



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2025



FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

Table of Contents

Highlights	1
Photo Gallery	5
Facilities Update	7
FBCL Data & Numbers	9
Programs	10
Cardholders	11
Teacher in the Library	11
Circulation	12
Checkouts	13
Meeting Rooms	13
Platforms & Tech	14
Social Media	15
Volunteers	16
Budget & Expenditures	16

HIGHLIGHTS

Albert George Branch (Needville) Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Library held their Spring book sale on March 14 and 15. The sale was a success! Several participants became members of the Friends of the Albert George Branch Library.

St. Patrick's Day

Albert George Branch (Needville): In **Family Story Time**, we shared wonderful stories, songs, and rhymes about the zoo, St. Patrick's Day, spring, and pigs. Crafts included an alligator with sharp teeth, St. Patrick's Day hat, bouquet of flowers and a pig mask. **After-School Break:** In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, students in grades K - 5 were invited to create chalk pastel-colored shamrocks. Participants use an easy chalk technique to create a brightly colored St. Patrick's Day craft to take home.

Fulshear Branch: Drawing Basics had a full class, and they drew a Shamrock Gnome to celebrate spring and St. Patrick's Day.

Mission Bend Branch: Visitors continue to enjoy browsing the **staff displays** which, in March, included the following: - **You're in Luck**, featuring books with "luck" in the title or with a related theme - **Read Me, I'm Irish**, which highlighted books set in Ireland or written by Irish authors. On March 13, children made some **lucky crafts** which included construction paper rainbow clouds and four-leaf clover paintings to commemorate the beginning of spring.

AARP Tax Assistance

Fort Bend County Libraries hosted representatives from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), who provide free income-tax-preparation assistance for low-income taxpayers at several locations in the Fort Bend County library system from February 1 through April 15. The library locations served include the **George Memorial Library** in Richmond, **Sugar Land Branch, Sienna Branch, Mission Bend Branch**, and **Fulshear Branch**.

HIGHLIGHTS

Spring Break Programs

Cinco Ranch Branch: Middle School S.T.E.M. - Science of Star Wars- participants learned about the science behind the Star Wars films. **Creative Connections** - built kites for flying over Spring Break.

First Colony Branch: We kicked off Spring Break programs with "**Barbie Birthday Party**" on March 10. Staff prepared small 5" x 5" paint canvas with Barbie silhouettes as a painting craft, images for mirrors, and a scavenger hunt with a barbie craft as a prize for completion. Staff also created a life-sized Barbie box for a photo booth station. Children and parents were able to come in and participate in any of the available activities and enjoy lemonade and cupcakes. On March 12, Marie Anne Morris from **Wild Bird Adventures** presented "**Get WILD For Raptors.**" Participants learned about different types of raptors and saw 3 live birds including a red hawk and an owl. Marie Anne discussed the birds' eating habits, habitats, and migration paths. She involved the crowd by asking them questions and showing them different displays.

Missouri City Branch: We hosted a **Teddy Bear Sleepover!** We had 13 stuffed animal friends attend the sleepover. Throughout the week, the stuffed animals participated in lots of antics throughout the library, including participating in Pajama Night Story Time, working the reference desk, playing hide and seek in the shelves, and more! On March 13, the sleepover concluded with a Pick-Up Party, where our visitors were reunited with their teddy bears. Staff led a mini Story Time featuring teddy bear songs and a book before and concluded with a slide show presentation with all the pictures from the week. Staff created a cute photo frame photo opportunity, as well as two crafts the kids had fun creating during the program. Guests also enjoyed snacks!

Sugar Land Branch: During Spring Break Youth Services offered a special "**Block Party**" all-ages, two-hour, come-and-go program on March 12. Visitors also enjoyed playing with a huge array of bricks and toys. Children spent time free building and also attempting some of the provided challenges.

Sienna Branch: For Spring Break, we had a **Dog Man Party** which included crafts, games, a photo booth, and a scavenger hunt.

University Branch: Mo Willems by Houston Opera to Go - This special program was booked using the directed donation from Michael and Janet Brown. Three singers, one stage director, and one pianist from Houston Opera to Go presented the program. They presented two short operas based on Mo Willems' books: **Slopera!** and **Don't Let the Pigeon Sing Up Late**. Both operas were bilingual.

Mamie George Branch (Stafford): We had a **spring break build club** event. Participants spent the hour building various items with different construction toys.

Mission Bend Branch: Youth staff planned two special programs that were held during Fort Bend ISD's spring break: on March 10, students attended an **Hour of Code** where they learned about coding using coding kits. They built mazes for robot mice and worked together to build a robot out of gears. On March 14, visitors took part in a **Spring Craft Drop-In**, during which they completed and took home a variety of spring-themed crafts.

HIGHLIGHTS

Financial Programs

George Memorial Library (Richmond): On March 25, Ryan Gant from **Fort Bend Health and Human Services (FBHHS)** presented ***Managing Money: A Caregiver's Guide to Finance***. On March 28, the **Houston Food Bank** set up information about their services. On March 19, Janelle Johnson from the **Fort Bend Extension Office** gave a presentation on ***Intro to Credit Cards*** as part of the **Teen Financial Literacy Series**.

University Branch: On March 21, our popular **Senior Series** program met. The topic of this month's lecture was ***The Truth About Reverse Mortgages***. Certified Senior Housing Professional, Liz McNeel, talked about resources and support networks available to caregivers.

