



Milford City Hall Council Chambers 201 South Walnut Street Milford DE 19963

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

March 12, 2025

Attendees are welcome to participate virtually as well. Public Comments are encouraged on the agenda items designated with a Ⓢ. Virtual attendees may alert the City Clerk that they wish to speak by submitting their name, address, and agenda item via the Zoom Q&A function or by using the Raise Your Hand function during the meeting. Those attending in person may comment when the floor is opened for that purpose. All written public comments received prior to the meeting will be read into the record.

This meeting is also available for viewing by the public by accessing the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97569830923>

or

<http://www.cityofmilford.com/553/Watch-Public-Meetings>

Members of the public may also dial in by phone using the following number:

Call 301 715 8592 Webinar ID: 975 6983 0923

6:00 PM

15-Minute Public Comment Period*

Virtual attendees must register prior to start time of meeting by calling 302-422-1111 Extension 1300 or 1303, or by sending an email to cityclerk@milford-de.gov and providing your name, address, phone number, and item name and/or description you wish to comment on. Persons in attendance wishing to speak must sign up prior to the start of the Council Meeting.

WORKSHOP

Page

- 1. Public Comment**
- 2. Call to Order – Mayor Todd Culotta**
- 3. Annual Report & Funding Request / Greater Milford Chamber of Commerce**

4. Annual Report & Funding Request / Milford Museum

- a. [Annual Budget](#)  10
- b. [City Council Presentation 2025](#)  11 - 23
- c. [Milford Museum Annual Update and Funding Request 2025](#)  24 - 25

5. Annual Report & Funding Request / Milford Public Library

- a. [State of the Library March 12, 2025](#)  26 - 36
- b. [City Council Presentation 2025](#)  37 - 49

6. Annual Report & Funding Request / DMI

- a. [DMI 2025 Budget](#)  50
- b. [DMI City of Milford March 12 2025](#)  51 - 75
- c. [DMI Council Presentation](#)  76 - 80

7. Annual Report & Funding Request / Carlisle Fire Company

- a. [Carlisle Presentation March 2025-FY26 Budget Request](#)  81 - 85

8. Presentation / Delaware Food Bank

- a. [Food Bank Presentation March 2025](#)  86 - 117

9. Adjournment

ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CITY CLERK IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK PRIOR TO MEETING. NO PAPER DOCUMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED, DISTRIBUTED, OR PRESENTED AT MEETING ONCE PACKET HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE CITY OF MILFORD WEBSITE. ANY MATERIALS UTILIZED DURING THE MEETING SHALL BE FROM THE COUNCIL PACKET AND REFERENCED BY PRESENTER USING AUDIO AND VISUAL MEANS TO ENSURE VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION BY ALL IN ATTENDANCE.

*Time Limit is three minutes per speaker, not to exceed a total of fifteen minutes for all speakers prior to start of meeting/workshop.

© Designated Items only; Public Comment, up to three minutes per person will be accepted.

030425

Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford
24 NE Front St. ~ Suite 101
Milford, DE 19963
Phone: 302-422-3344
Fax: 302-422-7503
www.milfordchamber.com

March 3, 2025

Milford City Council
201 S. Walnut Street
Milford DE 19963



Dear Council Members:

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford is excited to host the 25th Riverwalk Freedom Festival scheduled for Saturday, September 20th, 2025. As in the past, the event will be held on one day, with vendors and various attractions beginning at 9 am continuing throughout the day, concluding with fireworks after dark that evening. We would like to host the Red, White and Brew Garden in Bicentennial park again this year. We request your permission to waive the alcohol restrictions in the park on the date of the festival.

We will use a similar layout that has worked so well in past years. There will be a fenced area in a section of the park with a view of the stage. We will be checking identifications and applying wrist bands to those twenty-one (21) years old or older. This will allow the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the designated area only. As the Delaware Alcoholic Beverage Control regulations permit, the designated area will be family friendly, so all ages will be permitted to enter the area. We will have one entrance/exit clearly marked with eye level signage that no alcoholic beverages are permitted beyond the designated area. We will have crowd monitors to assure no one leaves the area with alcohol. We will have portable restrooms and a handwashing station in the enclosed area, as well as multiple trash bins. We plan to have cornhole and food vendor(s) in the area as well. We will provide several open tents to provide shade, cover and in the evening the area will be well lit. All Delaware Alcoholic Beverage Control regulations regarding alcohol service, including obtaining a "Gathering License" will be observed and adhered to.

The Brew Garden would open at 12 noon on Saturday, September 20th and would close at 10:30 pm. All alcoholic beverage sales will end promptly at 10:00 pm. We are requesting your approval to waive the restrictions against alcohol in the park on this date. If you have any questions, please contact me at 302-588-3573 or email at angeladorey@comcast.net.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Angela Dorey
Event Chairperson



2025 EVENT DATE IS
Saturday September 20th

The 2024 event was a very
memorable & successful day.
Thank you to City of Milford and
Council, for your continued support!



The City contribution of \$35,000 was allocated and paid for the 2024 festival expenses as follows:

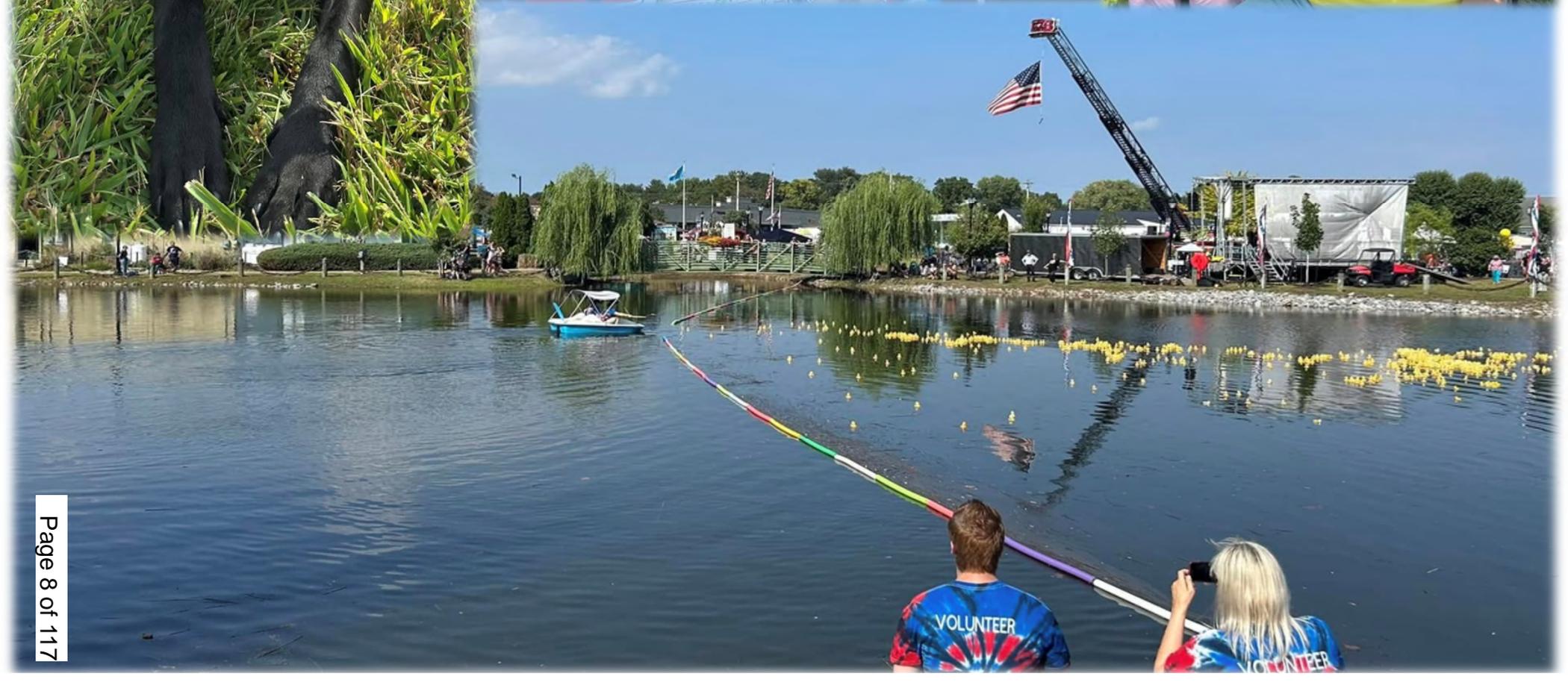
- Fireworks (Brother's Pyro, LLC) \$10,000
- WBOC advertising: \$2,780
- Southern Delaware Publishing advertising \$1635
- Forever Media advertising: \$2,800
- Bicentennial Park stage rental \$8,550
- Sweetwater Band \$680
- Girls Room Band \$650
- Bobby Lee Jones band: \$600
- Watkins Wonders Petting Zoo: \$650
- Shore Party Rentals \$1675
- Clean Delaware(porta potties) \$1800
- Tents/Tables/Chairs/Lighting \$2,667
- Event Insurance \$1046

