



Annual Report 2024



mainlib.org



(973) 862-4606



16 Wing Drive - Suite 212
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927



**“By joining Main
Library Alliance,
we unlocked a
new world of
possibilities for
our patrons.”**

— Maria Manigbas, 2024 Director
Fairfield Free Public Library

Main welcomed three new member libraries in 2024: Raritan Public Library, Mountainside Public Library, and Fairfield Free Public Library.

About Main

6

Counties

Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Union & Warren

41

Member Libraries

52

Library Spaces

112

Municipalities

147K

Active Patrons



Main Library Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that connects New Jersey libraries. Our mission is to enhance the value of every member library with high-quality shared services and technology. Main member libraries, committees, and staff collaborate to amplify their collective and individual resources. Their efforts form the basis for development opportunities and partnerships within the community.

Phillip Berg

Executive Director



Greetings and welcome to the 2024 Main Library Alliance annual report.

As the needs of our library community continue to grow and evolve, Main is growing and evolving right along with them. We welcomed three new member libraries to the organization in 2024: Raritan Public Library, Mountainside Public Library, and Fairfield Free Public Library. Main cardholders now also enjoy free access to The Wall Street Journal online and a 15% discount at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, reinforcing the extraordinary value of a library card for our patrons.

Behind the scenes, Main's staff, board of directors, committees, and advisory groups have been hard at work laying the foundation for even more exciting changes in 2025 and beyond. These include a new integrated library system (ILS) vendor, new member libraries, and a new organizational name. Changes will always come with challenges, but I am confident in our team's ability to meet those challenges and emerge from them a stronger and more sustainable organization.

One thing never changes: Main's commitment to providing outstanding support to member libraries and the people they serve. It is my privilege to work with a group of extraordinary individuals who make that possible, this year and every year. ■

Current Main Staff

Phillip Berg

Executive Director

Trevor Diamond

Director of Library Systems

Tom Dinneny

Director of Information
Technology

Mike Grgurev

Digital Initiatives &
Platforms Librarian

James Hartstein

Library IT Support Specialist

Marissa Martinelli

Director of Engagement
& Outreach

Jeanne Mauriello

Cataloger & Electronic
Resources Librarian

Keena Rudolph

Bookkeeper

Lenny Ruggiero

Library IT Support Specialist

Carol Watkins

Part-Time Cataloger

*Special thanks to Jessica
Stauffer and Melanie Edwards.*

2024 Board of Directors

Nancy Shah, President

Florham Park Public Library

Rachel Burt, Vice President

Bernards Township Library

Siobhan Koch, Treasurer

Denville Public Library

Melissa Okerblom, Secretary

Rockaway Borough Public Library

Lotte Newlin

Boonton Holmes Public Library

James Keehbler

Hunterdon County Library

Albie Ashbrook

Long Hill Township Public Library

Jerry Galante

Hackettstown Free Public Library

Jackie Zuzzi

Washington Township Public Library

Seth Stephens

Jefferson Township Public Library

Margie Ticknor

Kemmerer Library Harding



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Member Libraries

Bernards Township Library
Bernardsville Public Library
Boonton Holmes Public Library
Butler Public Library
Library of the Chathams
Chester Library
Denville Public Library
Dover Free Public Library
East Hanover Public Library
Fairfield Free Public Library (**NEW!**)
Florham Park Public Library
Hackettstown Free Public Library
Hunterdon County Library
 North County Branch Library
 South County Branch Library
 Bunnvale Library
 Frenchtown Public Library
 Holland Free Public Library
 Readington Township Library
 Tewksbury Township Public Library
 Three Bridges Library
Jefferson Township Public Library
Kemmerer Library Harding
Kinnelon Public Library
Lincoln Park Public Library
Long Hill Township Library

Madison Public Library
Mendham Borough Library
Mendham Township Library
Montville Township Public Library
Morris County Library
Morris Plains Library
Morristown & Morris Township Library
Mount Arlington Public Library
Mount Olive Public Library
Mountain Lakes Public Library
Mountainside Public Library (**NEW!**)
New Providence Memorial Library
Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library
 Lake Hiawatha Branch Library
 Mount Tabor Branch Library
Pequannock Township Public Library
Randolph Township Free Public Library
Raritan Free Public Library (**NEW!**)
Riverdale Public Library
Rockaway Borough Public Library
Rockaway Township Free Public Library
 Hibernia Branch Library
Roxbury Public Library
Washington Township Public Library
Wharton Public Library
Whippanong Library

Library Systems

Member libraries enjoy an expanded collection through a shared integrated library system (ILS), discovery catalog, mobile app, cataloging, and more.