Mission Bend Branch: On March 3, Janelle Johnson from the **Fort Bend Extension Office** gave a presentation on ***Intro to Credit Cards*** as part of the **Teen Financial Literacy Series**. On March 8, we offered a **Financial Literacy program, "All About Credit."** The **Women's Resource of Greater Houston** presented a financial literacy program that focused on credit.

Craft Programs

First Colony Branch: Needle Punch Coasters - On March 4, visitors gathered to learn the needle punch craft. Needle punch is an intermediate yarn craft, and guests were able to select a kit to help them learn the basics and then take them home. **Watercolor 101: Easy Bluebonnets** - On March 11, visitors learned to utilize watercolors to create a simple painting from an Adult Services staff member. On March 15, youth librarians presented a **"Puppet-Making Workshop."** During this program youth librarians preformed a puppet show for the children, and then the children were able to make their own puppets using a variety of items: popsicle sticks, die-cuts, paper bags, print outs, crayons, and glue sticks. Attendees were also able to get some creative writing done with the help of Madlib's printed out by staff.

Fulshear Branch: On March 12, staff hosted a program for teens called **Coastal Canvas: Sand Painting** program. On March 25, young visitors participated in a **"Springtime Flowerpots" After-School Break** event. Students in Kindergarten through grade 5 made personalized small flowerpots using paint, spring-themed stickers, yarn, buttons, and decoupage. Each child attending brought home a one-of-a-kind flowerpot and was given a Ziploc bag with a few flower seeds to plant at home. This was a very popular program with children and their parents.

Missouri City Branch: Offered an **Amigurimi: Crochet Octopus** class. All participants enjoyed the program! The branch also held a **Teen Program: Anime Bites: No Bake Adventure**, where visitors had an ooey-gooley great time!

HIGHLIGHTS

Building Clubs

Albert George Branch (Needville) Building Club: Participants designed and built structures using building toys such as Straws & Connectors, Playstix, Lego's, and more! The monthly challenges were to build something round with the Straw's & Connectors, make a castle using Magna-Tiles, and some simply let their imagination go wild and constructed amazing creations.

George Memorial Library (Richmond) Built It! After-School Break (March 11): Participants took part in a variety of hands-on building activities, including a LEGO-based Building Brick STEM Challenge Kit for grades 3-5, the Turn and Learn magnetic gears game at the stand-up magnetic design center, Jumbo Linking Cubes, Soft and Quiet Building Blocks, and assorted LEGO bricks. There was also a free play Playdough table and a separate table for building cardboard Piggybanks and decorating them with stickers.

University Branch Building Club (March 4): Participants enjoyed "free build" or challenged themselves by completing a challenge card.

Board Game Programs

Cinco Ranch Branch: Middle School Game Night -Participants played *The Crew: The Quest For Planet Nine*. In this cooperative trick-taking card game, participants tried to complete 50 different missions as they traveled across the solar system.

Fulshear Branch: Teen Anime Club continues to grow again! Numerous teens participated in our Kahoot! game, Dragon Ball Z crafting, and Dragon Ball Z anime showing.

George Memorial Library (Richmond): On March 15, staff hosted the monthly **Chess Community Club** program. On March 27, staff hosted the **Roll with It: Board Game Club** where participants played a variety of games, including Pandemic and Uno Spin. The **Family Games & Jigsaw Puzzles** come-and-go option for library visitors in the Middle Grades Game Room was open until one hour before closing Monday through Saturday for a total of 184 hours. Hundreds of visitors took advantage of this feature in March.

Sugar Land Branch: On March 24, the **Youth Book Club** met for a discussion about **Game-Based Novels**. The group talked about popular video games, board games, and card games they currently enjoy playing. Afterwards, they each created some pixel art using graph paper and colored pencils. Kids ate snacks, browsed game-based fiction titles, and took home a free book of their choice.

Sienna Branch: Highlights for March include the **Escape Room** and **Game Day Programs** for **Creative Connections** and **Marble Mazes** for **Tech Explorers**.

Mamie George Branch (Stafford): Our Dungeons & Dragons (DnD) teen program continues to do well, with both new and returning guests.

PHOTO GALLERY

Lunar New Year at Sugar Land Branch Library, February 1, 2025



Lunar New Year at Cinco Ranch Branch Library, February 8, 2025



PHOTO GALLERY

Missouri City Branch Library Programs & Displays



Wire-Wrapped Heart Keychains



Black History Month Display



Teen Tuesdays: "Shadows of the Underworld/Hades"



Valentines Bags

FACILITIES UPDATE

Fulshear Branch

The blinds in the conference room still need to be removed. We have an increase in the frequency of ceiling tiles becoming loose. The HVAC system continues to need weekly tweaking, especially during cold weather. The terrace is still unavailable because of damage from Hurricane Beryl.

Albert George Branch (Needville)

The building received new air filters this month. Maintenance continues to work on the water sprinklers and is closely monitoring them to see if the system is working properly. Maintenance contacted a plumbing company to come to the branch to repair a water leak from a pipe that connects to the main building.

Mission Bend Branch

Staff continue to monitor roof leaks 1) above Circulation service desk 2) above Circulation workroom desk 3) above staff PC in Adult/Circulation workroom 4) in public area above Friends book shelf.

