

# FERGUSON LIBRARY

**FY 2023-2024  
City of Stamford  
Presentation**



Our 2021-2022 Annual Report

*The library is not only a sanctuary for banned books, but a sanctuary for our users who have few safe spaces in their lives.*

### Our Mission

We provide free and equal access to information, ideas, books and technology to educate, engage and enrich the Stamford community.

The innovative programs and services we provide nourish a lifelong passion for learning and growth for children and adults

### Our Vision

The Ferguson Library helps individuals and organizations achieve success in an effort to build a strong, vibrant and inclusive community.

### Our Foundational Principles

Intellectual Freedom

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Underlying the Ferguson Library's mission and vision is our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as the belief that intellectual freedom is the cornerstone of our democracy. Our values are reflected in how we serve the community and how we work together.

# What's New In this Post-Pandemic World

## The Community is Back and Growing!

- New Strategic Framework - understanding how we can better serve the public by keeping community needs at the forefront of the work we do.
- Additional Hours - Harry Bennett and Weed Hollander & Memorial Branches are open more hours than pre-pandemic.
- Continued the Digital Navigators program after the grant ended to help shrink the digital divide.
- Circulation and program attendance are both UP!



Historic walking tours



Cultural programs



Programming is what the community wants



Author Talks



Stamford Advocate  
Mah-Jongg at the library

# Supporting

## Outreach Programs

- Parent and Teacher Workshops
  - Family Reading
  - Book Selection
  - Techniques for Book Talking and Storytelling
  - Online Resources and Homework Help (Tutor.com)

## Assignment Alerts +

- Online Assignment Alert so that material is set aside for students
- Teacher Units (for the Classroom)
- Learning Kits to Go

## Linked Libraries

- Student Stamford Public School ID is the library card number
- Reserve books from the Ferguson Library for delivery to the schools
- Easy to use eBook Collections

## Summer Reading Clubs:

- Listeners: up to kindergarten
- Readers: kindergarten through Grade 5
- Teens
- Joint Summer Reading List, created with the SPS



# CAREER & EDU. AND FINANCIAL LITERACY SERVICES



## JOB SEARCH WORKSHOPS

- Resume Writing 101 - Adults, YA
- Keyword Resumes
- Interviewing (In-Person, Virtual)- Adults, YA
- Time Management
- Career Planning
- LinkedIn
- Remote Work Productivity
- Introducing Vet Now

## TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS

- MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Coding (HTML, CSS, JavaScript)
- Website Design (Templates)

## TRAINING/CERTIFICATION COURSES

- Health Careers with The Workplace
- CNA Training Program
- Trainings & Apprenticeships
- Summer Earn and Learn

CAREERS/JOB SEARCH



## EDUCATION/CONTINUING EDUCATION

- FAFSA 1-on-1 Assistance
- Student Loans
- Financial Literacy for Families
- Youth Employment Opportunities w/ The Workplace

## FINANCIAL LITERACY

- Budgeting 101
- Budgeting Methods
- Concept of Credit
- Credit Reports
- Budgeting for College Bound or Continuing Education Students (C2C)
- Estate Planning

## SMALL BUSINESS

- Small Business Loans [Stamford Bank and Trust]
- Entrepreneurs-in-Residence

EDUCATION/CONTINUING  
EDUCATION & FINANCIAL  
LITERACY



## PARTNERS

- Goodwill Careers
- NuVance Health
- Synchrony Skills Academy
- Cradle to Career
- Connecticut Department of Labor - Veterans'
- The Workplace
- Career Connect
- Wells Fargo
- Just In Case Estates
- Junior Achievement
- CONTACT Inc.
- Wealth Advisor
- SCORE
- CTSEDC

PARTNERS



# LIBRARY TOURS FOR ADULT EDUCATION STUDENTS



## ADULT EDUCATION LIBRARY TOURS INCLUDE

- How to get a library card
- Library loan policies
- Types of library materials and location
- How to use the library catalog
- Overview of digital library and e-content
- Overview of ESL, Citizenship, and World Language collections
- Overview of Multicultural Page
- Library program offerings
- Overview of Education in the US
- AER collection and how it is structured
- Makerspace
- Museum passes
- How to get a library card
- Library loan policies

Overview of Library Tours



# Partnership/Collaborations



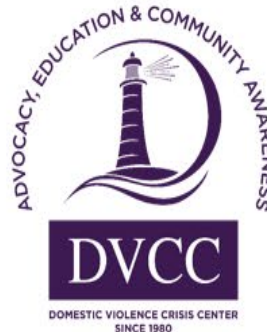
CITY OF STAMFORD



TechXel Stamford  
Fairfield County's First Enterprise Accelerator



access health CT



# Improvements and Repairs

Harry Bennett Modernization Phase 1 is completed

With the aging buildings major repairs were covered with operating dollars:

- Repaired leaks from the copper roof and skylight at the Main Library
- Continual elevator repairs
  - Repaired Trane return fan axle and motor
  - Replaced ejector pit sump pumps
- Rebuilt compressor fan
- Repaired perimeter heat loop at Harry Bennett Branch
- Replaced Jockey pump
- Repaired Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch rotting wooden porch
- Weed elevator repairs



# Challenges

A Flat Budget Impacts 3 Major Cost Centers:

1. Staff
  2. Material
  3. Building Maintenance
- New Union Contracts with built-in increases (2.35% plus increments) impact staffing levels, leading to possible cuts to services and programs.
  - Inability to meet community's demand for all material, including digital media such as e-books, e-audio and streaming movies.
  - Deferred maintenance often leads to capital projects