PCPLS

Porter County Public Library System

Annual Impact Report

2025

Discover · Explore · Share

Great library with amazing/helpful staff. Also a great section upstairs for small children to play and have a nice time while one parent is looking for books.

Clean building, well organized with very good selection, friendly & helpful staff.

Great staff that are knowledgeable and helpful when you need help.

I often print things from my phone here! It's a great service to offer those who don't own a computer.

Our mission is to enrich the residents of Porter County through discovery, exploration, and the sharing of books and resources.

For such a small town, the library is great. Part of Porter County Public Libraries, you can get just about anything you want. Large collection of e-books and large print books too!

Always incredibly helpful. All of their staff is friendly, knowledgeable, and attentive. Today I asked about getting a new library card since I can't find my card. The librarian asked me if I use libby or other apps to read on my phone and she proceeded to make me a new card with my same number so I didn't loose all of my holds I have on Libby!

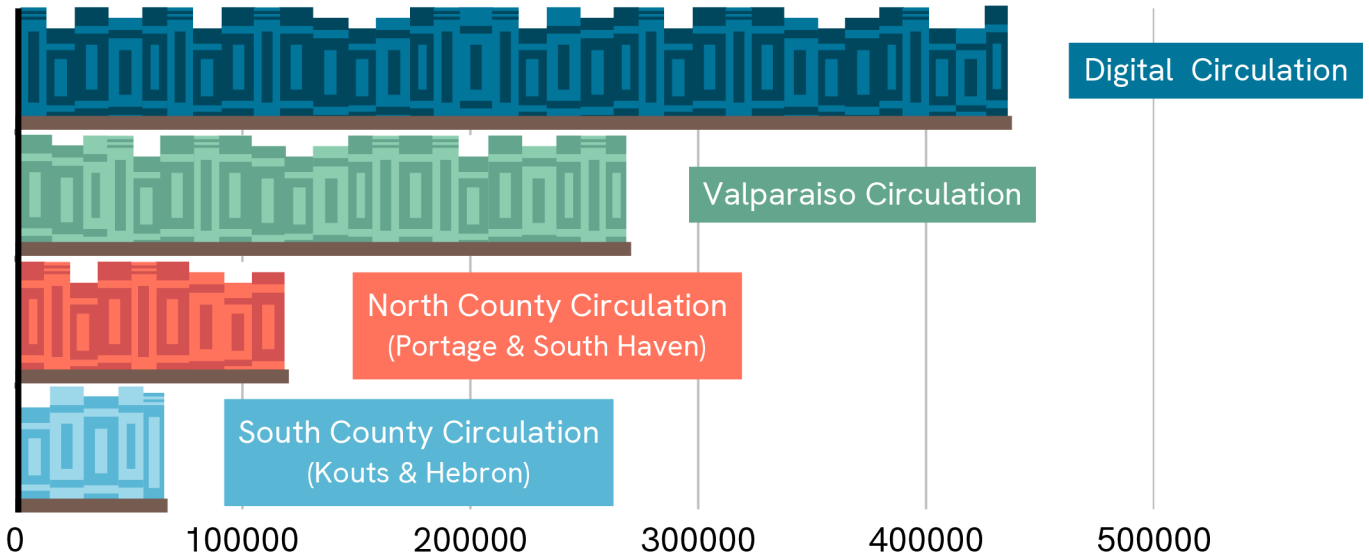
PCPLS IN 2025

Total Branch Visitors in 2025: 427,727

- Valparaiso
- Hebron
- Portage
- Kouts
- South Haven

2025 New Patrons:
5,083
Total Active Cardholders:
23,352

Circulation by Branch



PCPLS SERVICES

- CURBSIDE PICKUP
- EXAM PROCTORING
- TECH HELP
- REMOTE PRINTING
- NOTARY SERVICES
- ROOM RESERVATION
- INFO SERVICES
- DATABASES
- COPY/SCAN/FAX
- LAMINATE

YOUR LIBRARY AT A GLANCE

1,127,046 newsletters opened

Our buildings were open **15,632 hours**

312,943 sessions on *pcpls.org*

658,486 impressions on social media

11,435 meeting and study space bookings

EVERGREEN INDIANA LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

INDIANA DIGITAL LIBRARY

PCPLS partners with other Indiana libraries through the Evergreen Indiana Library Consortium and Indiana Digital Library, giving you access to over 8 million items. This teamwork allows us to share physical and digital materials statewide, making it easier for you to find what you need, while also maximizing our use of taxpayer money.

