



# ERICSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report

## **Executive Summary**

I'm happy to present the Ericson Public Library's fiscal year 2017 Annual Report. It is an honor to serve the community, and I'm excited about the work our library is currently doing and the opportunities it has in the future.

FY17 was a year of transition for the library as we implemented a new checkout system which allows the convenience of self checkout and frees up our staffing resources and increases our efficiency. I'm pleased that our staff and volunteers were able to do the tagging conversion so quickly. Without their time and dedication to tagging our entire collection of approximately 70,000 items, we would not have been able to complete the project within the deadline allowing us to stay within our salaries budget projection.

Updating our technology and wi-fi was another accomplishment and has increased our connectivity to provide a better connection for patrons and for our programming needs. We also added kid-friendly learning computers in the Children's Department. The AWE Early Literacy Station and Afterschool Edge computers were possible through various funding streams including the Boone County Community Endowment Fund. These computers allow us to provide new technology to support literacy through games and learning activities that engage and help kids have fun while learning.

Genealogy research has been a popular program and activity along with the use of our Ancestry Library Edition online resource. With over 40,000 searches and 28,000 results for documents and images, the popularity of this activity prompted us to replace an outdated and broken microfilm computer and microfilm reader/scanner. The new computer is easier to use and includes more functions but also supports patrons doing family research along with general historical research, supporting over 122 requests for microfilm use.

The library also started accepting credit card payments in May of 2016 to increase our revenue and offer a more convenient method for payment. Many patrons are glad to have the convenience.

The library in collaboration with the Friends of the Ericson Public Library held a month long Library Challenge campaign with Fareway and was successful in meeting the \$10,000 matching donation. These donations will allow the library to continue providing the same amount of books and materials in FY18 as we did in FY17. The

library also received funding through the Lowrey Foundation and community donations for the Children's Department *Playscape!* project. This project provided Boone County children and families new play-and-learn opportunities and a destination for families to enhance learning through educational activities and play in the library.

The library has been proactive in maintaining the infrastructure and equipment of our historical building and received an Alliant Energy rebate of \$9,453 from our FY16 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) when we replaced and updated our mechanical equipment, specifically three boilers, hot water heater and a chiller, to avoid increasing maintenance levels, operating costs and repair costs. In FY17, we installed a glycol feeder and screen to keep our equipment operating better and to extend the longevity of the equipment. We also had a damper installed for freeze out protection in our mechanical room. The library also has a roof replacement project they've planned for since FY13 to be carried out in FY19 and funded as a CIP.

Last but not least, the staff of the Ericson Public Library is committed to bridging the digital divide in our community. The library offers access to the internet and digital literacy training. There is free Wi-Fi and 31 computers with internet connection for public use. Users can get help with applying for jobs online, writing resumes, setting up email accounts, connecting to loved ones through social networks, and more. Over 58 computer classes at the library were offered to assist and teach computer skills. Private tutoring or *Tech Tutor* is available free of charge. Smartphone and tablet instruction has also gained in popularity. The library serves in assisting our community with setting them up with the devices and showing them out to access and utilize the library's online resources, available anytime and anywhere! We had 23,299 logins to our computers in FY17.

I'm pleased with all that was accomplished in FY17 and am looking forward to the future as we work to meet our mission to enriching lives and investing in our community's learning and access to information. For more information about the Ericson Public Library, go to [www.boone.lib.ia.us](http://www.boone.lib.ia.us).

Jamie Williams  
Library Director

## The Statistical Story

104,160

People in the Library



materials used :  
170,175



Issued **725** new  
library cards for a total  
of **5,920**



**COMMITTED  
TO OUR  
COMMUNITY**

**5,684** reference questions

**11,954** people attended **392** library programs

**53,059** hits on our  
website



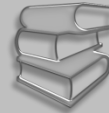
[www.boone.lib.ia.us](http://www.boone.lib.ia.us)



provided **31** computers  
**23,299** uses of public  
internet computers



**245** meeting room  
reservations



**5899** materials added



## Collection includes:

- 62,639 books
- 33,747 ebooks
- 3,594 audiobooks
- 15,626 downloadable audio
- 4,668 videos
- 50 downloadable videos
- 1,059 other materials (puppets/kits/etc)
- 80 periodical subscriptions

**121,383 total items**



## Value of Library Services

It's hard to put a value on public library service, but using average commercial prices, we calculated what it would cost library users for some common services in FY17

Books borrowed-all formats

**\$1,224,951**

Programs / Classes

**\$245,385**

Computer Use

**\$978,558**

Public Meeting Space

**\$12,250**

Reference Services

**\$512,850**

Computer/Technology Training

**\$3,475**

**Ericson Public Library- committed to enriching lives since 1885**

**Here's what our community is saying:**

"Love this Library glad I moved to Boone from Ames! Never a dull moment at any events!" -Alexis

"... such a great asset to our community. We are so lucky to have wonderful people bringing our kids the love of reading with great programming." -Lindsey

"extremely happy with Ericson Public Library and the staff there. They were extremely helpful"- Seth

### Income Sources

City of Boone	\$535,013
Boone County	\$56,160
Contract cities	\$1,160
State	\$10,728
Fines/Fees	\$16,245
Gifts/Grants	\$18,987
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$638,293</b>

### Expenditures

Materials	\$62,415
Salaries	\$290,516
Benefits	\$113,661
Other operational expenses	\$141,950
	<b>\$608,542</b>

\*operational expenditures, does not include capital expenses/one time expenses

### Ericson Public Library RETURN ON INVESTMENT



**\$1 = \$4.75**

## FY17 Results and Accomplishments

**Created welcoming spaces and updated building use and functionality for community**





\*Awarded funding and implemented the Children's Department "Playscape" project to support literacy, play and make it a "destination" for families.

\*Completed RFID conversion with 2 new convenient self checkout stations.



\*Updated our wi-fi access points to provide better connectivity for our patrons and programs.


 Iowa Gale Pages Resources 

**Enhanced collection and content**

\*Expanded and increased Library's digital ebook and downloadable audiobook content.


\*Added more online research tools and databases to offer unprecedented access to highly sought resources that will strengthen information literacy and support lifelong learning including Gale package, Chilton Library, Transparent Languages and Credo Reference.

\*Promoted collection through online tool, IngramSender to increase awareness of what the library has for materials and resources.



### **Developed programs to engage and enhance lifelong learning for our patrons**

\*Partnered with other organizations to deliver STEM programs. Working on more funding through various grants to expand STEAM programs in FY18-19.

 \*Was 1 out of 75 libraries chosen nationwide to receive resources, training and support through NASA@My Library, a STEM education initiative that will increase and enhance STEM learning opportunities for library patrons.