



2024 Connections Report

We are grateful for the rich network of community and national support to make our library even better. Sherwood Public Library (SPL) engages in six levels of partnerships with 42 total local, regional and national groups. These connections help us to provide high-quality services both within and outside the library walls. Funding through partnerships is forecast at over \$1.63 million this year, not including support that can't be measured in dollars.

The levels of partnerships are:

- [Core Funding Partners](#)
- [Support Funding Partners](#)
- [Service & Outreach Partners](#)
- [Initiatives Partners](#)
- [Donating Partners](#)

Core Funding Partners

SPL is a member library of Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) and a department of the City of Sherwood. Our funding is primarily from these two agencies. **Total Core Funding this year is forecast as \$1,610,405**

1. **Washington County Cooperative Library Services**—Sherwood Public Library is one of 13 member libraries of WCCLS and a founding member since 1976. WCCLS funds 64.5% of SPL'S local operating budget. Intergovernmental agreements exist between the City of Sherwood, all member libraries, and WCCLS. Total FY24-25 direct support to us is \$1,041,836. WCCLS funding comes from the County's general fund (approximately 52%), a local option levy for countywide library services (approximately 43%), and WCCLS fund reserves (5%). WCCLS retains 33% for centralized operations and distributes 67% to member libraries.

Additionally:

- Sherwood patrons can access over 1.5 million items from the cooperative, e-books, downloadable audiobooks, streaming movies, electronic resources, and books by mail.
- WCCLS funded giveaway books to distribute offsite during summer reading, through the Library Foundation of Washington County.
- We have local representation on WCCLS Executive Board and Policy Group to advise on policies and budget, and subject matter expert groups to foster countywide collaboration. This year the groups are working with WCCLS and Merina + Co consultants on a Funding and Governance Evaluation Project.
- WCCLS patrons are eligible for free library cards at Clackamas County, Multnomah County, and Fort Vancouver Libraries through the MIX agreement

and at any Oregon libraries participating in the Oregon Library Passport Program, including at Newberg and McMinnville.

2. **City of Sherwood**—SPL is part of the Community Services Division of the city and receives 35% of our funding from the city, not including administrative overhead. Total FY24-25 direct support is forecast as \$568,569. Additionally:
 - The City provides facilities, IT, utilities, HR, payroll, administrative and legal support, parks and shelters for outdoor events.
 - Sherwood Police Department respond to incidents and provide training.
 - Library staff coordinate the City of Sherwood Library Advisory Board meetings to review policies, strategic planning, facility master planning, and assessments.
 - Library staff assist with public access to City information, general City Hall customer service, and directions in English and Spanish.
 - Library staff participate on the City's Safety Committee, records retention, and promote City events.

Support Funding Partners

Provided financial support to enhance library services in significant ways. **Total Funding Partner support: \$13,882**

1. **Friends of Sherwood Public Library**—Advocacy, support, program funding. Total support this year: \$9555, including credit at Powell's City of Books from book sales.
2. **Oregon State Library**—Ready-to-Read grant for Summer Reading. Total grant: \$4,327. The State Library also funds library trainings, access to electronic resources and professional collections, and consulting services. This year the State funded participation in a Libraries Leading with Equity cohort we were able to participate in.
3. **Sherwood Library Foundation**—A newly established 501(c)(3) nonprofit to complement public funding with private donations. SHELF is focusing on a funding campaign to purchase and install a freestanding study pod in the library.

Service & Outreach Partners

Helped us expand our offerings and our reach while building a stronger community.

1. **Sherwood School District**
 - Through a partnership with SSD and WCCLS, we issued nearly 800 new WCCLS Student Cards to students whose parent/guardians opted them in.
 - SHARE Center staff hosted Digital Literacy Workshops (DLW) presented in English and Spanish by library staff and a contracted presenter. Coordinated child-care, promoted the series to SHARE Center families.
 - SHARE Center staff table at Bilingual Storytime in the Park.
 - Library staff present the annual Books & Bricks Winter Reading Program in partnership with elementary schools.
 - Library staff provide interactive tours for various classes.
 - Sherwood High School (SHS) student rep on the Library Advisory Board.
 - Students volunteer on TeenLAB, a volunteer club to help with library projects.