Total \$35,533



The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Milford respectfully asks for a contribution of \$35,000 for the 2026 event, to cover similar expenses.





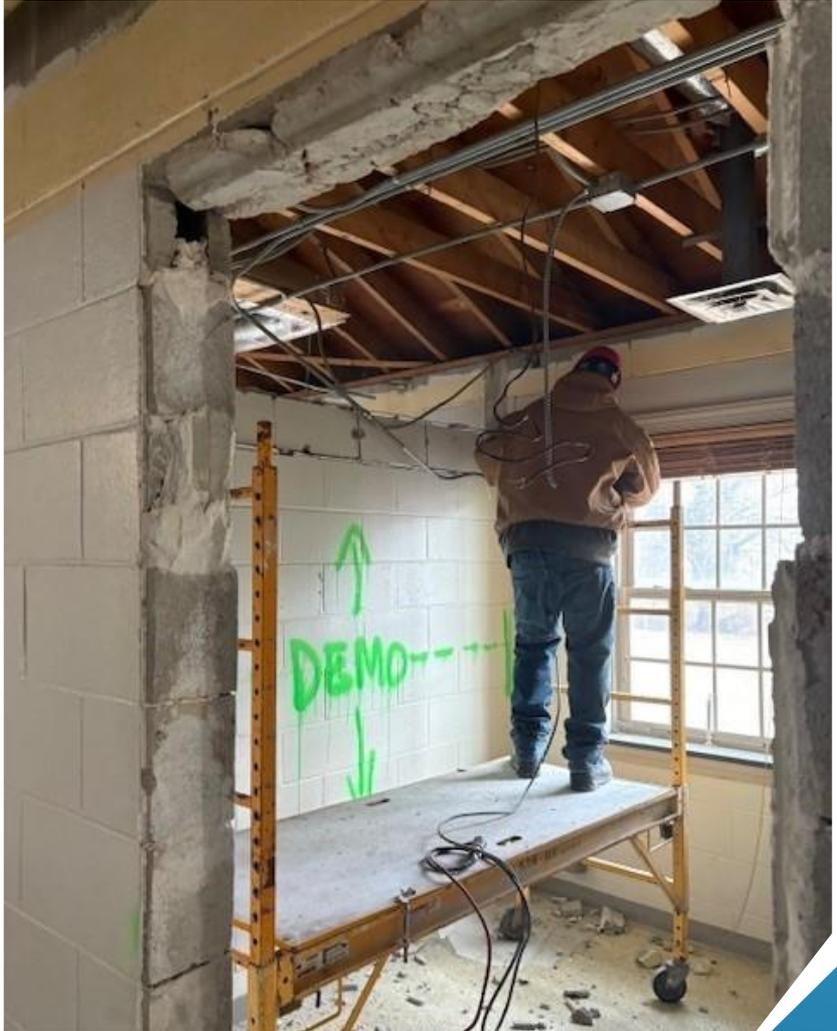


Milford Museum and Landmarks Commission Inc.
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
 Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

	Jul '24 - Jun 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
City Subsidy	40,000.00
Dividend Income	1,800.00
Donation	6,000.00
Event Income	21,600.00
Grant Income	18,000.00
Interest	20.00
Membership Dues Income	3,000.00
Sales Income	1,500.00
	91,920.00
Expense	
Advertising	800.00
Bank and Credit Card Fees	700.00
Compensation	
Staff Wages	37,000.00
Total Compensation	37,000.00
Computer and Internet	1,400.00
Dues & Subscriptions	300.00
Event Expense	
Hippie Fest Cost	4,000.00
Event Expense - Other	4,000.00
Total Event Expense	8,000.00
Exhibit Supplies	400.00
Gift Shop Merchandise	500.00
Maintenance	1,000.00
Meeting Expense	300.00
Office Expense	200.00
Payroll Expenses	65.00
Postage Expense	100.00
Speaker Fee	3,000.00
Taxes	
Franchise Tax	55.00
Payroll Taxes	2,830.00
Total Taxes	2,885.00
Utilities- Electric	2,900.00
Utilities- Internet/Phone	2,000.00
Utilities - Heating Oil	7,000.00
Total Expense	68,550.00
Net Ordinary Income	23,370.00
Net Income	23,370.00























ALBERT F. PAUL

The Albert F. Paul was a three-masted schooner built in 1917 at
 Astoria and built for the W. H. Weston Co. It was the last
 schooner built in the United States. The ship was
 named for the late Albert F. Paul, who was the
 owner of the ship. The ship was built by the
 shipyard of C. F. Paul & Co. in Astoria, Oregon.
 The ship was built for the W. H. Weston Co. and
 was used for the transport of goods and
 passengers. The ship was built for the
 W. H. Weston Co. and was used for the
 transport of goods and passengers.



DING

The ding is a small boat used for the transport of
 goods and passengers. It was built in 1917 and
 was used for the transport of goods and
 passengers. The ding was built for the
 W. H. Weston Co. and was used for the
 transport of goods and passengers.





**MILFORD MUSEUM'S ANNUAL UPDATE & FUNDING REQUEST
MARCH 2025**

OPERATIONS/PROGRAMS/SERVICES

1. Tom Summers took over the role of Executive Director in July 2023 after retiring from State Parks.
2. The Museum received \$50,000 from the State Reinvestment Grant monies for handicapped accessibility to the new building.
3. Requested and received a Delaware Heritage Commission Grant for the second consecutive year. This has allowed for the American History Series to continue at the Milford Public Library. More than 2,020 people have come to the monthly programs since it started 20 months ago. Many of the attendees have come from out of town so this helps put people in the restaurants and other businesses throughout Milford. Our November program, focusing on the Lenape Tribe, drew our biggest crowd - 180 persons.
4. Our education program continues to grow. High School students continue to receive extra credit for attending our American History Series. The Traveling Trunk will be coming back out this spring in local classrooms, and we're working with the Milford School District to provide ideas about how to exhibit the history of the former Middle School once it reopens in the fall.
5. We're in the final stages of completing the film about the Schine Theater's Segregated Balcony.
6. One of our volunteers who was handling our online content was hired for about eight hours a week to help develop and improve our online presence.
7. We're continuing to do oral histories, with the most recent project focusing on bringing together the 1971 Basketball State Champions to discuss that magical season. We're working with the school district on this project.
8. Concerning artifact donations, approximately 160 new items have been added to the collection from 25 different donors.
9. New Podcast on Southern Delaware history to begin in the spring of 2025
10. "This Month in Milford History" has been a large online success. This program includes a host discussing four facts about Milford history that can be found in the Milford Chronicle. Our volunteers search through the papers, both online and in hardcopy, to find interesting facts and history. We've started including guest hosts which has added another dimension to the program.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total visitation for 2023 was 2,850. Total visitation for calendar year 2024 was 3,503.

