

Spring/Summer 2023

Weighing Value and Cost

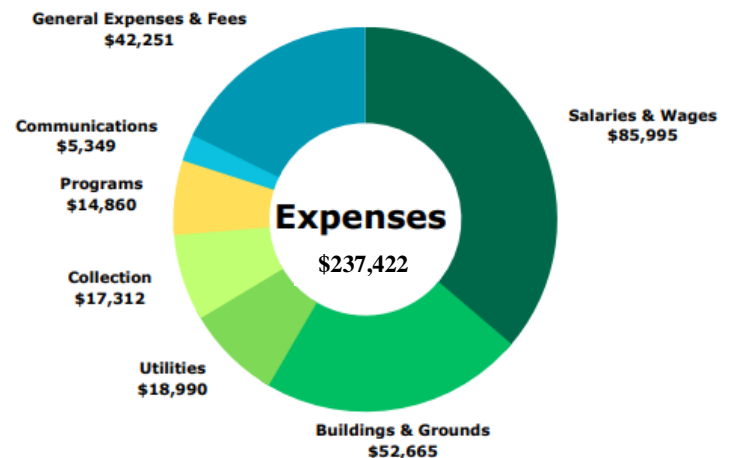
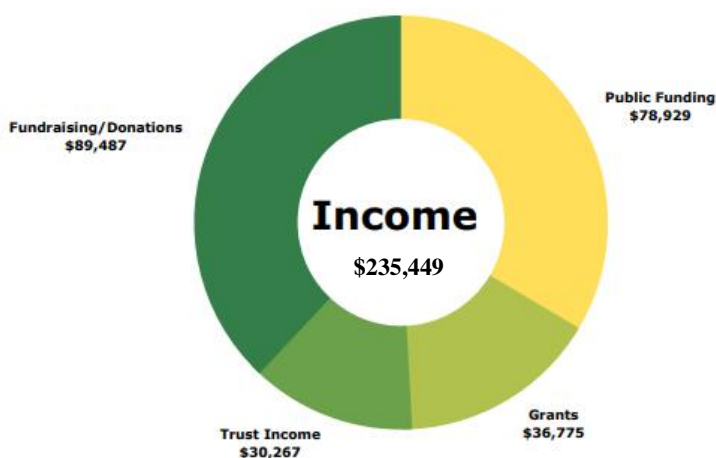
Numbers tell a story, but they don't tell the entire story. In 2022, it cost \$237,422 to run the library, with roughly \$79,000 of income from public sources – or about \$16 per person in our service area. A slightly larger proportion came from private philanthropy. All in all, pretty modest numbers.

But what is the real value of this community asset? Our donors, patrons, friends, and volunteers know that the library's worth exceeds that \$16 by multiples: more than 44,000 print and electronic materials checked out and over 350 free dance, theater, and concert programs, toddler story hours and sing-alongs, lectures, and art exhibits that bring our entire community together.

Then there is wealth in uncounted donations of high-skill professional services and valuable time – services such as financial accounting, facilities management, and information technology. Combined with more than 1,000 volunteer hours, these gifts save the library tens of thousands of dollars a year. At least, for now.

There is still more value when civic and community groups meet in our well-equipped conference room, when free Wi-Fi connects our digitally unserved households, when health is enhanced through yoga and Tai Chi classes, and when camaraderie is shared within the fiber arts circle.

If you haven't visited us, please know you are warmly invited. The wealth of time, knowledge, and money given by so many means that our costs remain low. But the true value of the Clackerack Library derives from abundant generosity and sharing resources. We look forward to growing with you and are grateful for your patronage, your participation, and your giving.



An Invitation from the FRIENDS OF THE CLACKERACK LIBRARY

The Friends are delighted to bring events and programs to the library and look forward to more Food Truck Wednesdays, Book-It, free coffee days, in-person programs, and our Fall Book Sale coming up October 13-15. As a volunteer organization we are always looking for helpers for these events and are grateful to all our supporters for their generous contributions that support the outstanding programming at the library.

Use this QR code to make your gift to the library