At the beginning of March, Maintenance staff pressure washed the outside of the building, and it looks considerably fresher!

First Colony Branch

Leak near light fixture in Adult Services repaired; Leak near light fixture in circulation workroom above rolling shelves 9 and 10 (Partial repair); Leak in Children's near juvenile book spinners partial repair. Leak in adult fiction above the FIC STA section (repaired); Leak above ANF 900 section (repaired); Leak in study room 6 (repaired). Roof repair occurred Dec 30- Jan 3. Suppression release system in outside book drop need to be repaired

FACILITIES UPDATE

Missouri City Branch

The a/c in the main network closet has been out for several months. There is an open ticket. We keep the door open with a fan running to ensure the equipment stays cool. There has been no update, and I was told that the equipment goes out intermittently, with no follow up. The a/c in the Meeting Room and the Youth Services offices is out

Sienna Branch

Another leak was discovered coming from the boiler on the second floor. It was repaired. There has been on going work on the air conditioning system.

Sugar Land Branch

A large tree near the parking lot entrance was cut down, and the stump was removed. Additionally, maintenance staff has been working on repairing the sprinkler.

University Branch

CenterPoint Energy had a planned outage on the University of Houston campus which affected power at the University Branch Library. The days affected were March 14 and March 29 & 30.

DATA & NUMBERS

MARCH 2025

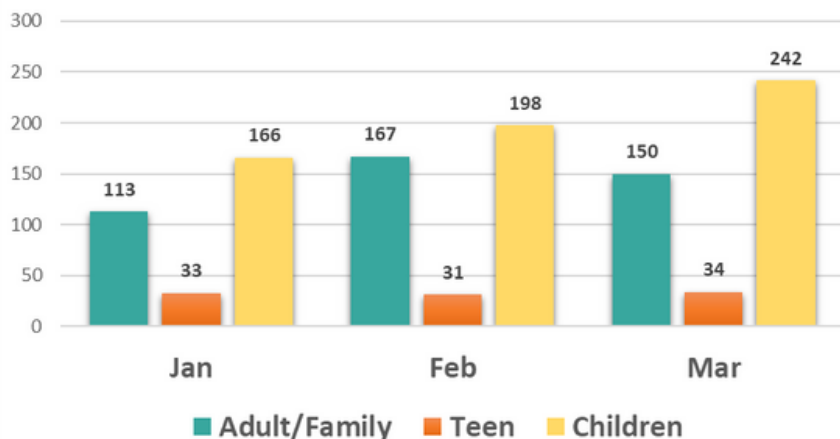


FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

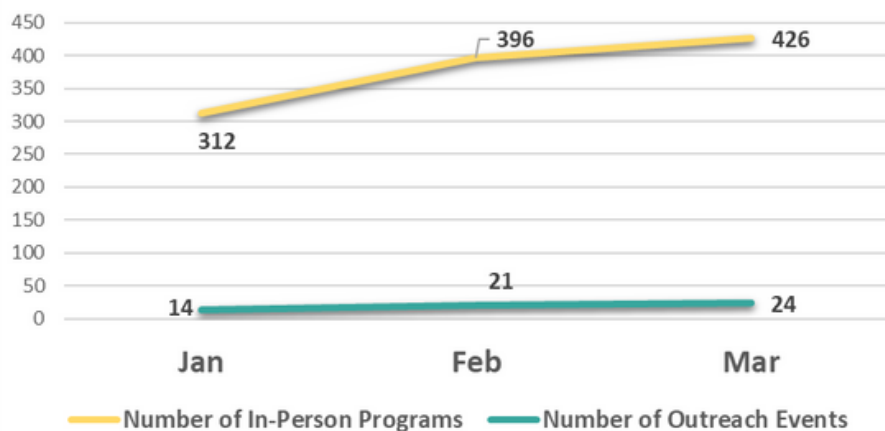
PROGRAMS



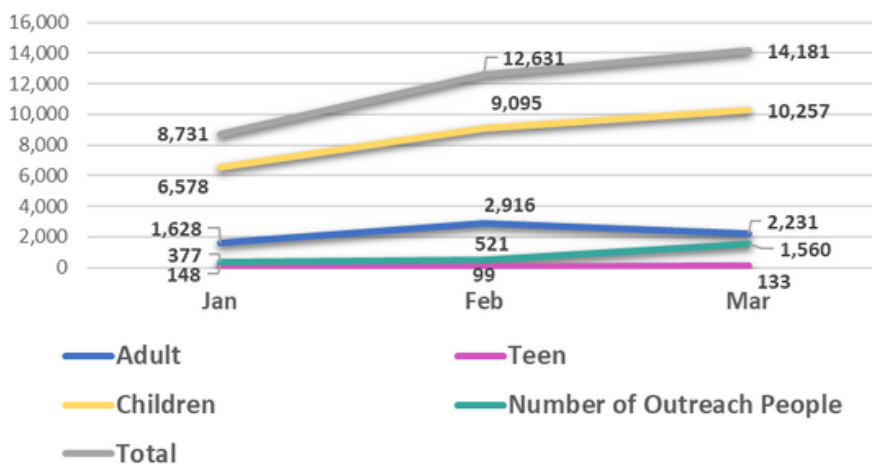
Programs by Audience



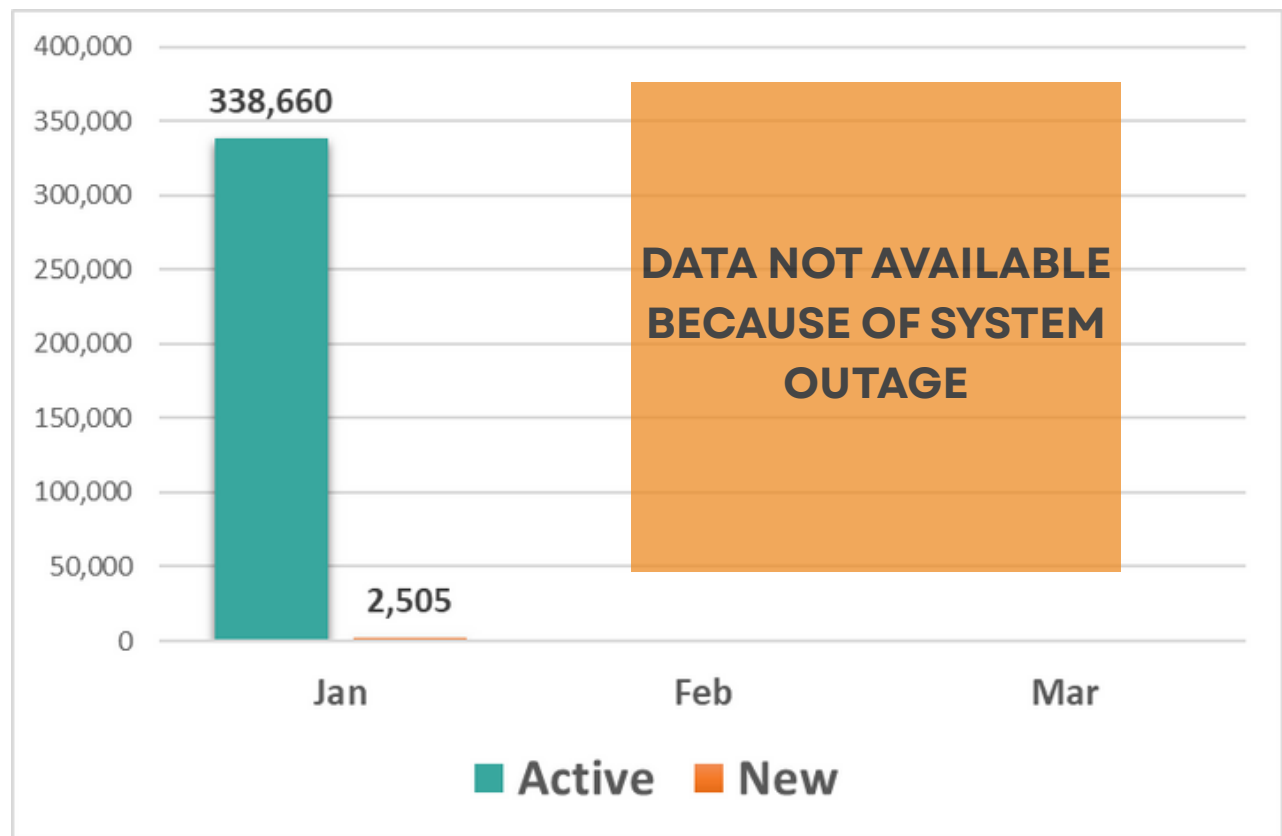
Programs In-Person & Outreach



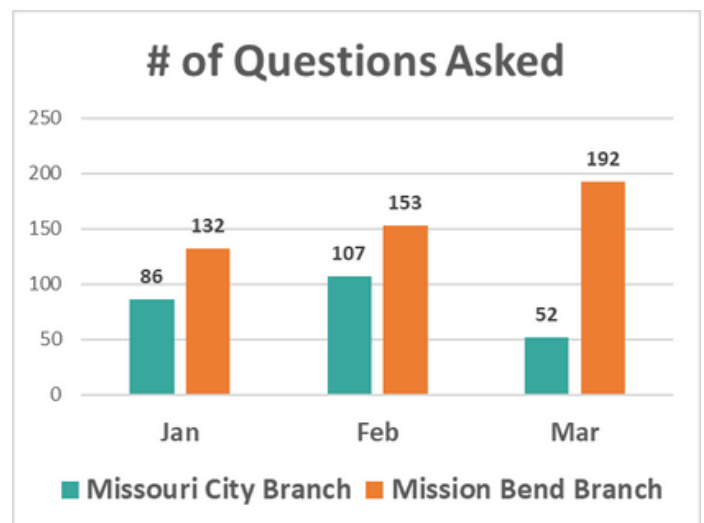
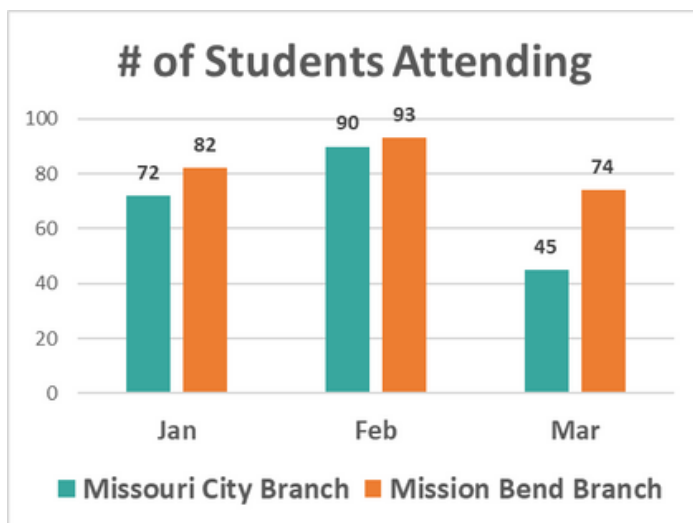
Program Attendance