VOLUNTEERS

Former Museum Director Claudia Leister is still heavily involved with the Museum as a volunteer with collections. In addition to our three main docents, Maynard Gregory, Bob Meade, and Gloria Markowitz, we also have several people who work from home doing such projects searching the Milford Chronicle on the Library of Congress site and transcribing oral histories so there is a written account of each interview.

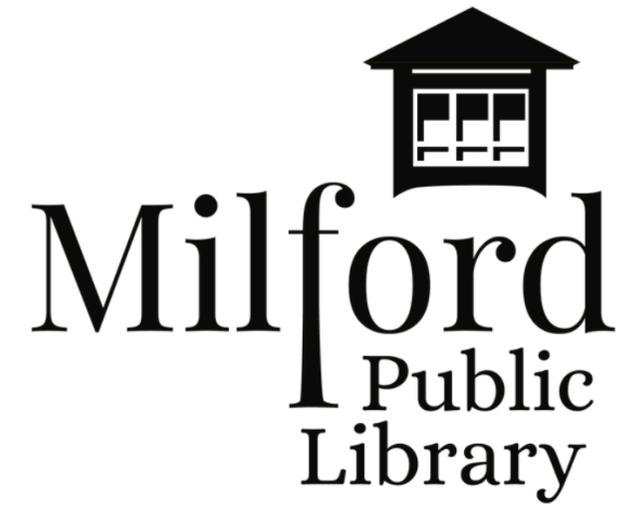
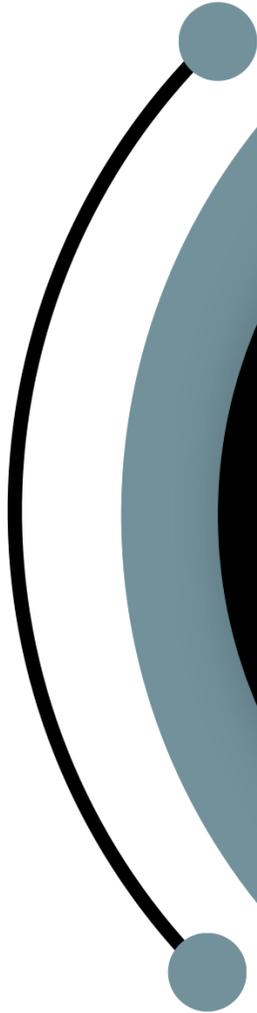
UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 12, Lincoln’s Last Hours, Milford Library
- May 10, The Canning Industry of Delaware, Milford Library
- June 14, The History of the Nanticoke Tribe, Milford Library
- July 12, Pickett’s Charge, Milford Library
- Aug. 9, Storm Warriors: The U.S. Lifesaving Service in Delaware, Milford Library
- Aug. 16, Hippiefest
- Sept. 13, The Presidential Election of 1912: Theodore Roosevelt and The Bull Moose Party, Milford Library
- Oct. 11, McCarthyism, Milford Library
- Nov. 8, Dorie Miller: Hero of Pearl Harbor

CITY FUNDING

CALENDAR YEAR 2024		CALENDAR YEAR 2025 (anticipated)	
Item	Amount	Item	Amount
Payroll	\$29,000	Payroll	\$37,000
Utilities	\$11,710	Utilities	\$11,900

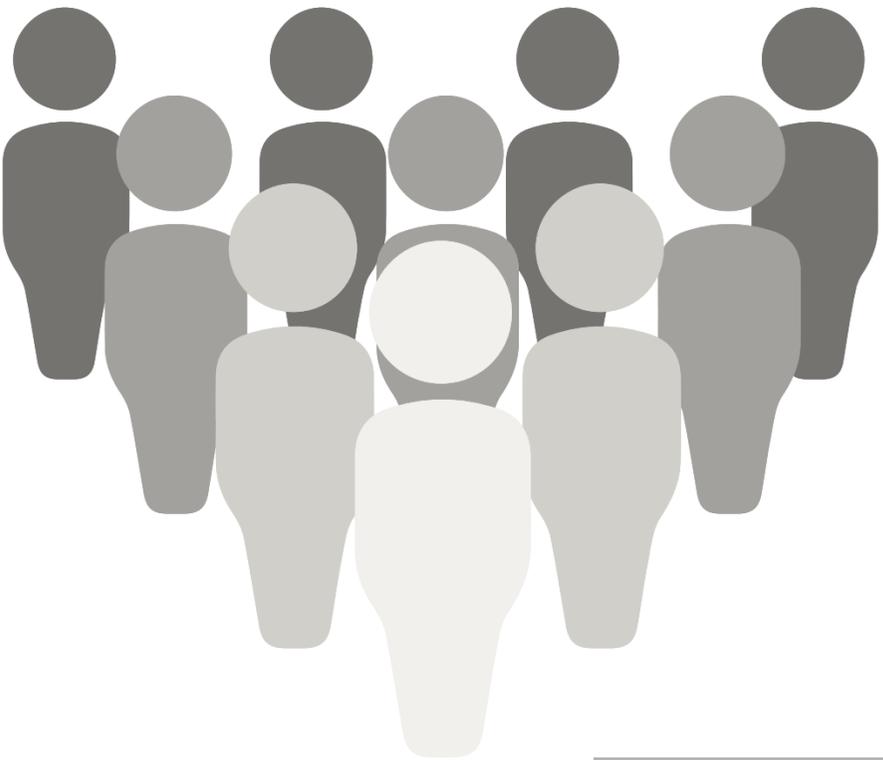
The Milford Museum is requesting operational funding support from the City of Milford for 2025 in the amount of \$40,000.



**State of the Library
March 12, 2025**

**11 SE Front Street
Milford, DE 19963
302.422.8996
milford.lib.de.us**

Milford Public Library



Board of Trustees

President
Lois Studte

Vice President
Joe Zurzolo

Treasurer
Ray Lynch

Member-At-Large
Yanelle Powell

Secretary
Patricia Calhoun

Staff

Operations Manager
Heather Kershaw

Library Director
Lea Rosell

Assistant Director
Sarah Yatuzis

Circulation Manager
James Argot

Children's Co-Chair
Anis Lopez

Children's Co-Chair
Maddy Maute

Teen Librarian
Amanda Robertson

Adult Programs
Carolyn Tabor

Circulation Assistants and Technical Services

Brianna Bolden Norma Chalmers Alice Lewis
Visa Ponce Sherrie Shupe Kathy Trombello