MOST POPULAR BOOKS OF 2025

Children Books

Young Adult

Graphic Novels

Adult Fiction

Adult Nonfiction

PROGRAMMING

1,178 Programs	26,062 Program Attendees	Average 95 Programs Per Month

2025 Reading Challenges

Total Participants: 1,856
Minutes Read: 1,040,369

Total Participants: 497
Minutes Read: 67,013

INCLUSION & ACCESSIBILITY @ PCPLS

LIBRARIES ARE FOR EVERYONE

Dyslexia Friendly & Large Print Materials	Multilingual Materials	Accessible Technology	Early Intervention Play Group
Sensory Hours	Curbside Pickup & Home Delivery Service	Read to a Comfort Dog Program	Accessible & Interactive Library Gardens

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Bringing the library to you!

As of 2025, four out of five of our library branches feature lovely outdoor spaces. These Library Gardens have greatly enriched our services, each with its own unique charm. Only one garden left to grow!

Our fantastic team visits schools, preschools and even Girl Scout gatherings via our 'Book a Librarian' program. We also have a 'Teacher Toolkit' to add a little library magic into your classrooms.

You'll find us at Porter County gatherings all throughout the year, spreading joy and knowledge. Drop by our blue library tent to hear about all the new exciting things happening at your library!

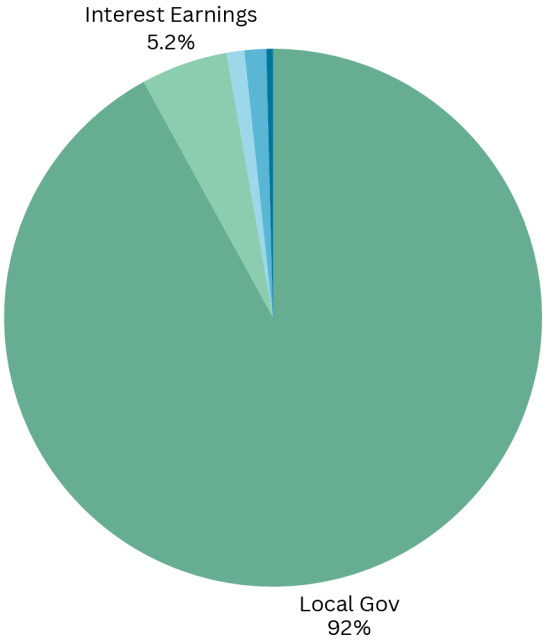
113
Book a Librarian Visits

38
Community Events

5,862
Book a Librarian Attendees

10,785
Smiling Faces

REVENUE



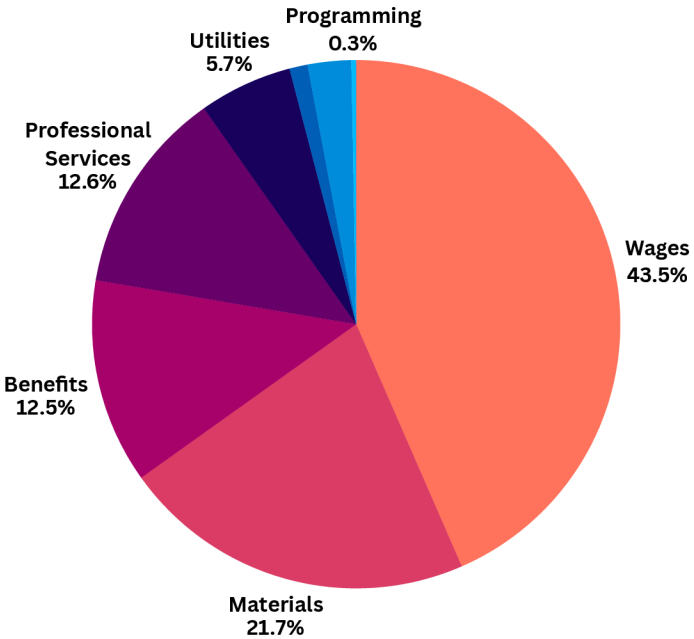
Local Gov.	$7,405,773
Interest Earnings	$419,166
Miscellaneous	$212,113
Donations	$104,877
Fees	$87,566
State Gov.	$31,696

EXPENSES

$50.18 per capita tax expenditure

$50.85 per capita budget

Wages	$2,822,300
Materials	$1,407,457
Professional Services	$815,286
Benefits	$814,348
Utilities	$370,810
Furniture & Equipment	$172,631
Supplies	$72,181
Programming	$18,240
Other	$901

