

The Campaign for the **SHARON PUBLIC LIBRARY**



SharonLibraryFoundation
community · literacy · technology



Commit to Our
COMMUNITY.

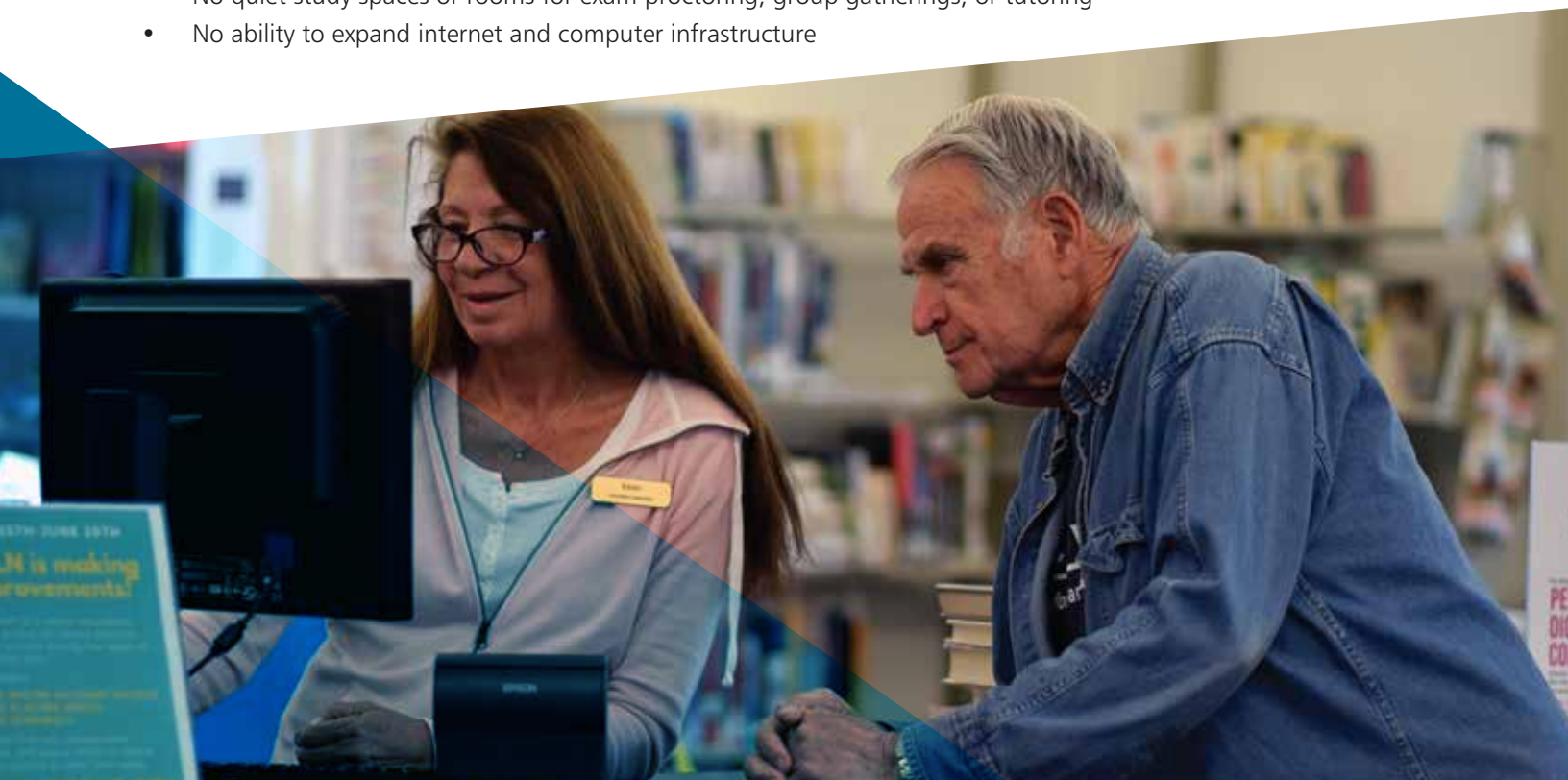
THE LIBRARY'S COMMITMENT TO SHARON

The Sharon Public Library is committed to enhancing the quality of life in our community by being a center for knowledge, information, entertainment, and transformation. Unlike other municipal buildings, the public library building, contents, staff, and technology are available to all.

- Magic happens at the library. Whether it's reading to Sophie, a three-year old boxer who helps children and teens be more confident in their reading skills, or students receiving tutoring, the library's commitment to our youth is evident in everything we do. Library resources and services, such as homework help and technology, all complement the learning that happens at school.
- There is no age limit to education. Patrons of all ages enrich their lives by taking an art or photography class, coming to music programs, participating in health and nutrition programs, or staying current with our technology classes. Skills such as how to access e-books, e-audio, and e-video; as well as social media and the latest apps, are taught.
- The way we access information is constantly changing. Patrons can access the library's paid subscriptions to databases such as Ancestry.com, Mango language database, Morningstar, Valueline, and Overdrive/Hoopla. Assistance with job search skills and resume building also is available.