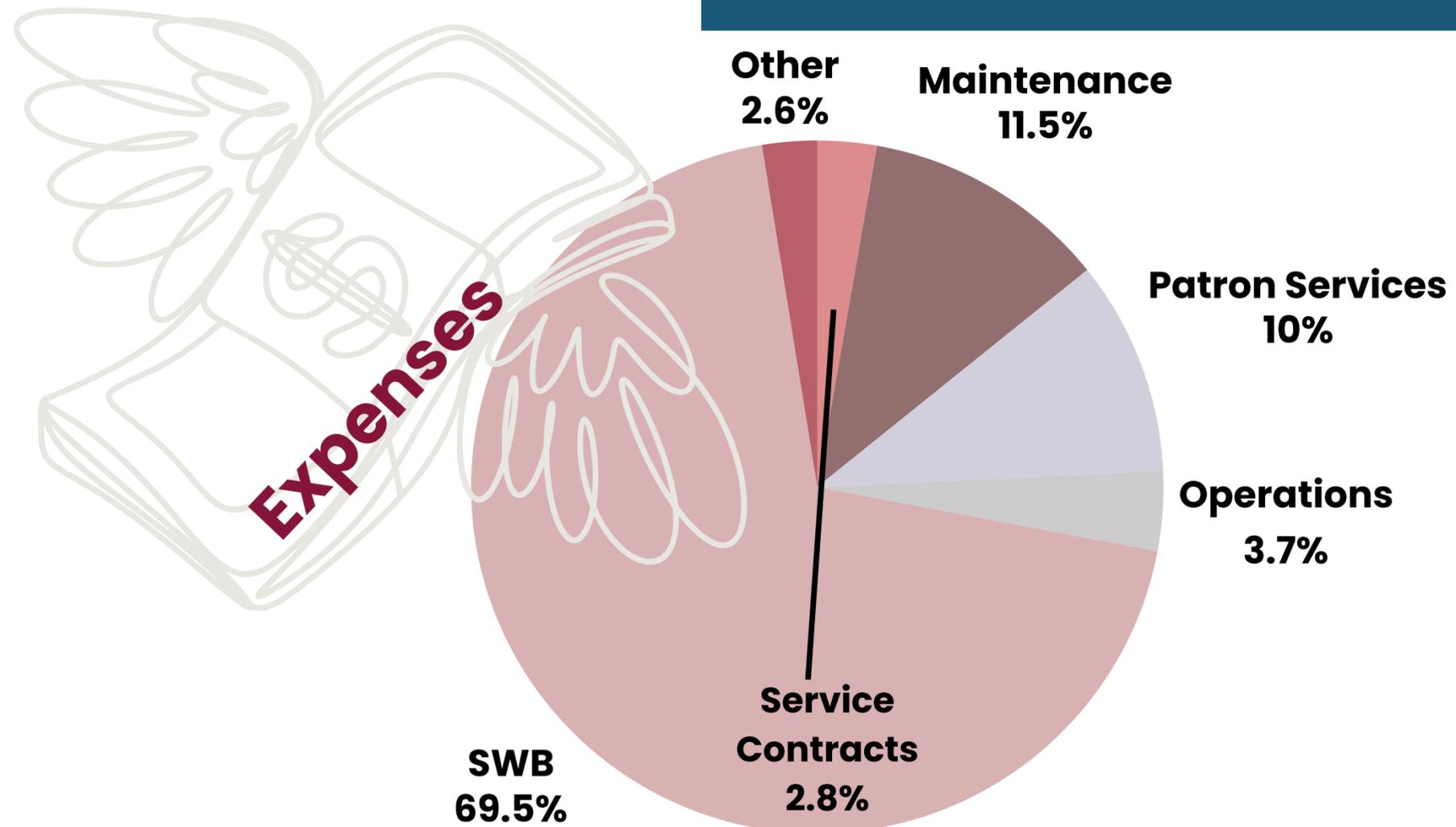
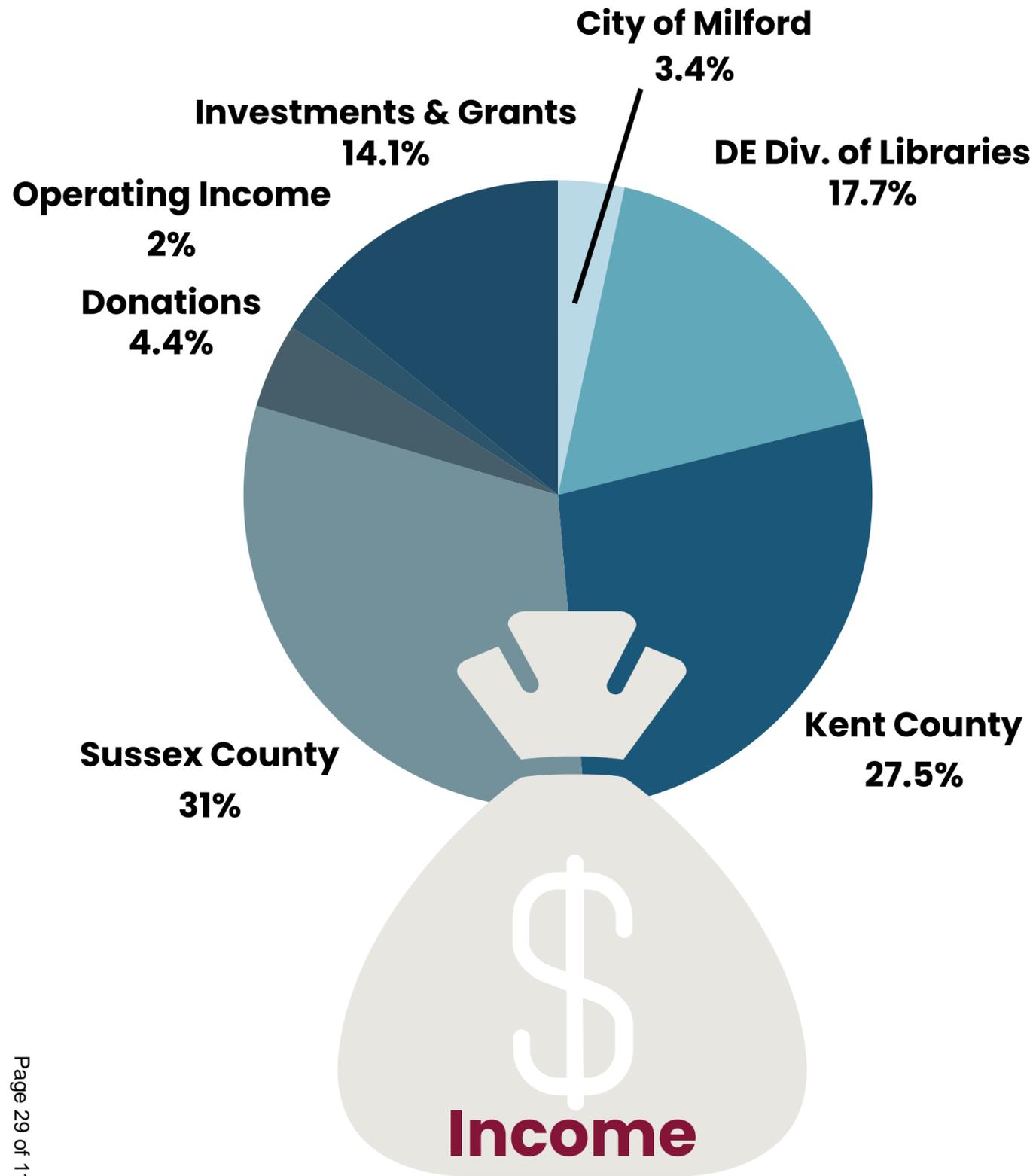
Community Snapshot

Milford is a vibrant and diverse community. Significant population growth has increased the need for essential community services.

