

BARRINGTON AREA LIBRARY REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

Name of Library: Barrington Public Library District

Address of Main Library: 505 N. Northwest Highway, Barrington, IL 60010

II. Information about our Library

We are located in Lake County and serve portions of Lake, Cook, McHenry and Kane Counties.

The population of the territory in which our Library is located is 44,157 (as of 2020 census).

We have 83 employees of the Library (not including board members).

Our annual budget for FY 24 is \$11,634,504.87 with \$3,345,000 Special Reserve dollars dedicated to renovation projects.

III. Information about Our Committee

Committee Members:

Board President: Carrie F. Carr

Vice President: Jan Miller

Treasurer: Jennifer Lucas

Secretary: Anne Ordway

Trustee: Kristin Cunningham

Trustee: Jackie McGrath

Trustee: Lindsay Prigge

Executive Director: Jason Pinshower

District Resident: Bob Ben

District Resident: Tim Grabacki

Dates that our Committee Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First Meeting: 04/10/2023

Second Meeting: 08/14/2023

Third Meeting: 03/11/2024

Additional Meetings (List All, if any):

IV. Mission, Vision, and Core Values

The Barrington Public Library District strives to stimulate imagination, develop information fluency, foster lifelong learning, and create young readers all in comfortable physical and virtual settings.

We bring our mission to our community via our vision for ourselves: Great service, great experiences, and great stewardship.

Our values are empathy, respect, trust, curiosity, and delight.

All services, programs, partnerships, and endeavors must adhere to our mission, vision, and core values.

V. Awards and Recognitions

Our Library has received the following awards, distinctions and recognitions:

2022, 2021, and 2019 Library Journal Four Star Library
2018, 2017, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009 Library Journal Three Star Library

VI. Partnership and Intergovernmental Agreements

We partner with or have Intergovernmental Agreements with the following other governments (*list as many as you have*):

- **Barrington School District 220** – Provide book bag delivery to teachers for use in their classrooms. Library staff visit schools to promote Library services and resources. Teachers request visits to the library for their classes to tour/learn about/experience library resources.
- **Barrington High School Transition Program** – The Library partners with the Barrington High School Transition program to offer volunteer opportunities for students to develop work skills.
- **Illinois Libraries Presents** – We have an intergovernmental agreement with Illinois Libraries Presents to provide high cost/interest programming to our customers through pooling of funds by many other libraries to offset the cost for each individual library.
- **Hoffman Estates Park District** – Intergovernmental agreement for pickup/return lockers in the Willow Recreation Center.

- **Village of Barrington** - Intergovernmental agreement for pickup/return lockers in the Barrington Train Station. Program partnerships including Touch a Truck and Construction Story time.
- **University of Illinois Extension Program Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists** – Partner with Master Gardener’s and Master Naturalists for our Teaching Garden and Teaching Prairie. They help with programs and workdays.
- **Barrington Area Volunteer Connection** – Serve on the steering committee. Library staff member does all new organization training, platform maintenance, help with social media, and staffing events.
- **Barrington Area Council of Governments** – Partner on programs like water well testing.
- **Healthier Barrington Coalition** – Serve on the Healthier Barrington Coalition and help promote the survey. Historically we have hosted the report on our website.
- **Barrington Cultural Commission** – Serve as a consulting member. Work with the Local History subcommittee.

Our Library’s efficiency has increased through intergovernmental cooperation in the following ways:

- Through our IGA with Illinois Libraries Presents, we have saved money on every program we offer in partnership with them.
 - Given the high profile speakers, this equates to an annual savings of over \$8,000.
- Through our book bags provided to local teachers, we save teachers and schools money by them not having to purchase the items.
 - In FY 23, our Youth Services department sent **534 School Loan Requests** with **14,572 items** to **30 schools and/or organizations**. This accounted for 6% of the YS print collection circulation in FY23.
 - Breakdown:
 - PreK – 311 bags, 9597 items, 15 schools/organizations
 - K-8 – 223 bags, 4975 items, 15 schools/organizations
- Our work with the Barrington Area Volunteer Connection saves organizations and ourselves money by finding volunteers without having to spend any money.
 - In the last 12 months, 337 new users registered and 1,366 people responded to nonprofit volunteer opportunities.
- As an active participant in the Barrington Cultural Commission (BCC), we ensure that there are no redundancies in the programs offered throughout our community.
 - We are active with the Local History subcommittee of the BCC, hosting meetings at the Library and providing digital and print resources as part of our Local History Collection and hosting a Local History Fair.
- The Village of Barrington advertises our programs in their weekly e-newsletter.
- The Village of Deer Park routinely includes library programming in their newsletters.
- Our Adult Services, Youth Services, Customer Service, and Digital Services departments participate in ongoing outreach efforts to senior living facilities, schools, and local events.

- In FY 23 we conducted 164 outreach events with 8,623 participants.
- We loaned one of our library branded story walks to Station Middle School. We received feedback from them giving “a HUGE THANK YOU for the StoryWalk! Our school is LOVING it!! It has really helped to build our school community. We can't thank you enough.”

VII. Survey Results

In July of 2023, the Library sent out a digital “BALibrary Efficiency and Satisfaction Survey” to 45 community partners. We had 19 responses over the course of 3 weeks, equating to a 42% response rate. The survey is attached at the end of this report.

