



Richmond County Public Library

52 Campus Drive, Warsaw, VA 22572
804-333-6710

January 28, 2016
Mr. R. Morgan Quicke
Richmond County Administrator
Post Office Box 1000, Warsaw, VA 22572

Dear Mr. Quicke:

Please accept this request for a budget allocation of **\$91,160 for FY2015-16** to support the Richmond County Public Library. This request is a \$5,000 increase in funding that is necessary to demonstrate to the State Library Board that we are still moving toward their requirements to qualify for State Aid grant funding. For the year ahead, the minimum required local government funding for Richmond County Public Library is \$107,636, or \$11.62 per capita. Including the town of Warsaw's funding of the library last year of \$7,100, our current total funding by local government of \$93,260 will remain \$14,376 short of that figure without an increase or cut.

Our projected library state aid amount for FY2015-16 will be approximately \$23,000. If we do not demonstrate budget growth toward their minimum local funding requirements for state aid, we risk losing that entire \$23,000, which makes up almost our entire collection budget for purchasing books, videos, and online resources. This is not a trivial part of our funding. The Library of Virginia, which allocates state aid to public libraries, forgave our funding shortfall last year because we demonstrated growth in our local government funding from Richmond County and the town of Warsaw. Failing to increase Richmond County's allocation to the library ultimately risks having a public library that can buy no books for its audience of children, teens, and adults in 2016/2017.

We believe that our public library services make Richmond County a better place to live and raise children. Please see our attached fact sheet for more details. We thank the County Supervisors for their support towards keeping these important educational services available in Richmond County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Ream
Library Coordinator and Richmond County Public Library Director
Rappahannock Community College

cc: Members of the Board of Trustees, Richmond County Public Library
Mr. Bill Doyle, VP of Finance and Administrative Services, RCC

Richmond County Public Library Fact Sheet 2014/15

- The library is open 58 hours each week, including evenings and Saturdays;
- 34,000 library visits, 20,181 loans and 5,100 reference transactions occurred in 2014/2015 fiscal year;
- 25,873 print books, 3,460 DVDs, and 800 audiobooks are owned by the library. The public has access to a complete collection of materials which includes popular fiction, nonfiction, audiobooks on CD, DVD's, and online resources accessible from home via our web page at <http://www.rcplva.org/>, as well as the college's complete academic collection;
- 378 library programs were attended by 5,465 people in 2014/2015;
- 178 children and teens participated in our Summer Reading Programs in 2015. This extremely popular program attracted 1005 children to one or more weekly program events last summer, needing two sessions in our 106 seat auditorium.
- This past year we have offered online access to *Zinio Digital Magazines* and the *Mango Languages* online learning package of lessons in 64 languages, plus English as a Second Language for new immigrants in our community. In the year ahead we are adding access to Overdrive online e-books for users to download bestselling books to their home computers, tablets, or smartphones.
- Richmond County's funds partially support a part-time position specifically dedicated to developing programming and outreach efforts for children and the elderly on behalf of the public library;
- Other daily services to the community include access to the Internet, computers, software, technical support and wireless Internet, plus community research assistance and advice from our library staff;
- We collaborate with many community agencies including Richmond County Schools, the town of Warsaw, the YMCA, the Virginia Employment Commission, Haynesville Correctional Center, Richmond County Resource Council, Warsaw Richmond County Main Street Program, and local child care facilities;
- Our library is an active contributor to events such as Warsaw Fest and programs at Main Street Park;
- We are proud to now have over 1,000 community followers of our public library's Facebook page who receive almost daily reports about our services and collections in their Facebook feeds.

January, 2016