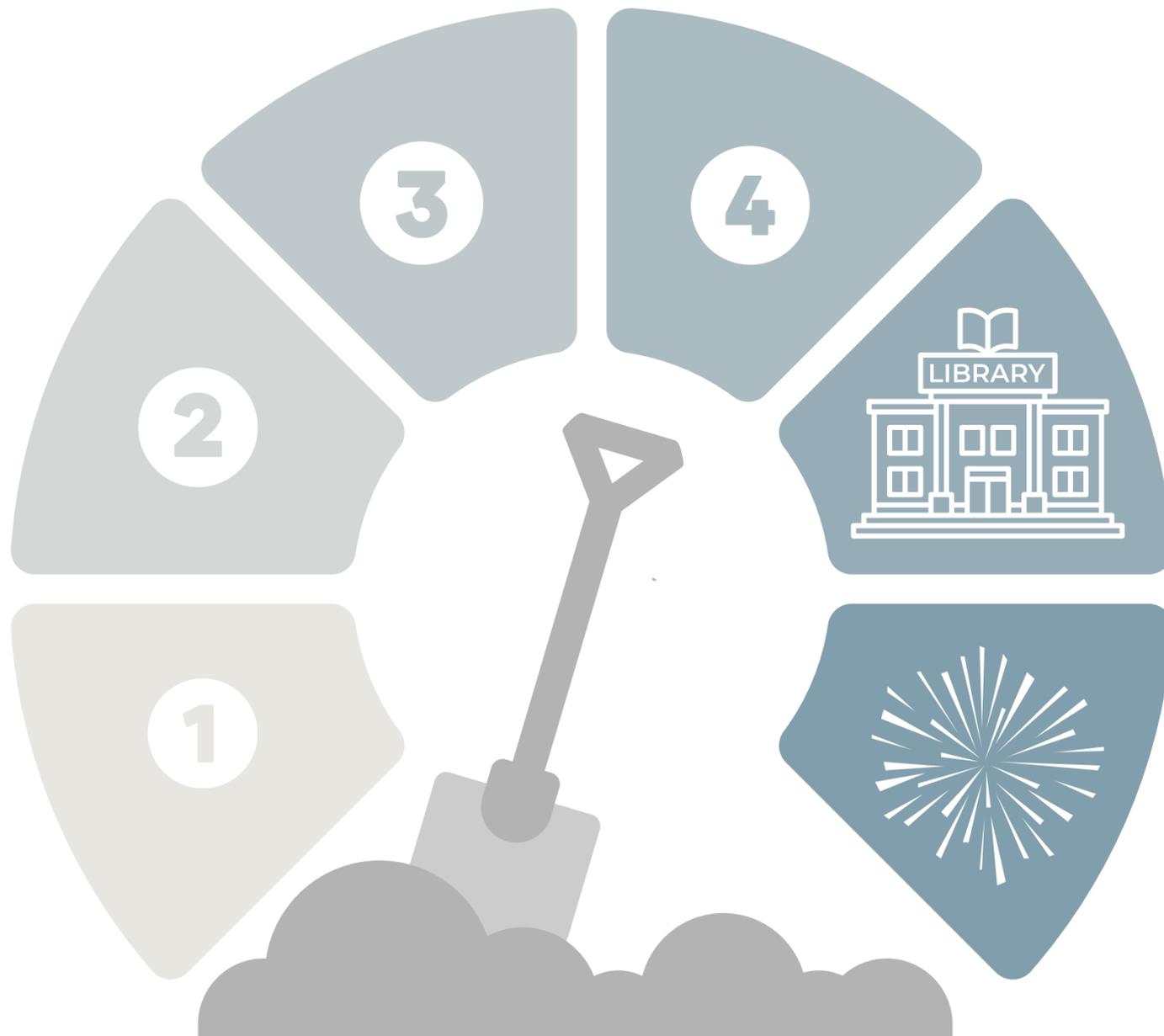


2020 US Census	Milford	Delaware	United States
Population Growth	17.63%	10.2%	7.18%
Poverty	16%	9.4%	11.4%
Reading Proficiency	34%	42%	47%

Income & Expenses FY 2025



Construction



1

Needs Assessment & Feasibility Study

CMTA and the Becker Morgan Group conducted a feasibility study and a facility needs assessment, respectively. The results have been provided, and a detailed schematic design phase has begun.

2

HVAC System

MPL's aging HVAC system is failing. Costly repairs and maintenance constitute a significant burden within the library's annual operating budget. Funds for replacement have been secured.

3

Facility Renovation

MPL's square footage is sufficient, but the facility's footprint, layout, mechanical equipment, and furnishings are ineffectual and, in some cases, inoperable. The renovation will address deficiencies in electrical systems, patron restrooms, building security, fixtures, and furniture. MPL is considering solar panels as part of the project.

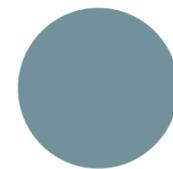
4

Recently Completed

MPL recently replaced the building's fire suppression and sprinkler systems, which failed due to age.

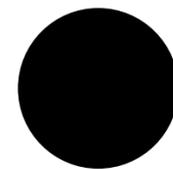
Partnerships

MPL considers partnerships integral to successful community stewardship and financial management. Working with various organizations to leverage available resources and expertise provides the foundation for the programs, classes, and resource-sharing our patrons require.



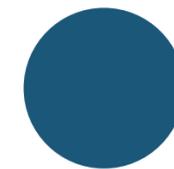
Downtown Businesses

MPL often partners with the Downtown Businesses of Milford to promote and participate in City-wide events. Recently, MPL took part in the Annual Holiday Stroll and the Children's "Grinch Hunt".



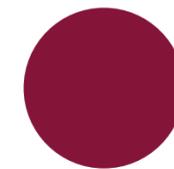
TeleHealth Services

In partnership with DDL, MPL provides twice-weekly drop-in resource access with a certified teleservices navigator. Navigators assist in job applications, resumes, social service resource guidance, and much more.



Library Resources

The Arthur Perdue Foundation provided grant funds to purchase multi-year access to the Mango Languages database, and the Milford Lion's Club recently provided grant funds to support the purchase of a Children's WorldBook collection.



NP & Government Partnerships

MPL often hosts other NPs and Government agencies. DHSS frequently brings their mobile unit to MPL to provide vital health testing and information.

Program Highlights

MPL's priority is to provide free access to traditional and emerging resources, as well as educational, cultural, and recreational activities. While some of our programs have similar offerings elsewhere, no other organizations provide these to residents at no cost.



Acrylic Painting Workshop

Community residents participated in a free painting workshop with our friends from a local art supply business.



Children's STEM Activity

Kids learned about the power of chemical reactions during a fun STEM experiment workshop.



Cooking with Cops

Children and teens made no-bake chocolate cookies with MPD's Chief Ashe and crew.

Collections & Resources



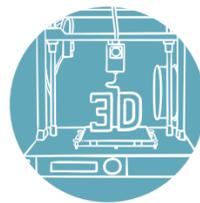
Physical Materials

The circulation of MPL's physical collection increased 36.5% over last year. Patrons have free access to books, magazines, newspapers, movies, music, and "things" like leaf blowers, sewing machines, and electric drum kits.



Databases

In addition to the databases provided by DDL, MPL provides patrons with access to NewsBank and Mango Languages.



Emerging Technologies

Library users can access emerging technologies, such as 3D printers, VR headsets, audio and video production equipment, and coding robots.



Computers, Internet, & WIFI

MPL has 15 general-use computers, WIFI throughout the building and parking lot, and 2 AWE children's learning computers. Google Chromebooks and WIFI hotspots are available for circulation. MPL also provides no-cost scanning and low-cost printing and faxing.

Service Overview

Fiscal Year 2024



- There were 112,807 library visits to MPL, a 6% increase from FY 2023.
- MPL users checked out 116,761 items.
- MPL issued 2,025 new library cards.
- MPL held 976 programs, workshops, and classes.
- 18,262 people participated in MPL programs, workshops, and classes.

Expanded Services 2025

Free tax preparation

Haitian-Creole speaking resource navigator

Job search & resume assistance

Becoming a summer Read & Feed site

Milford Reads Year Round

Homeschool Hour

Warming & cooling center

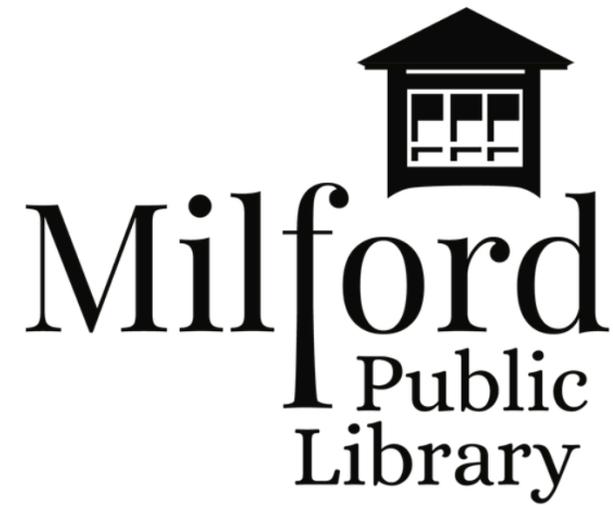
Free feminine hygiene products

Hygiene kits coming soon

Library of Things Collection

- Telescopes
- Sewing machine
- Electric drum kit
- Crock Pot
- Gardening equipment

With your support, MPL will continue to provide meaningful, critical services to the Greater Milford Community.