- 15 participants were Highly Satisfied with their BALibrary partnership, while 5 were Mostly Satisfied.
- 15 participants reported that their partnership with us saves them time/money, while 4 stated no.
- 13 participants stated our workflows were Extremely Efficient, 4 chose Mostly Efficient, 1 chose neutral, and 1 participant said our workflows were Not Efficient at All.
- 15 participants stated we respond within 24 hours, while 4 chose within 24-48 hours.

Comments included:

- “More frequent reading to therapy animals programs.” (*SOUL Harbor*)
- “I don't have any suggestions. We are so grateful for our partnership and all that the library does to support our community. Thank you!” (*Bstrong Together*)
- “The work that Barrington Library does to help the LWV bring civic education to voters is invaluable, and we literally could not do it without you!” (*League of Women Voters*)
- “Every BAL employee is incredibly friendly, and always willing to support our events and programs, which allows us to connect more people to nature. We really value our partnership with the BAL. Thank you for all that you do.” (*Forest Preserve of Cook County – Crabtree Nature Center*)
- The BALibrary is a great asset to the community. We appreciate your help in organizing events and bringing a greater audience to programs.

Respondents included:

- Barrington Area Volunteer Connection
- Neuro Balance Center
- SOUL Harbor
- Samaritan Counseling Center
- Barrington Township Food Pantry
- Bstrong Together

- League of Women Voters of the Palatine Area
- Forest Preserve of Cook County - Crabtree Nature Center
- Barrington Cultural Commission and History Working Group

VIII. Community Partnerships

We partner with the following organizations (*list as many as you have*):

- 4H Eco Buds
- Adler Planetarium
- Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital
- Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health
- Ascension Alexian Brothers Center for Eating Disorders
- Bacoa (Barrington Area Council on Aging)
- Barrington 220 School District, Schools, and Board of Trustees
- Barrington 220 Educational Foundation
- Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce
- Barrington Area Community Foundation
- Barrington Area Conservation Trust
- Barrington Area Development Council
- Barrington Area Ministerial Association
- Barrington Area Volunteer Connection
- Barrington Bank & Trust Company
- Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club
- Barrington Career Center
- Barrington Country Home & Garden Club
- Barrington Junior Women's Club
- Barrington Noon Rotary Club
- Barrington Township Food Pantry
- Barrington's White House
- BStrong Together
- Better Business Bureau
- Billet-Doux Stationery and Invitations
- Buckley Fine Law
- Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies, Northern Illinois University
- Chicago Living Corridors
- Citizens For Conservation
- Courageous Community
- Crabtree Nature Center
- Cuba Township Food Pantry
- Deer Park Village Senior Living
- Dunn Museum
- Elgin Symphony Orchestra
- The Garlands of Barrington
- Go Green Barrington
- Illinois Libraries Present
- Kaleidoscope School of Fine Art
- Lake Barrington Woods

- Lake County Forest Preserve District
- The Land Conservancy of McHenry County
- Mane In Heaven
- Neptune Society
- North Cook County Master Gardeners
- Samaritan Counseling Center
- Social Security Administration
- SOUL Harbour Ranch
- South Barrington Park District
- TEDx
- University of Illinois – Urbana/Champaign
- Village of Barrington
- Village of Barrington Hills
- Village of Deer Park
- Willow Recreation Center, Hoffman Estates

IX. What Have We Done Well?

- Our partners are all either highly satisfied or mostly satisfied with our partnerships.
- The majority of our partners save time or money by partnering with us.

X. What Inefficiencies Did We Identify/What Are our Next Steps?

- Response time.

XI. What Can We Do Better or More Efficiently?

- We should aim for a response time of 24 hours.

XII. Our Committee's Recommendations Regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency:

- Conduct an Annual Survey of Community Partners
- Youth Services department continually solicit feedback from teachers about what we offer.
- Reach out to the other villages we serve to share information about our services.
- Promote our resources, like Mango Languages, to schools and teachers.
- Connect with the school district to distribute information regarding the Cards for Kids Act.
- As part of our Outdoor Landscape Master Plan we will be seeking input from the community and stakeholder via an online survey.

Note: This Report must be filed with the county (or counties) no later than 18 months after the first committee meeting.

Submitted by: *Barbara Cull*
 Chairman, Decennial Efficiency Committee

Date of Committee Approval of Report: *3/11/2024*

BALibrary Efficiency & Satisfaction Survey

We would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete this survey for the Barrington Area Library Decennial Committee. Your responses will help us to evaluate the Library's overall efficiency, and your satisfaction with our services. Thank you.

OVERALL SATISFACTION: How satisfied are you with your current partnership with the Barrington Area Library?

	Not at all satisfied	Sometimes dissatisfied	Neutral	Mostly satisfied	Highly satisfied
We are:	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 5

Does your partnership with the Library save your organization time and/or money?

Yes No

WORKFLOW AND PROCESS EFFICIENCY: Are the processes and workflows between your organization and the library efficient and well-optimized?

	Not efficient at all	Somewhat efficient	Neutral	Mostly efficient	Extremely efficient
We find them:	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 4	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 5

In general, how quickly does the Library respond to your inquiries or requests?

Generally within 24 hours Generally within 24-48 hours Generally within 48-72 hours Other: _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. Please use the space below to let us know of any suggestions you might have to make our partnership stronger and/or more efficient.

OPTIONAL: Name of organization