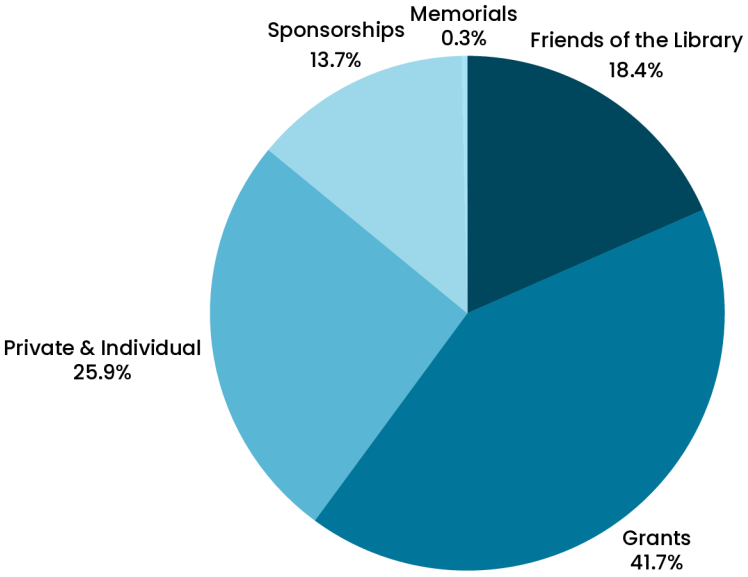


VOLUNTEER

In 2025, volunteers donated over 1,640 hours of their time to PCPLS. We are grateful for our awesome team of volunteers at the Porter County Public Library System.

We also want to thank the 126 Friends of the Library members who donated their time to support our library. The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit organization that raises funds and promotes the library. In 2025, the Friends raised over $30,600 through used book sales and other fund raising efforts.

SUPPORT



Friends of the Library	$25,054
Grants*	$56,696
Private & Individual	$35,168
Sponsorships	$18,650
Memorials	$475

**PCPLS recieved $700,000 from ARPA in 2023 for Library Gardens currently under construction.*

Thank you to our 2025 Board of Trustees and our business and community partners for supporting PCPLS and the residents of Porter County.

2025 Business Donations

RailCats
Jimmy John's Sandwiches
Chick-fil-A
Dunkin'
Freddy's
Culver's
Hot Shop Valpo Glass Art Studio
Cold Stone Creamery
Designer Desserts
Subway
DQ
Buona Chicago's Original Italian Beef
Family Express
meijer
Albano's
123 Sesame Street

2025 Community Partners

Kiwanis International
Valpo Parks
First Things First Porter County
Portage Township Schools
Lions International
Purdue Extension Porter County
POCO muse
Kidworks LLC Pediatric Therapy Center
Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana
Washington Township Schools
CoAction
AARP
City of Valparaiso
Porter County Parks & Recreation
Porter County Recycling & Waste Reduction
Dunelands School Corporation Chesterton, Indiana
Porter County Friends of the Library
OCRA Office of Community & Rural Affairs
Shirley Heinze Land Trust
Hebron Chamber of Commerce
Hilltop Neighborhood House
Greater Portage Chamber of Commerce
Opportunity Enterprises
American Red Cross
Compass International Family Center
the YMCA
Porter County Police Indiana
Art Barn school of art
Indiana Broadband
City of Portage State of Indiana
Valparaiso Police State of Indiana
Music Project
Hebron Schools Msd of Boone Township
AmeriCorps
East Porter County School Corporation
A Community Working Together Hebron, Indiana
Rotary International
The Salvation Army
Education Foundation of Porter Township School Corporation
Valparaiso Events
Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society Serving Lake and Porter Counties Since 1970
girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana
Valparaiso Community Schools
Valparaiso University
Portage LIVE
Porter County Community Foundation Est. 1996
Valpo Chamber
Porter County Indiana
The Valparaiso International Center

> If you ever need a place to study and do your homework, ride on over to [PCPLS]. This place has everything you need. It's peaceful, quiet, the staff are friendly, they have wi-fi, a study room, and if you just want a place to sit down and take a breather for a moment.

Thank you for an amazing 2025 with our library. We can't wait to turn the page with you to 2026!

PCPLS Board of Trustees

Olga Granat
Julie Giorgi
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PCPLS

PORTER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

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pcpls.org

@portercountypubliclibrarysystem

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