CARDHOLDERS

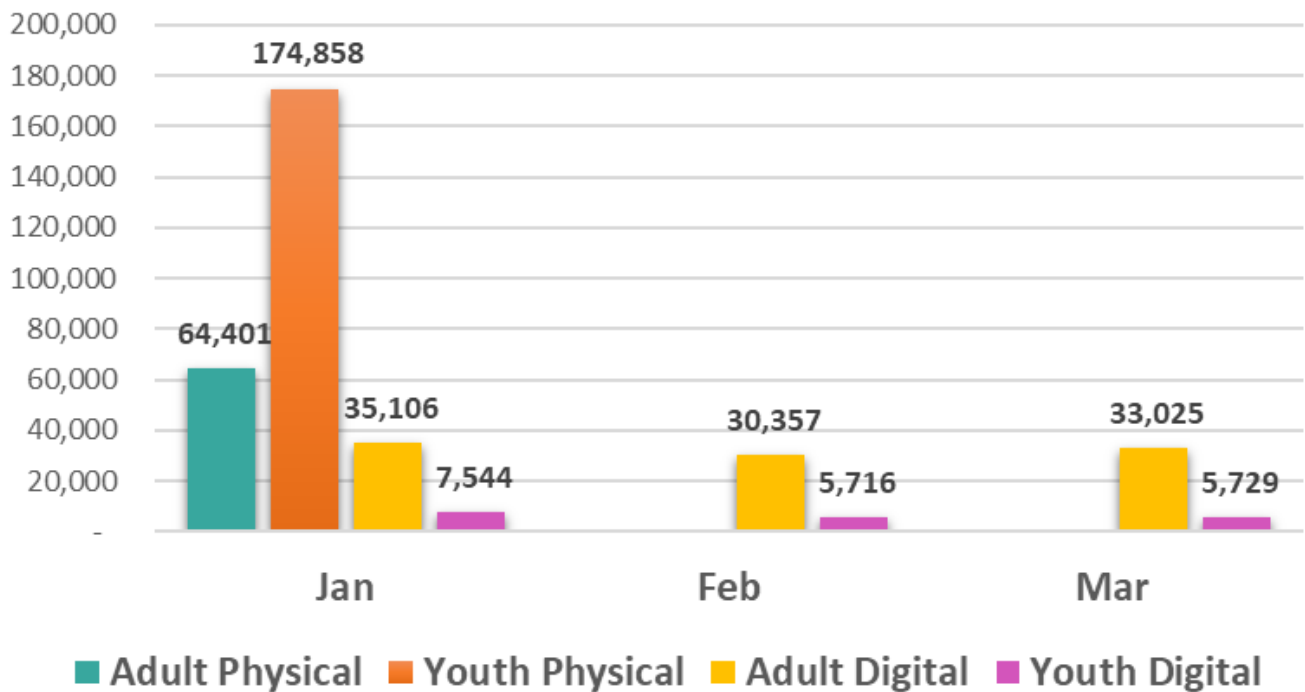


TEACHER IN THE LIBRARY

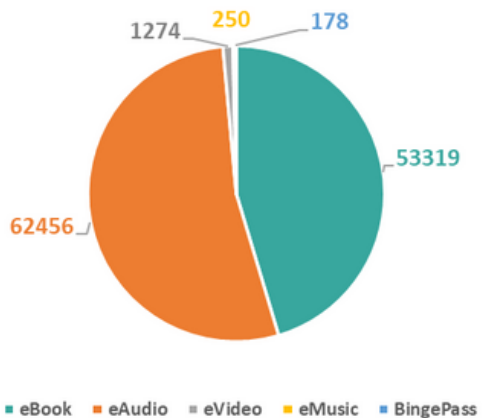


CIRCULATION

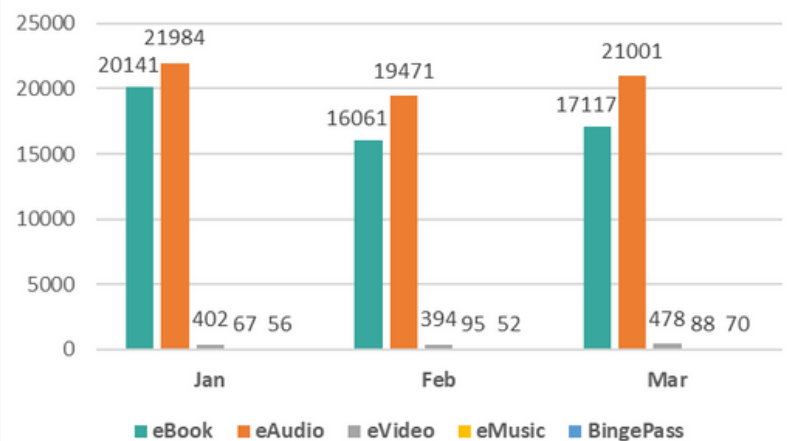
Circulation Audience