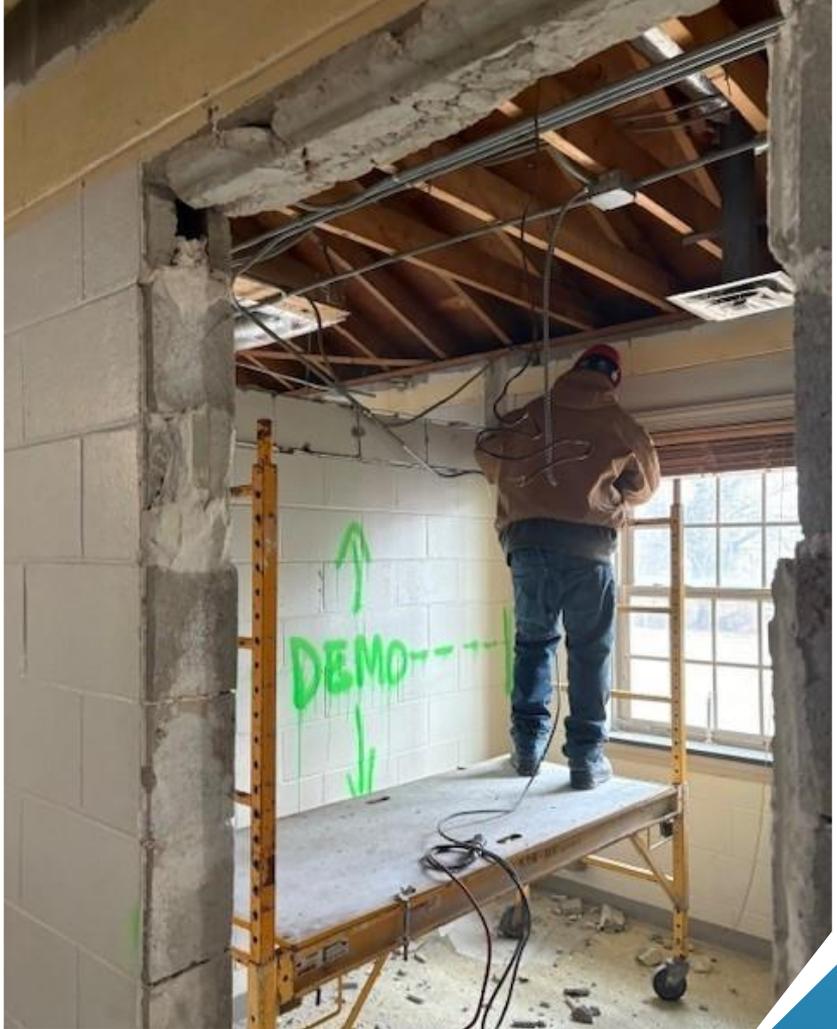


Thank You

11 SE Front Street
Milford, DE 19963
302.422.8996
milford.lib.de.us















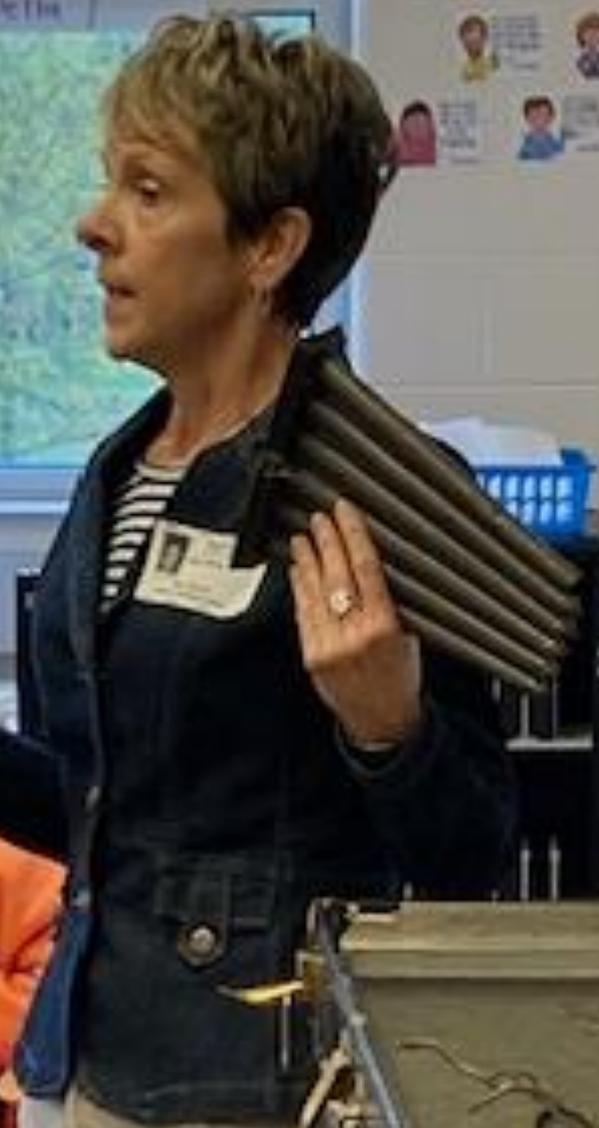
Orientation
Date
Author
Legend
Scale

Mountain	Yosemite	Sierra
Coast	Marin	Golden Gate
Desert	North	Sierra
Hill	Alameda	East
Lake	Delta	

Geography

What map is used to show the location of a place on the globe?

Outline
Title
North
Longitude
Latitude













Downtown Milford Inc. 2024-25 Budget

Line item	Budgeted Amount
Grants	\$650,000
Main Street	
City of Milford	\$50,000
Ice Cream Shop Rental	\$2000.00
Merchandise Sales	5,000.00
Interest Income	5,000.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$707,000.00
Event Income (NET)	
Bug & Bud Festival	15,0000.00
Farmer's Market	8,000.00
First Friday	\$1,500.00
Independence Day	1,500.00
Multicultural Festival	\$1,500.00
Small Business Saturday	\$500.00
Santa House	\$500.00
City Tree Lighting	\$500.00
Holdiaiy Stroll	\$6,000.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$38,320.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME	\$745,320.00
EXPENSES	
Rent	\$11,000.00
Bank Fees	\$500.00
Computers & Software	\$3,000.00
Insurance	1,500.00
Internet and Website	\$1,500.00
Merchandise Costs - Sell	\$10,000.00
Merchandise Costs - Promotional	\$2,500.00
Postage	\$250.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$500.00
Stationary & Printing	\$2,000.00
Supplies	\$3,000.00
Utilities	\$2,500.00
Telephone	\$3,000.00
Main Street Conference	\$2,600.00
Perssonnel	\$50,000.00
Office Furnishings	\$1,470.00
Historic Preservation Grant	\$600.000
Downtown Improvement Grants	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$745,320.00

Downtown Milford Inc.