2024 Collection By the Numbers

3.4M **1.14M**

**Items Available
to Patrons**

**Items
Borrowed**

548K **181K**

**Items Shared
Between Libraries**

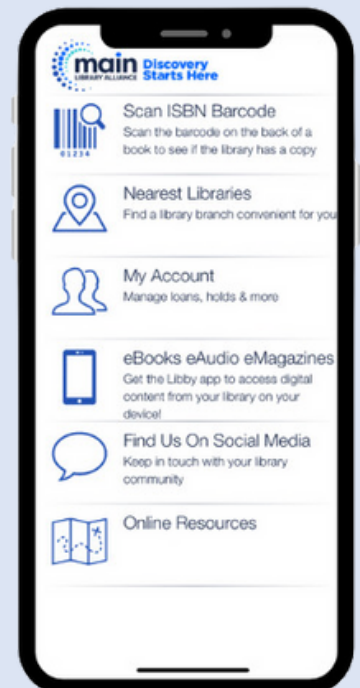
**Items Added to
Catalog**

\$963K

**Libby Content
Purchased**

The App

- *Browse the catalog from anywhere*
- *Check your account*
- *Access your library card*
- *Find a nearby library*
- *And more!*



Launched
499K
Times in 2024

Digital Resources

The digital library is open 24/7. Cardholders at Main libraries can access e-books, audiobooks, and magazines on the Libby app, plus free databases and digital resources across a variety of subjects.

E-books, audiobooks, and magazines to read on the go on your phone, tablet, and other personal devices.



MANGO

More than 70 language courses, including American Sign Language, accessible from anywhere.

For kids! Talking picture books, read-along chapter books, games, and much more.



Independent, unbiased product ratings and reviews, plus advice to save you time and money.



The Wall Street Journal

In 2024, Main Library Alliance users gained access to a new database: The Wall Street Journal Online. Cardholders can read and listen to the latest business news through their library for free, a **\$507 annual savings** per user compared to a digital subscription.

Patrons gain access to:

- Unlimited articles on WSJ.com
- Four-year archive/article search
- E-Replica of that day's paper
- More than 30 newsletters and alerts
- Informative videos and podcasts, featuring interviews with WSJ editors and notable influencers



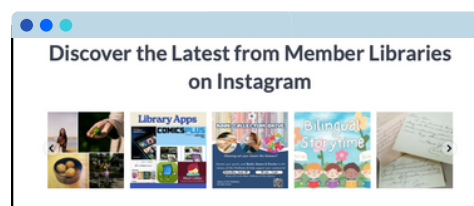
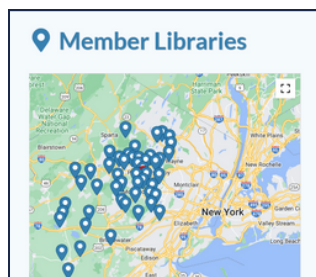
Technical Support

Main employs a team of IT professionals who support member libraries on technical issues ranging from wireless networks to public-facing desktop computer motherboard failure.

Main on the Web

Main's public website **mainlib.org** has valuable resources for patrons, prospective libraries, and partners alike. Library staff also have access to a secure staff website with statistics and troubleshooting options to help them deliver the best possible services at their libraries.

173K
VISITS
IN 2024



Main IT Support 2024 By the Numbers

360
DEVICES
PURCHASED AT
GROUP RATES

740
TECH SUPPORT
TICKETS OPENED

3
HOURS AVERAGE
RESPONSE TIME TO
A SUPPORT TICKET

100%
TICKET
CLOSE RATE



INSTALLATION TIME SAVED BY MEMBER
LIBRARIANS THANKS TO MAIN IT SPECIALISTS

720
HOURS





Return on Investment

The following return on investment (ROI) calculations represent Main's commitment to cost-effective shared services: one of Main's founding principles. ROI calculations compare the costs associated with Main Membership to those incurred without Main's economies of scale. Please note that this document does not describe all the costs of operating a modern library, only the services listed below.

\$1.63M

Total Library Costs with Main



\$11.57M

Total Savings

\$13.2M

Total Library Costs Without Main

CATALOGING, INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEMS & SUPPORT

\$969K
LIBRARY COSTS WITH MAIN

\$8.8M
LIBRARY COSTS WITHOUT MAIN



\$7.83M
TOTAL SAVINGS

DIGITAL RESOURCES

\$326K
LIBRARY COSTS WITH MAIN

\$2.94M
LIBRARY COSTS WITHOUT MAIN



\$2.61M
TOTAL SAVINGS

IT TECHNICAL SUPPORT

\$250K
LIBRARY COSTS WITH MAIN

\$1.08M
LIBRARY COSTS WITHOUT MAIN



\$829K
TOTAL SAVINGS

OPTIONAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

\$82.7K
LIBRARY COSTS WITH MAIN

\$339K
LIBRARY COSTS WITHOUT MAIN



\$256K
TOTAL SAVINGS