

RAPID CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY



# 2025

ANNUAL  
REPORT



CONNECTING  
THE COMMUNITY TO  
**EDUCATION, INFORMATION,  
AND INSPIRATION**



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In 2025, the library strengthened its **COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY WELLNESS** by hosting Great Plains 988 Tribal Response suicide prevention outreach and Complete Health STI screenings. The library partnered with Monument Health for an installation of a self-service blood pressure monitoring station and collaborated with the citywide Diaper Need Awareness Week, which collected more than 180,000 diapers for local families.

The library partnered with Rapid City Arts Council to present The Big Read, including a Main Street Square kickoff with corresponding events, and collaborated with South Dakota Public Broadcasting to host Be My Neighbor Day for families to help **SUPPORT LITERACY AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION**.

The library partnered with Pennington County Sheriff Office's Ignite program and helped launch **RECONNECTING FAMILIES THROUGH READING**. This involved library staff working with incarcerated parents and recording them reading books to their children to support literacy and family connection.

## NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

The children's area was re-imagined with **INTERACTIVE LEARNING INSTALLATIONS**, including a Rube Goldberg-style ball wall, gear wall, and light wall, along with textured tree columns and an engaging 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten mural to **ENCOURAGE EARLY LITERACY PARTICIPATION**.

A new musical garden and complementary xeriscaping debuted as part of the library's landscape renovation. This new area for **ENGAGING, SENSORY EXPLORATION** had a celebratory launch with a ribbon cutting and outdoor story time. Thank you to the Library Foundation for funding this project!

A new **SPANISH-LANGUAGE COLLECTION** was developed to better serve the area's growing Spanish-speaking population.

Text notifications related to account information were added to **STREAMLINE COMMUNICATIONS**.

**FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS** included energy-efficient LED lighting and the repainting of upstairs railings and stair risers.

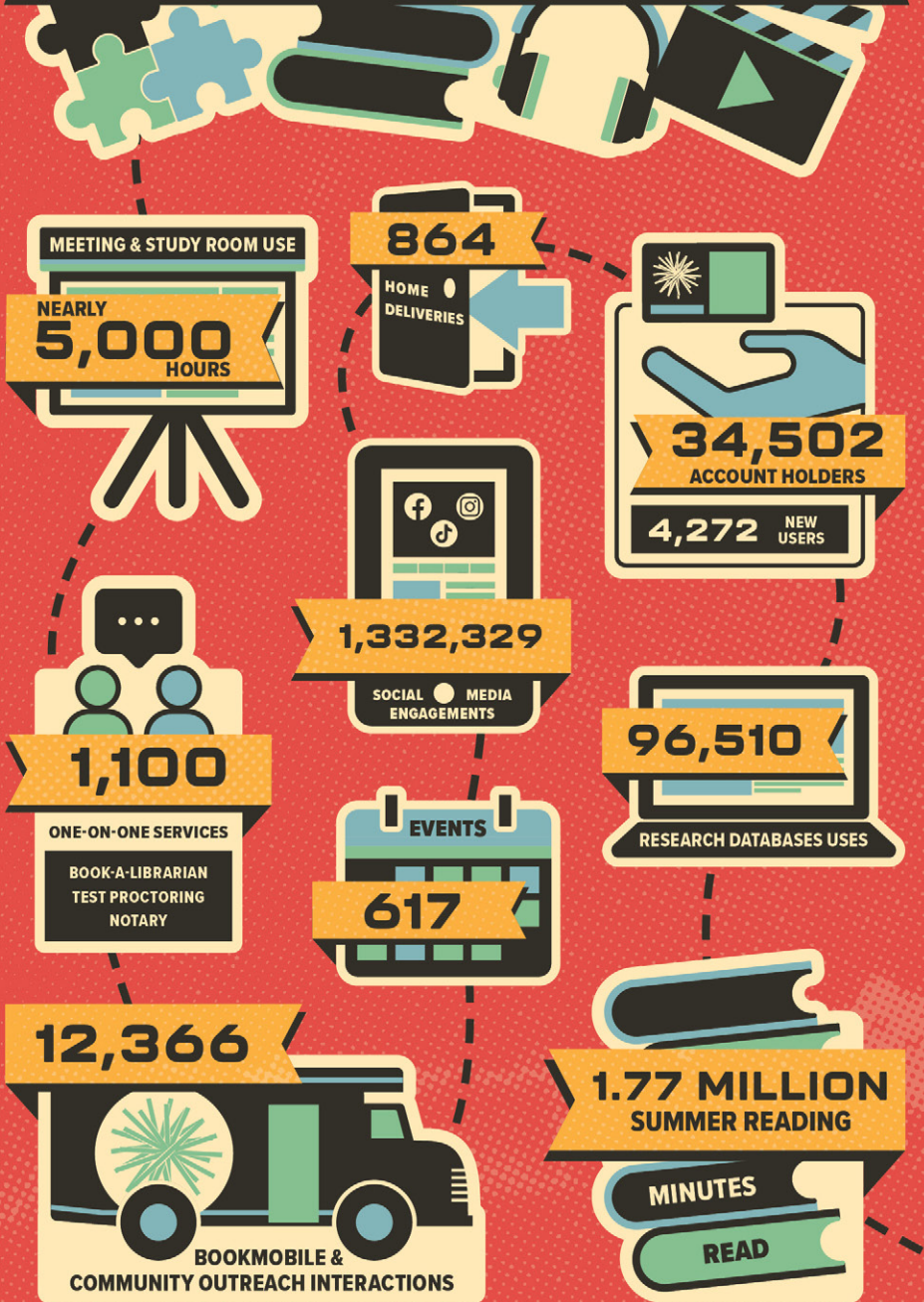
## RECOGNITION

This year brought **NATIONAL RECOGNITION**, as library staff were featured in Path of Liberty: That Which Unites US at Freedom Plaza, in New York City.

**THE FLOOD OF '72 PODCAST** was named the top flood-related podcast by FeedSpot.

The State Library awarded the library **EXEMPLARY LEVEL ACCREDITATION**, the highest designation, valid through December 31, 2028.

# ONE MILLION+ CHECKOUTS



## YOU ARE HEROES!

*"Let me take a moment and tell you how much I appreciate you and absolutely everyone at RCPL. Your work and services help make Rapid City and surrounding communities stronger, smarter, and better prepared for the world we live in. You are heroes!"*

### THANKS FOR THE ASSISTANCE!

*"Thank you for all your assistance in letting me research the history of the area. You have a lovely library and the staff was wonderful."*

### I REALLY ENJOY YOUR LIBRARY!

*"I really enjoy your library. Thanks again! Much appreciated."*

### SO MANY COOL THINGS!

*"I love this library! You have so many cool things to offer. Thank you! :)"*

RAPID CITY PUBLIC



LIBRARY

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