Milford City Council Presentation
March 12, 2025



Looking Forward

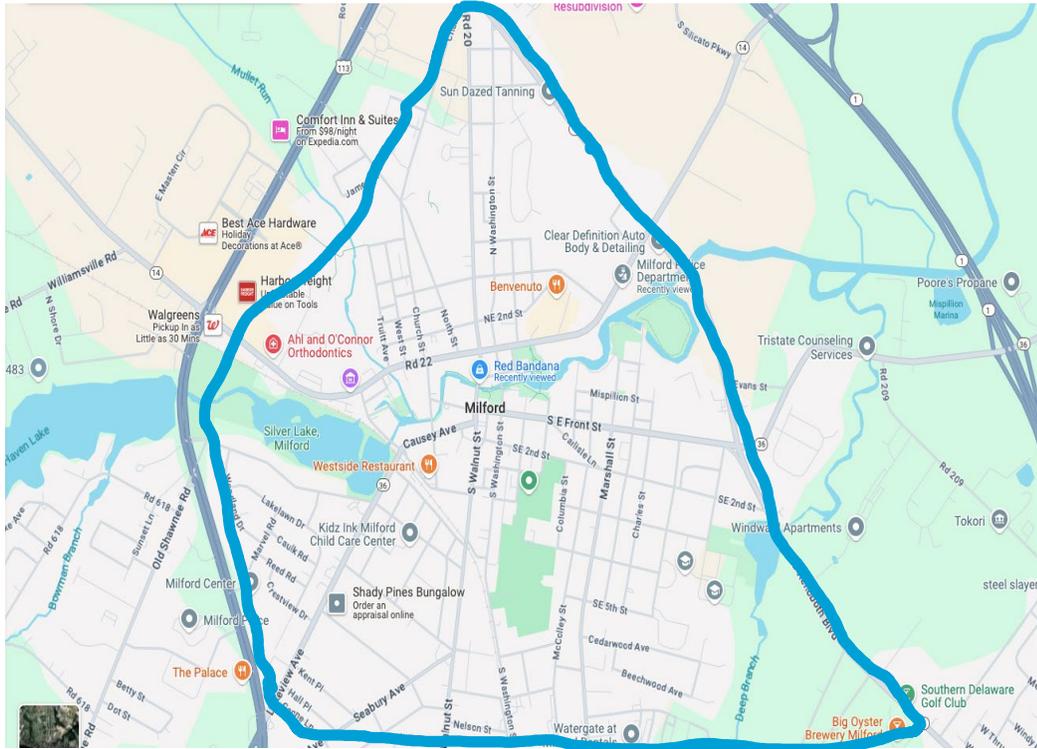
- Downtown Milford Inc. is looking forward to the future with our new branding, new mission and vision statement.
- New mission statement: Downtown Milford Inc. is an organization powered by volunteers with a passionate commitment to infuse new life into downtown as a united community.



Our New Vision

- Downtown Milford Inc. has a vision to transform downtown Milford into a dynamic, vibrant hub where people gather to shop, dine, work and celebrate Milford's rich cultural heritage. We aim to enhance quality of life and foster a sense of pride for future generations through collaboration, strategic partnerships and a commitment to economic sustainability.

New Footprint



- We still follow the Downtown Development District
- Our focus has expanded to include other areas considered to be "downtown"

New Office

- In March, we moved into our new office at 15 North Walnut Street to what was known as the Marvel Agency but will now be known as the Trinity Executive Center.



Downtown Milford Coordinator

New title

Currently completing our second round of interviews

Hiring goal is mid-March

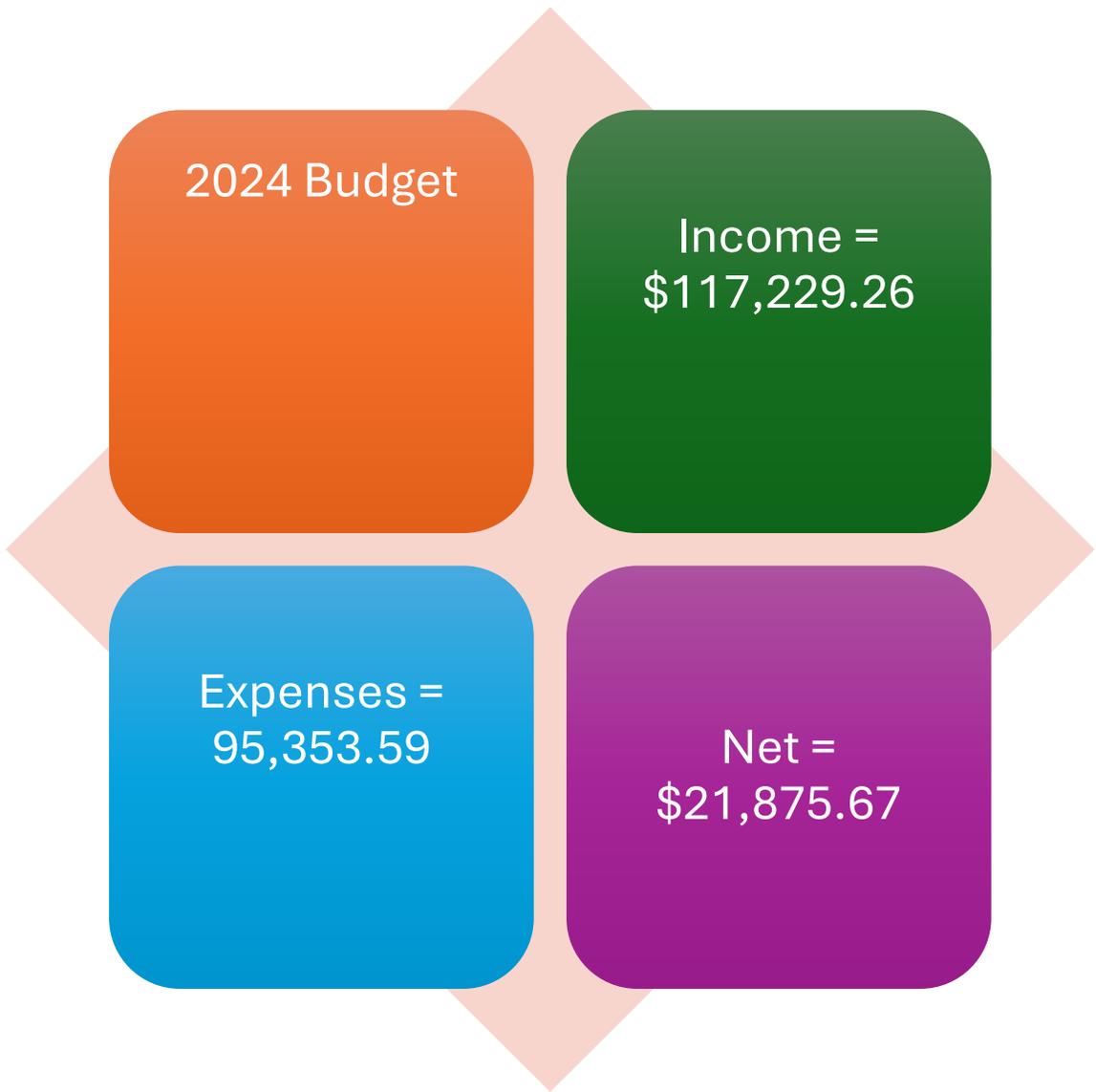
Day-to-Day duties handled by Terry Rogers, President, until coordinator is hired

Welcome to our New Board Member

- Curt Gaul



Financials





Events

- Events held monthly throughout Milford
- New events planned for 2025
- Downtown Milford Inc. partnered with several other organizations for events over the past year



Event Highlights

- Irish Music & Dance Concert – over 100 attendees
- Pub Crawl – over 100 attendees
- Bug & Bud Festival – over 8,000 attendees
- First Friday – 200 to 500 attendees per night
- Holiday Stroll – over 5,000 attendees

- Almost 15,000 visitors to Milford in 2024
- Economic benefits to downtown Milford - \$2.25 million



Holiday Stroll

- Event Income in 2024 - \$45,800.86
- Sponsorships in 2024 - \$15,923.00
- Total Raised - \$61,723.86



Pop Up Opera

Economic Impact on Downtown Milford Inc



First Friday Hispanic Festival



New Partnership Events

- City Tree Lighting – November 28, 2024
- Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration – January 20, 2025
- Irish Music & Dance Concert – March 2025
- Juneteenth – June 19, 2025