Despite everything the library offers, your current library has significant challenges:

- The building was built for a population of 8,000 people and cannot be expanded on its present site.
- The building is not ADA compliant
- Building and site issues include:
 - Cracked main load-bearing beam
 - Hazardous materials including asbestos, lead, and PCBs
 - Skylight and roof leaks
 - Flooding
 - Limited electrical capacity
 - No fire suppression system
 - Inadequate septic
 - No dedicated parking
 - No quiet study spaces or rooms for exam proctoring, group gatherings, or tutoring
 - No ability to expand internet and computer infrastructure



OUR MISSION

Sharon Public Library Foundation, Inc. (SPLF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to raise private funds for the construction of a new state-of-the-art Sharon Public Library.

In addition to the \$7.5 million grant awarded to the Town of Sharon by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, private funds raised by SPLF will help defray the Town's cost of construction. Once the new building is constructed, SPLF will provide funding for areas of education, equipment and furnishings, landscaping, and special projects that are beyond the Town of Sharon funding.

"Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest."

—Lady Bird Johnson



YOUR COMMITMENT

Our building, while beloved by many, is no longer adequate to meet the growing and diverse needs of our residents. It's time for the community to join with the Town and the State to invest in a new building through The Campaign for the Sharon Public Library.

The need for a new library building is evident. In 2014 the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners recognized this need and awarded the Town a grant to begin planning for a new library building.

It's time for all of us to come together as a community and commit to a 21st century library for Sharon. Your commitment is your gift to The Campaign for the Sharon Public Library.

Your donation will help provide Sharon with a library that will be:

- Two fully accessible and welcoming floors
- A technology-rich resource with 39 public computers to capture the full potential of our digitally-driven age
- A roomy, playful, and educational environment with dedicated spaces for our children, tweens, and teens
- A place for quiet study or group collaboration, with four study rooms
- A hub for small business and local entrepreneurs with a "Business Pod" that will have the technology needed for conference calls and video chats
- Spacious and comfortable, with the correct amount of space for the collections, programs, and services
- Reconfigurable, with a 120-seat meeting room that can convert into two separate rooms and be used after the library closes
- Fully ADA compliant, with bathrooms and water supplies on both floors



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The Sharon Public Library Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation. Your gift may be tax deductible.

COMMITTING TO THE LIBRARY IS COMMITTING TO THE COMMUNITY

The new Sharon Public Library at 1 School Street will be an asset and revitalize the town center.

PARKING

The new building will have 31 parking spaces on site including handicapped parking.

ACCESSIBILITY

The new library will be completely accessible for patrons with physical, hearing, and sight challenges.

EMERGENCY “PORT-IN-A-STORM”

The library is a warming, cooling, and technology center for Sharon. Power is out—where do you go? The library! A generator will allow the new library to serve people in crisis by offering electricity and access to the internet.

SUSTAINABILITY

Sharon prides itself as a community concerned with the environment. Sustainability is essential to any new library building project across the country. The library’s building plans call for Silver Level LEED certification with a building that will be energy and water efficient.

The building will have integrated and climate-controlled energy and electrical systems that are expandable to meet future needs. Additionally, windows will be fully insulated. Water consumption will be monitored for efficiency and use reduction.

FLEXIBLE USE

Mobility within walls—that’s how Sharon’s new library will live. Shelving, service desks, and furniture will be movable, in order to accommodate variably-sized programming and reconfiguration as the community’s needs change. The electrical, wiring, and data port infrastructure will accommodate future changes in technology.

The building is being built with adaptability at its core. If space becomes an issue, the basement level of the building will be suitable for expansion.

COMMIT TO THE SHARON PUBLIC LIBRARY. COMMIT TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Our goal is to raise \$1,000,000 through The Campaign for the Sharon Public Library. While the state has awarded approximately \$7,500,000 of the total estimated \$17,700,000 project, this capital campaign will offset the costs of bonding to be approved by the community. The state does not make these awards often – our next opportunity could be years away.



UPPER FLOOR MAIN FLOOR

The basement will house work space and mechanical equipment. It also has space for expansion if needed.



OUR ACTIVITY FOR 2017



13,676

REFERENCE QUESTIONS
ANSWERED



34,320

PUBLIC
COMPUTER USERS

50,000

WIRELESS SESSIONS



TOTAL VALUE OF
LIBRARY PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES

\$7,378,952



17,393

PEOPLE ATTENDED

574

LIBRARY PROGRAMS



457,049

ITEMS CIRCULATED



FOR EVERY TOWN TAX
DOLLAR INVESTED

\$7.38

RETURN
ON INVESTMENT

These numbers come from the Library's annual statistical report. The Return on Investment is derived from dividing the amount of Town public funding into the total value of library programs and services.

