

Mission Statement: South San Francisco Public Library is actively committed to providing access to the best possible combination of library materials and services to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of our multicultural community in a professional manner with a human touch.

The Department supports its mission to the City through:

- Instruction, assistance, and access to informational, recreational, and educational resources via the library's print, audio visual, electronic and local history collections
- Customer service-oriented and patron-centered programs and services
- Partnerships with local businesses, agencies, schools, and residents, working together to meet the needs of our community
- Promotion of literacy and lifelong learning through educational programs, classes, reference services and collections
- Promotion of school success, youth development and the joy of reading

Accomplishment Highlights for Fiscal Year 2023-24

- Opened our new Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) on October 28, 2023, with over 1,000 community members joining the celebration, touring the grand facility, attending a special children's story time with the Mayor, checking out nearly 2,700 library items, enjoying the concert and P&R class previews, viewing art exhibits, visiting the immersive Giant Blood Vessel, learning and creating in STEAM programs and much more.
- The grand total of community-based fundraising for the new Library | Parks and Recreation Center tops \$11 million, with support from local individuals, families, businesses, corporations, nonprofit organizations, Federal funding via Congresswoman Jackie Speier and Senator Alex Padilla, and State funding via the California State Library.
- Established the Amgen Discovery Center at the Library | Parks & Recreation Center, consisting of a makerspace and digital media lab, supporting after-school technology learning and exploration. Planned events include a quarterly science program with scientists from Amgen.
- Collaborated with Parks & Recreation staff to begin a series of cultural programming, with hundreds of residents attending Lunar New Year and Black History Month events. In addition, hosted the county-wide annual Young Adult Novelist Convention and Peninsula Comic Arts Festival at the new Library | Parks & Recreation Center.

- Welcomed nearly fifty new teen volunteers at the Library | Parks & Recreation Center, offering many their first work experience with duties ranging from shelving, pulling holds, and assisting with makerspace programs.
- Hosted 40 class visits, with students from SSFUSD schools and Parks & Recreation summer camps receiving new library cards, enjoying story time, checking out books, and participating in makerspace activities.
- The Main Library again acted as a 30-Day Vote Center, this time for the March 2023 Presidential Primary Election.
- Project Read Trivia Challenge celebrated its 30th Anniversary, with approximately 300 supporters, volunteers and trivia buffs in attendance, raising over \$35,000 Net to support library literacy programs and services.
- Library staff at the Gene Mullin Community Learning Center secured two important grants from the California State Library totaling nearly \$200,000 for ESL classes and to expand afterschool homework programming, provide social emotional learning for elementary age youth, and offer work experience internships for 50 high school teens.
- The annual Library Summer Learning Challenge reached 6,018 local youth through free book distributions, weekly take-home family activity kits, Parks and Recreation Summer Camp visits, and special events.
- The Youth Poet-in-Residence contest, a collaboration with the South San Francisco Youth Commission, with Friends of the Library sponsoring the award, returned for a third year.
- With the closure of the West Orange Library, the Grand Avenue Library expanded hours and services. From July 10 through October 29, 2023, Grand's weekly open hours increased from 47 to 58 per week. The branch offered three times as many programs—story times, summer reading programs, school visits and adult programs—compared to the same time period of the previous year. Program attendance tripled. The Library's circulation increased during these months from roughly 7,800 items checked out to just over 17,100 items checked out.
- Completed the library materials and services RFP, resulting in a pool of four qualified vendors providing books and DVDs and associated services for the new library collections.

Objectives for Fiscal Year 2024-25

- **Big Lift Inspiring Summers (BLIS)**
Continue supporting the BLIS summer learning partnership with SSFUSD and SMCL, with library staff embedded as a Coach at Spruce Elementary School and Summer Learning Challenge book distributions at BLIS sites.
- **Plan and provide accessible, engaging programs and events in LPR**

Continuing the success of Lunar New Year and Black History Month, Library staff are partnering with Parks & Recreation staff to plan a complete calendar of cultural celebrations, recognizing the rich diversity of the South San Francisco community. Plans include events for Asian-American and Pacific Islander History Month, Pride Month, Latinx Heritage Month, Filipino American History Month, and many more.

- **Youth Internship Program**

- Provide at least ten summer job opportunities for teens and college students at the libraries and Gene Mullin Community Learning Center (GMCLC).
- Pursue California State Library's Teen Success Initiative grant opportunity to support youth through full year internships at the libraries and GMCLC.

- **Project Read/GMCLC Adult Programs**

Increase volunteer Tutor base at Project Read and GMCLC through the California State Library's secured grant for ESL programming and by partnering with SMCC's Skyline Work-Study program.

- **Volunteer corps development**

Continue to engage with volunteers to develop new opportunities for service, including providing story times for class visits, book distribution at local schools, and teaching classes and workshops in the Amgen Discovery Center.

- **Partnership development**

Further develop our successful partnerships with Amgen, Genentech, Friends of the Library, Library Foundation and Parks & Recreation to provide for new programs, equipment and materials at the Grand Avenue Branch Library, Gene Mullin Community Learning Center, Library | Parks & Recreation Center, and Amgen Discovery Center.

- **Collection Development**

Expand our digital collections to offer more eBooks and streaming movies and television to meet community demand.