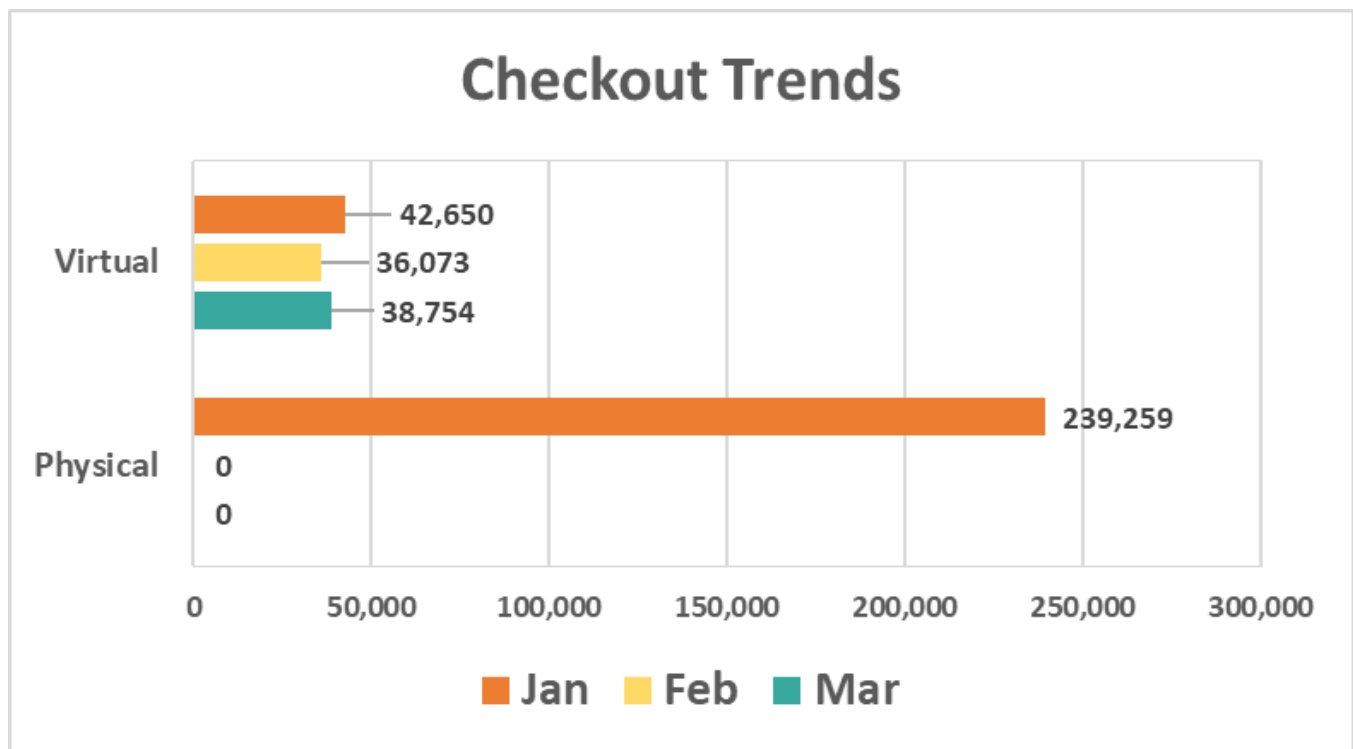
Digital Circulation (Jan - Mar 2025)



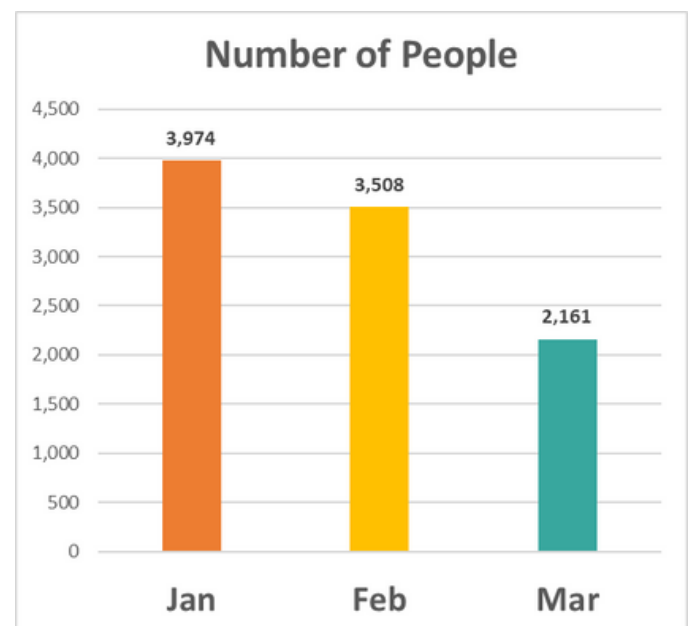
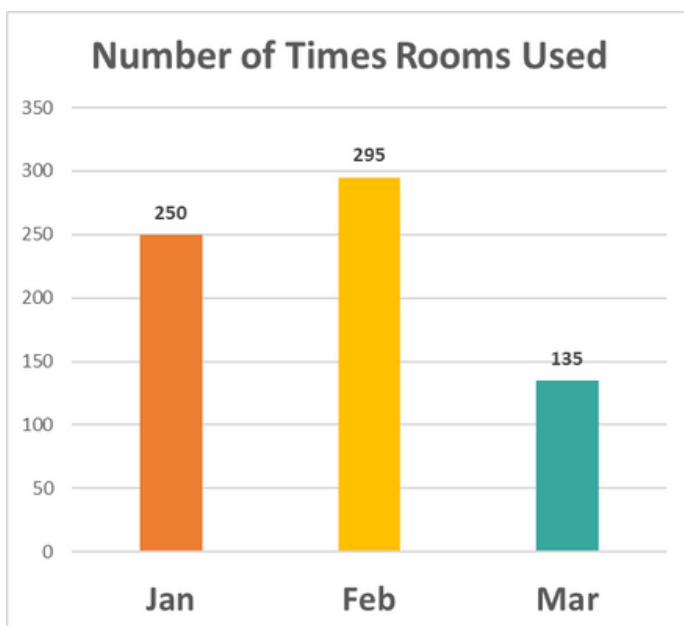
Digital Circulation By Format



