The vital community offers connections between people and services that positively impact daily lives. Johnson County Library has developed into a key player at the community table by offering those connections to people of all ages.

The library has long worked for the community to provide information, services, programs and collections that meet the needs of its residents. In the last few years the library has focused new effort on working with the Johnson County community in providing opportunities to participate in activities that enrich lives.

To succeed in working for and with the community, the library redefined itself to actively take on the roles of Supporter, Partner and Facilitator. In the last year, these roles have made significant positive impacts.

In the role of Supporter, the library continually enhances its offering of services and resources to meet the many needs of Johnson County residents. Last year marked the beginning of our Homework Help program offered to students to support them in becoming successful in their academic lives. The library also began providing Book Club To Go kits to further the love of reading and provide forums for discussion and communication.

Technological advancements allow for the provision of library resources through the Web. Any borrower can renew and request materials online, access a variety of databases, read an e-book from home, and even share communication with a librarian via live e-mail chat 24/7. In addition, assistive technology available at the library insures that those with disabilities are given the same opportunities to utilize library resources.

As Partner, the library works with county government, community services, educators, and others to create new access points to information, services and programs available to residents on a variety of issues. The library took a proactive role in developing and participating in partnership opportunities with area agencies and groups. These partnerships resulted in increased access points for information and support as well as new opportunities to provide information and resources that impacted residents’ daily lives.

The JoCoHealth Web page provides current, understandable and reliable health information in a well-organized, easy to use, online format. Adult Outreach staff collaborated with senior centers and other residential care facilities to provide presentations for seniors. They also served more than 9,000 community members who may not have been able to benefit from the library’s services.

As Facilitator, the library provides new opportunities for people to actively participate in their community. The library takes a proactive approach in providing opportunities for discussion, participation and action regarding topics important to residents and the community through issues forums, cultural events, interactive adult programming and art displays. The community benefits by exposure to new ideas, experiences and information in an open, neutral environment.

During 2004, Johnson County Library staff was stretched to go beyond traditional library service to play a key role in building community. The library’s most recent strategic plan, “Connections,” has focused on how the library can build community in an environment where people are busier, becoming more isolated, losing interest in civic engagement, and not seeking cultural enrichment opportunities. The library is a successful gathering place for individuals to share ideas and experiences and will continue to serve as a connection point with and for the community.

Mona Carmack
County Librarian
New services and collections

- **Homework Help Centers** opened in three libraries, targeting 4th-8th graders.
- **Book Club to Go Kits**, introduced in September, have been so popular that the library will add another 20 kits.
- **Spanish-language options** are now available on the library’s recorded message.

Memorable events and celebrations

- **Fifteen Storytelling Celebration events** were attended by 1,253 Johnson County Library patrons – *in just four days!*
- **The Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Fiesta** doubled attendance from 2003.
- **Fourth Annual Kwanzaa program** was cosponsored with the Northeast Johnson County Chapter of the NAACP.
- **The Sixties Project Film Discussion Series** drew participants to the six film discussion sessions.
- **Explore Your disAbilities**, a community information fair, offered programming and information booths from 15 area agencies.
- **A reception for Elizabeth Moon, author of the 2004 United We Read book, The Speed of Dark**, concluded the third annual metropolitan United We Read.
- **The Community Issues Forums continued** with “Russia and America” and “Offshoring: Local Jobs in a Global Economy.”
- A Volunteer Recognition Coffee was held to honor 671 volunteers who contributed 25,970 hours to library.
- Friends of the Johnson County Library raised more than $185,000 through book sales, the operation of two used book stores, and the online sale of books.
- The Johnson County Library Foundation raised $47,000 at its Party in the Stacks gala.

**Affecting the lives of children and young people**
- The “Books Get Our Vote Project” drew more than 1,300 young voters in November to elect their favorite book character: Harry Potter.
- Johnson County Library became a Kansas City Promise Site, joining Colin Powell’s initiative called America’s Promise.
- Annual Young Authors Contest reception was attended by 133 children and 152 adults.

**Technology that enriches lives**
- The library’s Web site was redesigned to be more user friendly, based on user feedback and usability studies.
- Internet filtering was implemented in all locations to meet Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements.

**Reaching beyond the library walls**
- An upgrade to the Sirsi automation system was completed, enhancing response time and patron self-service in using the online catalog.
- Issue-specific holdings information for periodicals is now available for each library location.

**Awards to the library and its staff**
- Johnson County Library was again ranked second in the nation in its population category by the 2004 Hennen American Public Library Rating Index.

**Technology that enriches lives**
- Library staff earned six awards in the annual National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) competition.
- Two features of Johnson County Library’s Web site were specifically mentioned when Johnson County Government was named #1 nationally by the Center for Digital Government and the National Association of Counties (NACO).

