Library: Elsmere Public Library

Address:
20 Spruce Ave.
Wilmington, DE 19805

Contact Information:
(302) 892-9814
(302) 892-9834 FAX

Library Exterior:

Estimated Size: 7,000 SF

Hours:
- Monday 12:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Tuesday 12:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Wednesday CLOSED
- Thursday 12:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Friday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday 1:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Estimated Hours Open 2003:
2,336 hours
Financial Breakdown – Income:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>$331,663</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>$83,916</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$693</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

History:

The Elsmere Public Library was built in 1995 to provide community library services to an area that had not had local library service since the county-wide bookmobile service was discontinued in the early 1980s. As a joint effort of the New Castle County Department of Libraries (now the New Castle County Department of Community Services), the State of Delaware, and the Town of Elsmere, the library provides service to 36,000 residents.

Staff innovation and dedication have produced a wide range of programming for children and adults. Use of DelAWARE, a web-based service, has given Elsmere's townspeople access to an array of library services, which otherwise could not be contained in the current 7,500 square foot building.

General Description:

The Elsmere Public Library is housed in a building that also serves as the Elsmere Town Hall. The Library portion of the facility is small; however, it is neat and attractive in appearance. Colorful banners and displays add to the enjoyment of the facility and also help users find the services they are seeking. Although there is no separate meeting room, a small meeting area has been carved out using portable dividers. The Library also has a Teen section in spite of its small size.
Six Year Circulation History:

FY 1999 – 84,751  
FY 2000 – 90,472  
FY 2001 – 100,879  
FY 2002 – 115,516  
FY 2003 – 108,560  
FY 2004 – 100,896

Six Year Circulation Trend:
Circulation reached its highest point in FY 2002 and has decreased thirteen percent (12.7%) since then. However, FY 2004 circulation is still nineteen percent (19.0%) higher than circulation in FY 1999.

2003 Library Visits: 53,979

2003 Registered Borrowers: 6,214

2003 Holdings (number of items in library collection)
- Total Holdings: 35,354  
- Audio Holdings: 2,470  
- Video Holdings: 877  
- Periodical Titles: 106

Holdings per Capita:
- 2.2 items per capita  
- New Castle County mean is 3.2; Delaware mean is 2.8  
- State target is 3.09
2003 Circulation Breakdown:
- Total Circulation: 108,560
- Juvenile Circulation: 40,659
- Adult Circulation: 67,901

2003 Turnover Rates: (number of times average item circulates/year)
- Turnover: 3.07
- New Castle County mean is 2.71; Delaware mean is 2.43

Total Operating Expenditures: $344,285

Estimated Service Population:
- 2004/05 (Estimate): 16,292
- 2009/10 (Projection): 15,963
- 2015 (Projection): 16,541
- 2020 (Projection): 17,031
- 2025 (Projection): 17,421

Operating Cost per Person in Service Area: $21.13 per capita

Cost per Circulation: $3.17

Cost per Hour Open: $147.38 per hour

Circulation per Capita in Service Area: 6.7 circulations per person

Circulation per SF: 15.51 circulations per SF

Circulation per Hour Open: 46.47 circulations per hour

SF per Person in Service Area: 0.43 SF per person State target is 1.0

Library Visits per Capita: 3.3 visits per person

Registrations as a Percentage of Service Area Population: 38.14%

Total Units of Service: 177,234

Total Units of Service per capita: 10.88

*Total Units of Service includes circulation, library visits, reference transactions, and number of persons attending programs.