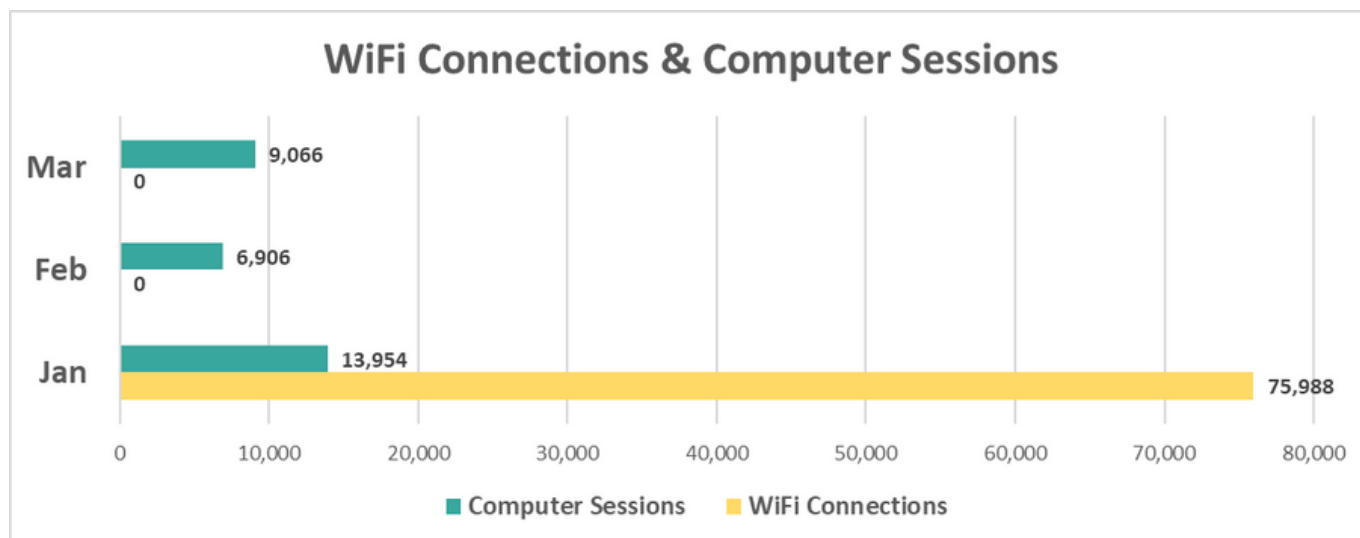
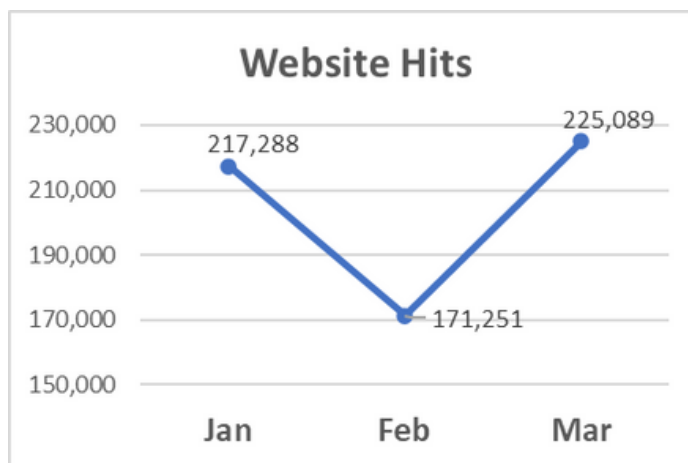
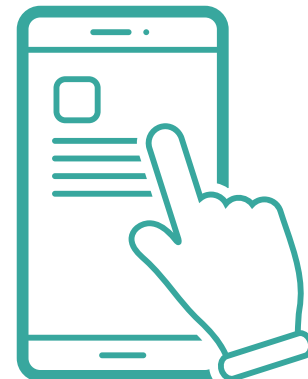
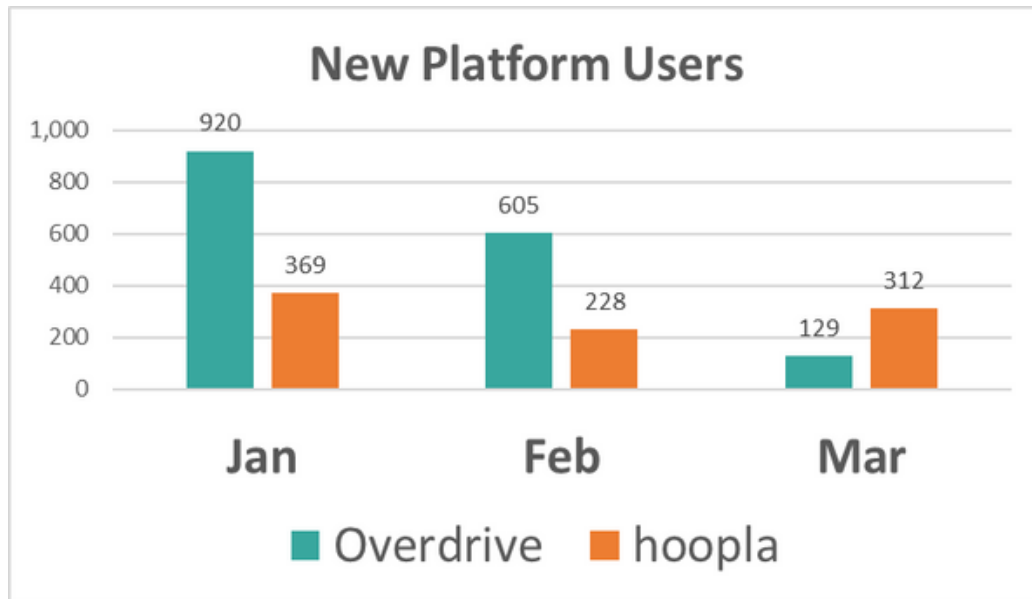
CHECKOUTS



