

In 2025, the Solomon Wright Public Library:

- **Offered over 35 free events and programs** for a variety of ages, in partnership with the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, Hoosick River Watershed Association, Bennington Multicultural Center, Sunrise Family Resource Center, Head Start, The Bike Hub, and Faith Church
- **Hosted local children and teachers** from Pownal Elementary School and Pownal Head Start, and provided outreach to Oak Hill Children's Center
- **Welcomed new patrons and visitors** from Pownal and beyond
- **Received four grants:** Summer Programming, Interlibrary Loan, Community Garden (from Vermont Humanities), and Early Literacy (from Children's Literacy Foundation)
- **Offered 24-hour access** to Wi-Fi outside our building and the use of **two computers** for public use and printing of documents
- **Provided resources and information** from local organizations and **showcased** local groups in Community Conversations initiative
- **Offered healthy snacks and collected** nonperishable food items for the **Pownal Food Pantry**, and **hosted** a winter clothes and coat exchange
- **Maintained** the library's **stop on the Green Mountain Express**, with service three times a day during the week
- **Hosted numerous Pownal organizations** in our meeting spaces, including town committees, summer school tutoring, quilting group, and book club
- **Helped visitors find vital information** such as tax and health care documents
- **Continued to provide** citizens of all ages with **diverse choices for reading material** in all genres, **access to large print**, and **online access** to e-books and audiobooks through Libby/Overdrive and The Palace Project
- **Continued to encourage** checkout of items from our **Library of Things** and **Peckham Toy Library**, and **to provide passes to local museums, skiing, state parks, and historic sites** for free entry

In 2026, we will continue to honor the legacy and vision of the Wright family by offering Pownal residents a welcoming, accessible, and comfortable space to gather, read, and learn. We will expand our programs and events, especially those focused on families and our youngest patrons, and will consider the community's needs and requests as we schedule programming and additions to our collections.

Thank you for your support!

Emily Gold, Director