- The Library was a drop-off location for SHARE Center holiday gifts and needs drive and the back-to-school backpack drive.
 - Students volunteered to provide childcare at the DLW series.
 - Students create monthly bulletin boards displays in the Children's area.
 - Key Club student volunteers at library events.
 - Library staff participate in the SSD's Early Learning Fair.
 - SSD promotes our summer reading program and library card registration.
2. **Sherwood Center for the Arts**
 - Coordinates the Old Town Art Walks twice a year. The Library has been an Art Walk stop since its inception in 2015.
 - Curate exhibits in the library display case for Diwali and Lunar New Year.
 - Host location for Juneteenth event presented by Sherwood Public Library.
 3. **YMCA—**
 - Provided physical activities and games at Bilingual Storytime in the Park.
 - Library staff participate at outreach events.
 - Library staff drop off summer reading books at the YMCA.
 4. **Robin Hood Festival Association**
 - The Library coordinates a Miniature Castle Making Contest and displays during festival month. RHFA promotes library events and directs traffic to us. Maid Marions help with voting.
 - Maid Marians helped with a Bilingual Storytime in the Park storytime and met children and families during the craft and games.
 - RHFA shares library materials at the Winter Festival through Santa bags.
 5. **Helping Hands—**Provided lunches at storytimes in the park, distribute library newsletters, receives food donations during library's annual Food Drive.
 6. **Mission: Citizen—**Volunteers present citizenship class series at the Library.
 7. **AmeriCorp--** A partnership between WCCLS, Washington County, and AmeriCorp has led to a Digital Navigator this year. The DN visits Sherwood 1-2 times a month.
 8. **Washington County Department of Disability, Aging, and Veteran Services—**provides social service referral information. Member of our Library Advisory Board.
 9. **George Fox University—**Students and staff volunteer for a day of service at the library.
 10. **MudPuddles Toys & Books—**Bilingual Storytimes in the Park activity table and support.
 11. **P.A.W. Prints—**Bilingual Storytimes in the Park activity table.
 12. **Portland Area Canine Therapy Teams—**Volunteer service dogs handlers bring their dogs to Read to the Dogs.
 13. **Sherwood Marjorie Stewart Community Senior Center—**Hosted library staff for a tour. Reciprocal referral services.
 14. **Sherwood Historical Society—**The Library archives local printed newspapers donated by the Sherwood Historical Society. Reciprocal referral services.
 15. **Chamber of Commerce—**Library staff participated in Cruisin' Sherwood's Kid Zone. Chamber provides Sherwood tourism information and promotes the library as a community resource.

16. **Washington County Severe Weather Shelter**—The Library is an information site and has extended hours as a warming and cooling location.
17. **St. Francis**—Recipient of food collected during the Library's Food Drive. Library staff provide presentations and tours to classrooms.
18. **Sherwood Main Street**—The Library participates in the Halloween in Old Town event.
19. **Operation Home Front**—Library staff and other local agencies provided family resources at a military family back-to-school event.
20. **Community Advantage**—Print marketing of library events and services sent to all local households.
21. **Willowbrook Food Pantry**—Recipient of food collected during the Library's Food Drive.
22. **Tualatin Valley Creates**—Marketing for cultural and creative events and opportunities.
23. **Tualatin Valley Tourism**—provides local tourism information.
24. **Washington County Community Development**—The library hosts a display for Community Development week to highlight Community Development Block Grant-funded projects in Sherwood.

Initiatives Partners

Helped us align our work with the best practices of the library profession.

1. **Oregon Library Association**—We use the OLA Public Library Standards to measure and evaluate our library services, facility, governance, and engagement. Our Library Youth Services Librarian II is the Chair of the Children's Services Division. Library staff attend the annual Oregon Library Association conference. We've been able to have two librarians participate in the Leadership Institute of OLA (LIOLA).
2. **American Library Association (ALA):**
 - National Library Week—A week-long campaign to highlight what libraries do.
 - Pride Book Month—An initiative of the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, as well as the ALA Rainbow Round Table.
 - Banned Books Week—A campaign to raise awareness of censorship and the freedom to read.
 - Provide professional resources for policy development, intellectual freedom, and best practices.
3. **Public Library Association (PLA)**—We use DigitalLearn resources for classes and Project Outcome to measure the impact of our programs.
4. **Edge Assessment**—Measures public-facing technology services and programs and allows for customized action plans.
5. **Federal Government**—Government forms distribution site, including US Tax Forms. We promote and use Census data.
6. **National Poetry Month**—The largest literary celebration in the world. We celebrated with our ninth annual "6 Word Story".
7. **United for Libraries**—National Friends of Library Week celebration. Online trainings for Library Advisory Board and Foundation development
8. **Welcoming Week**—A national celebration from Welcoming America.

Donating Partners

These additional donations enrich our programming, events, and library. **This year we received donated support valued at \$10,900**

1. **Early Learning Washington County & United Way of the Columbia-Willamette**—The library distributed 80 early literacy STEM kits to local families. Valued at \$8000.
2. **Helping Hands**—Donated lunches for Storytime in the Park, valued at \$1100.
3. **Robin Hood Garden Club**—Monthly floral arrangements, valued at \$600.
4. **Rotary Club of Sherwood**—Donated \$500 for Summer Reading prizes
5. **Rebekah Lodge**—Donated \$500 to support Summer Reading book giveaways.
6. **Literary Arts**—donated Oregon book award winners and nominated titles.

Submitted by Adrienne Doman Calkins, Library Manager