MEETING ROOM RESERVATIONS



PLATFORMS & TECH



SOCIAL MEDIA

March 2025

Facebook *(all pages combined)*



26,331

FOLLOWERS

37,701

REACH

YouTube



2,338

Subscribers

48,096

Impressions

7,952

Video Views

Instagram



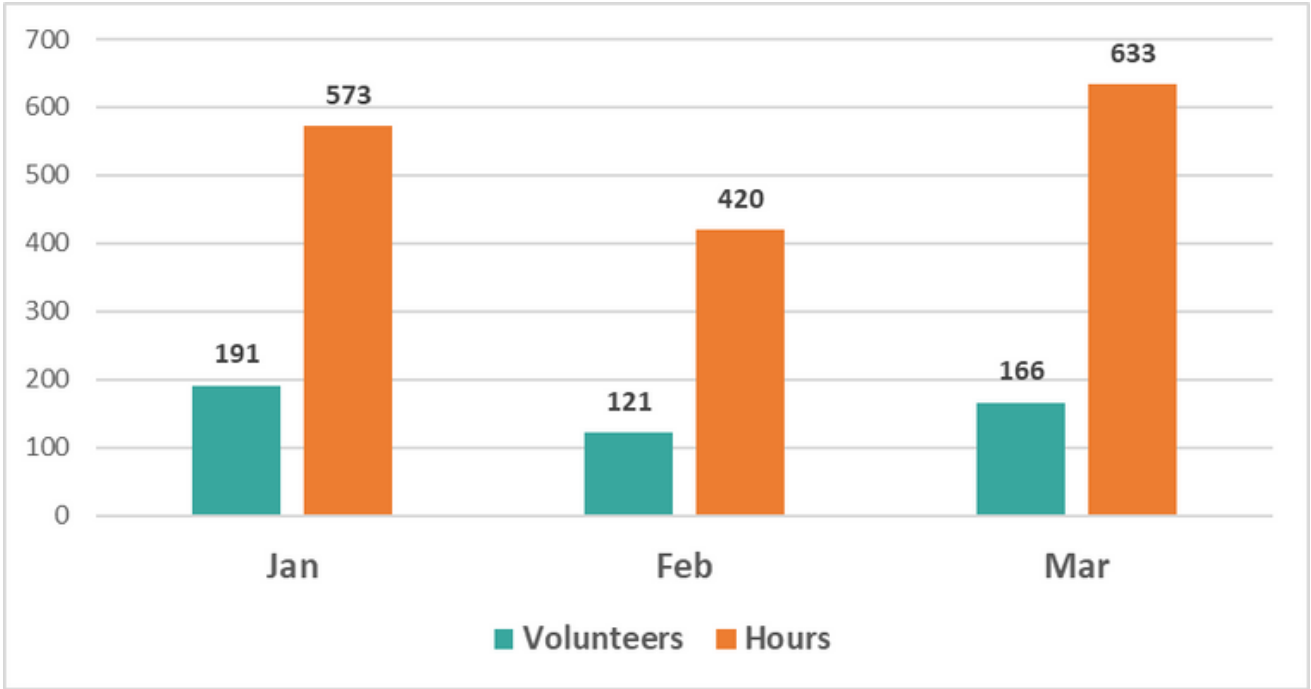
3,772

FOLLOWERS

12,125

REACH

VOLUNTEERS



BUDGET & EXPENDITURES

FBCL	January 2025 - Budget Report
	Fiscal Year 2025 (10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025)
Total Budget	\$23,939,555.00
FTE	267.5
Year to Date Revenues, as of 10/01/2024	
Donations	\$35,935.20
Fines, Copiers, 3D Prints, etc.	\$60,071.42