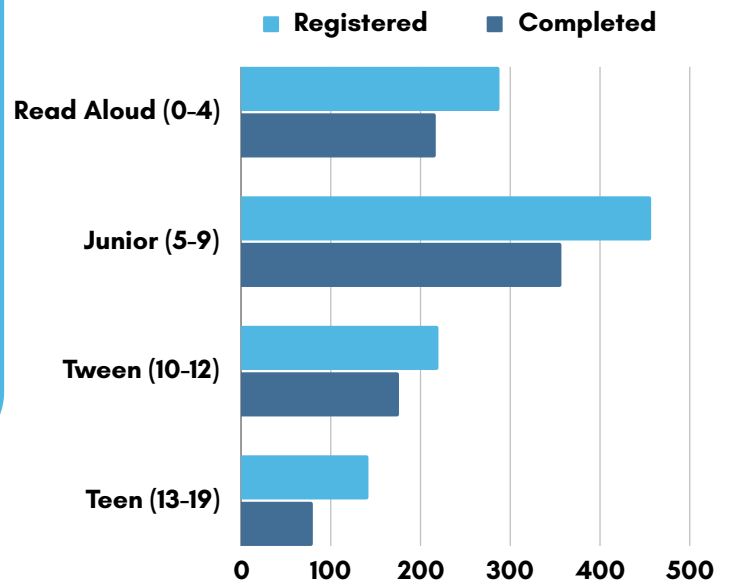
Extra "Readers Unite!" Challenge
 Completions: **654**

Total Books Read (ages 0-4): **12,196**
 Total Hours Read (ages 5-19): **13,576**

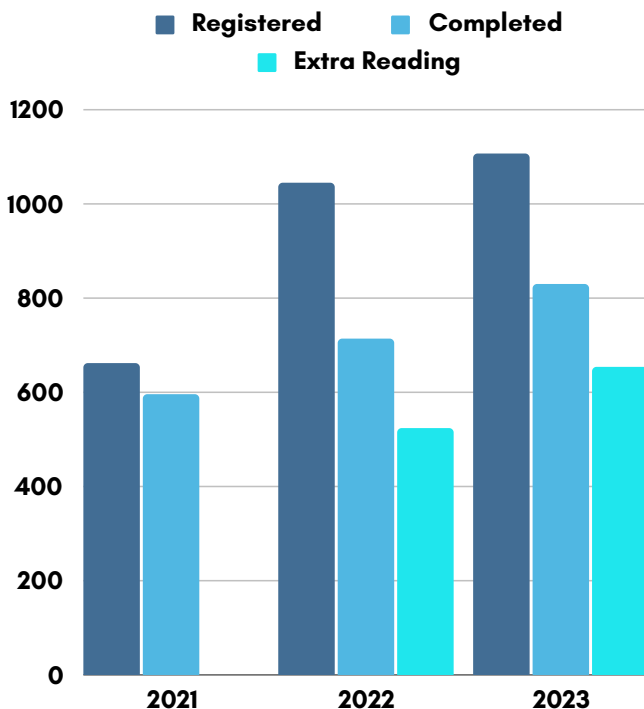
READING LOG COMPLETION RATE



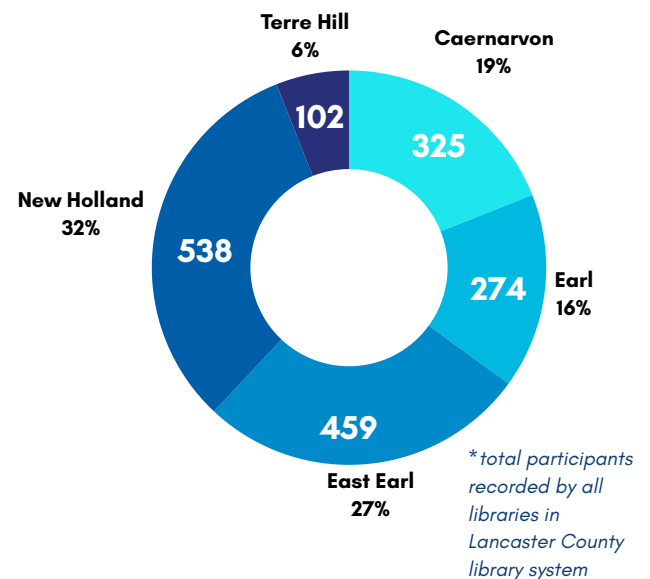
AGE OF PARTICIPANTS



ELANCO PARTICIPATION BY YEAR



ELANCO SERVICE AREA DISTRIBUTION AND NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS



ELANCO LIBRARY EARNS GOLD STAR FOR LITERACY PROMOTION



ELANCO Library is pleased to participate in **PA Forward®**, the **Pennsylvania Library Association's 21st Century Literacies Initiative**, which encourages libraries to offer high quality programs, services, and collections that foster the development of **Basic Literacy, Information Literacy, Civic and Social Literacy, Health Literacy, and Financial Literacy**.

Data shows that acquisition of and growth in these Five Literacies is correlated with academic and financial success, more engaged and informed citizens, and increased quality of life for individuals and communities. Libraries, as community centers of learning, information, and technology, are ideally positioned to promote these literacies. For more information on **PA Forward®** and how fueling the development of the Five Literacies is essential to success, visit <https://paforward.org/>.

On October 20, 2023, ELANCO Library, officially received "Gold Star" designation within the **PA Forward Star Library Program**, after earning a Bronze Star and five Silver Stars, one each in Basic Literacy, Civic & Social Literacy, Financial Literacy, Health Literacy, and Information Literacy, earlier in 2023.

As part of our commitment to excellence; our vision to be a highly valued, inclusive community resource for education, empowerment, enlightenment, enrichment, and entertainment; and in keeping with the objectives delineated in our **2023 to 2025 Strategic Plan**, we are committed to maintaining Gold Star standing within the PA Forward® program.



A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS...

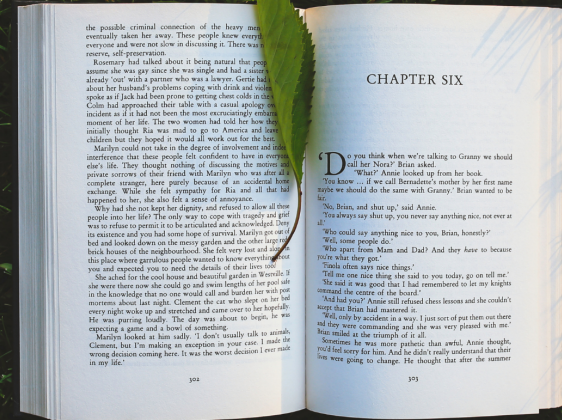
WE'RE RENOVATING & EXPANDING OUR CHILDREN'S LIBRARY!



A
NEW
CHAPTER
BEGINS
AT
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OUR
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...will reopen
in late Spring 2024!



ELANCO Library is thrilled to announce an upcoming **renovation & expansion of our Children's Library**. Please visit www.elancolibrary.org/a-new-chapter to learn more. The project will include:

- Transforming underutilized space into an **Early Learning Area** for education and recreation for **children age birth to five and their parents** or caregivers
- Creating a **suitable space for teen programming**, which will double as an **attractive meeting room for community groups**
- Upgrading the HVAC system for **improved air quality**
- Enhancing the entire Children's Library with a **raised ceiling, carpet, paint, improved lighting, some new furnishings, and more.**

Construction will begin in early 2024 and conclude with a grand reopening of Children's Library in late Spring 2024.

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