**A reading program for everyone**
- Teens in the “Get Lost @ Your Library” Summer Reading Program read 9,579 books.
- The Educators’ Summer Reading Program offered two summer-long book discussion groups.
- Adult Winter Reading Program participation increased 38% over 2003.
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Annabeth Surbaugh, Chairman
C. Edward Peterson, District 1
Susie Wolf, District 2
David A. Lindstrom, District 3
Dolores Furtado, District 4
Douglas E. Wood, District 5
John Toplikar, District 6

JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION
Mona Carmack, County Librarian
Diana Graves, Administrative Manager
Donna Lauffer, Associate Director for Branch Services
Tim Rogers, Associate Director for Operations
Carolyn Weeks, Associate Director for Central Services
**Statistical Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Holdings¹</td>
<td>1,216,777</td>
<td>1,198,745</td>
<td>1,220,181</td>
<td>1,172,525</td>
<td>1,113,639</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Borrowers²</td>
<td>340,405</td>
<td>320,327</td>
<td>297,970</td>
<td>314,831</td>
<td>280,891</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Circulation³</td>
<td>5,832,860</td>
<td>5,378,397</td>
<td>5,501,007</td>
<td>5,105,852</td>
<td>4,732,966</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reference Transactions</td>
<td>457,676</td>
<td>460,034</td>
<td>461,256</td>
<td>487,738</td>
<td>526,136</td>
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<td>Online Reference Searches⁴</td>
<td>622,692</td>
<td>464,529</td>
<td>375,532</td>
<td>393,568</td>
<td>282,196</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Library Visits (Door Count)</td>
<td>2,501,857</td>
<td>2,533,304</td>
<td>2,577,919</td>
<td>2,406,715</td>
<td>2,117,648</td>
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<td>Program Attendance</td>
<td>98,353</td>
<td>96,231</td>
<td>80,831</td>
<td>83,777</td>
<td>79,809</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<td>Library Employees (FTEs)⁵</td>
<td>279.9</td>
<td>281.9</td>
<td>282.4</td>
<td>275.6</td>
<td>269.4</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
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<td>Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>25,970</td>
<td>27,864</td>
<td>28,040</td>
<td>27,208</td>
<td>24,886</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
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<td>District Population (est.)⁶</td>
<td>386,100</td>
<td>376,900</td>
<td>368,700</td>
<td>366,200</td>
<td>353,800</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
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¹Circulation and holdings include audio/visual materials, art prints, paperbacks and catalogued books.
²Patron database was purged in 2000 and 2002 of cardholders who had not used their cards for three years.
³Searches performed internal and external to library facilities using online electronic resources to which JCL subscribes.
⁴Johnson County Library Employees (FTEs) are total authorized full-time equivalents.
⁵Estimates of population are from the SURVEY OF BUYING POWER for the beginning of the year.

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**Expenditures**

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<th>Special Use Fund:</th>
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<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$11,204,234</td>
<td>Contractual</td>
<td>$14,700</td>
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<td>Contractual</td>
<td>2,441,181</td>
<td>Commodities/Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commodities</td>
<td>2,570,120</td>
<td>Debt Paid</td>
<td>2,420,677</td>
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<td>Capital</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Transfer to Capital Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>416,854</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$16,632,389</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$16,632,389</td>
<td>Special Use Fund:</td>
<td>$2,677,024</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$19,309,413</td>
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**Johnson County Library Locations**

- **Central Resource Library**
  9875 W. 87th St. • Overland Park, KS 66212
  (913) 495-2400  TDD (913) 495-2433

- **Antioch Library**
  8700 Shawnee Mission Pkwy. • Merriam, KS 66202 • (913) 261-2300

- **Blue Valley Library**
  9000 W. 151st St. • Overland Park, KS 66221 • (913) 495-3850

- **Cedar Roe Library**
  5120 Cedar • Roeland Park, KS 66205 • (913) 384-8590

- **Corinth Library**
  8100 Mission Rd. • Prairie Village, KS 66208 • (913) 967-8650

- **Desoto Library**
  33145 W. 83rd St. • De Soto, KS 66018 • (913) 583-3106

- **Edgerton Library**
  319 E. Nelson • Edgerton, KS 66021 • (913) 893-6720

- **Gardner Library**
  137 E. Shawnee St. • Gardner, KS 66030 • (913) 856-7223

- **Gardner Library**
  137 E. Shawnee St. • Gardner, KS 66030 • (913) 856-7223

- **Leawood Pioneer Library**
  4700 Town Center Dr. • Leawood, KS 66211 • (913) 344-0250

- **Oak Park Library**
  9500 Bluejacket • Overland Park, KS 66212 • (913) 752-8700

- **Shawnee Library**
  13811 Johnson Dr. • Shawnee, KS 66216 • (913) 962-3800

- **Spring Hill Library**
  109 S. Webster • Spring Hill, KS 66083 • (913) 592-3232

**Johnson County Library Mailing Address**
P.O. Box 2933 • Shawnee Mission, KS • 66201-1333

**Johnson County Library Web Site**
www.jocolibrary.org