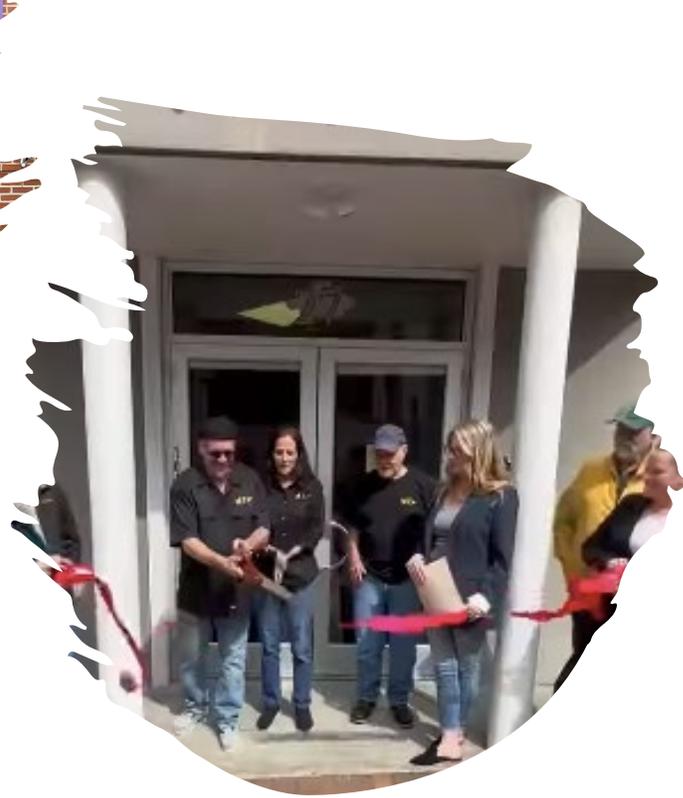




Welcome New Businesses!

- Stone & Sage Holistic Center
- Stewart's Gourmet Candies and Snow Cones
- Cured Plate





Welcome to Milford!

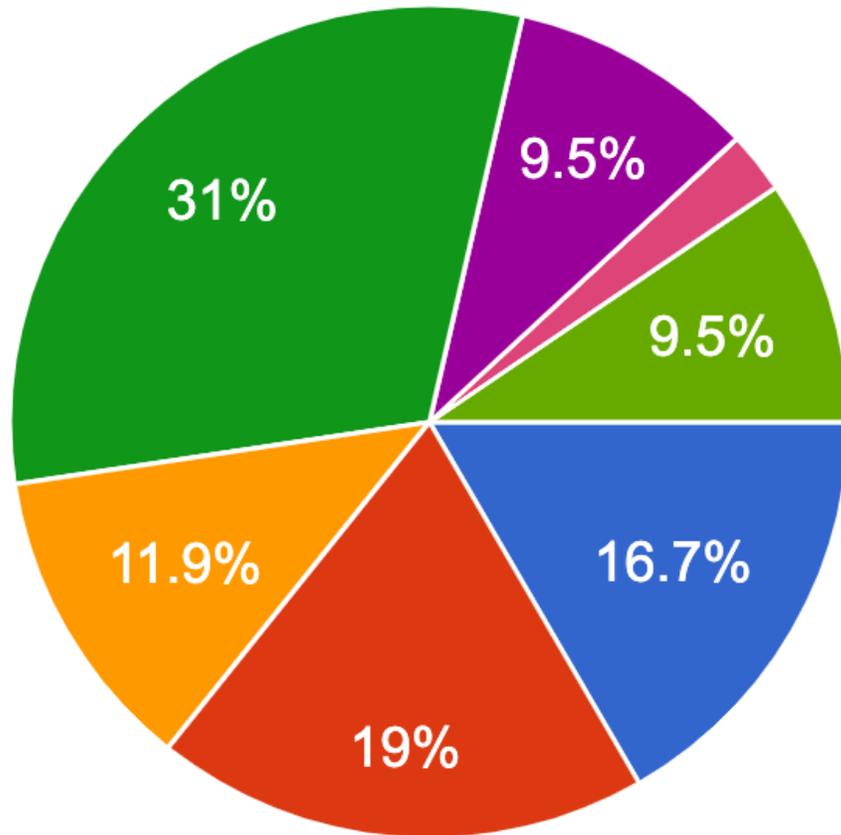
- WTF Meadery
- Studio you
- Splash
- Milford Memories & More



Downtown Milford Survey

- Completed by businesses, residents and visitors
- 65.2% - prefer Walnut Street with the road blocked for events
- 72.1% - feel vendors enhance their experience at festivals
- 57.5% - are satisfied with the number of events DMI provides
- 46.5% - feel food trucks are important at festivals

What attracts people to downtown



- Respondents could choose more than one answer
- 31% - walkability
- 19% - shopping
- 16.7% - cultural events (plays, art shows, festivals)
- 11.9% - dining
- 9.5% - nature –parks, Goat Island, Riverwalk)
- 9.5% - Other
- 2.4% - History

Event Requests

- Craft Fairs
- Ladybug Festival
- Multicultural Food
- Expos (bridal, etc.)
- Black history month festival
- City of Milford birthday
- Movies in the Street
- Italian Festival
- Kid Fishing Event
- German Festival
- Senior Citizen Event
- Golden Oldies Dance
- Oktoberfest
- Halloween event
- Children's events
- Praise in the Park
- 5k Run
- Holiday Parades

Farmer's Market

- 30th Anniversary
- Longest running Farmer's Market in the State
- Kickoff celebration planned for May 3, 2025



New Events in the Planning

- Independence Day – July 4
- Multicultural Event – August



MLK Celebration

- Partnership with Ministerial Society
- Survey results:
- 91.7% - rated the event 4 or higher
- 91.7% - felt the event was well-organized
- 100% - want the event to return
- 60% - are interested in volunteering next year
- 91.7% - were inspired or challenged by the event
- 83.3% - felt this was a learning experience





City Tree Lighting Event

- Crafts for Children
- MSD Student Choir
- Presentation of holiday celebrations for several cultures
- Largest attended event in recent history



Social Media

- Rebranded social media
- Highlighting businesses in our new footprint
- In the past month:
 - 563,295 Views
 - 98,057 Reach
 - 6,278 Content Interaction
 - 236 Followers



Community Reinvestment Fund

- \$600,000 held by the state, appropriated for the Vineyard Shipyard
- Requesting Senator Dave Wilson, Representatives Charlie Postles & Bryan Shupe reappropriate the funds for historic preservation needs
- Downtown Milford Inc. wants to create a grant fund to allow property owners of historic buildings, both commercial and residential, to make repairs to the façade of their building
- We would like city support for this request



Questions or Comments

Council Presentation
March 12 2025

Good evening, Mayor and Council. I am Terry Rogers, President of Downtown Milford Inc. Our address is 15 N. Walnut Street, Milford. My address is 20535 Fleatown Road, Lincoln. We are excited to be here tonight to provide you with details on what Downtown Milford Inc. has been doing since we last met and give you a peek into our future.

SLIDE TWO

Downtown Milford Inc. is looking forward to the future and looking away from the past. We have completely rebranded with new colors, logos and presentation. We have also created a new mission and vision statement.

We felt this mission statement embodied what Downtown Milford strives to do in our downtown area. We wanted to be sure it focused on the fact that we are all volunteers who have the passion to grow our downtown into something great with the support of our community.

SLIDE THREE

Our vision statement expands on our mission statement, providing more details on what we hope to accomplish. We want the downtown area to be vibrant, filled with great places to live, work and play but retain the cultural heritage we are all so proud of. We want Milford to be a place our children want to raise their children.

SLIDE FOUR

In reviewing our district boundaries, we found that since we were focusing just on the DDD, a lot of our area was residential. We were also finding that businesses considered to be downtown were not able to take advantage of our services as the boundary lines of the DDD did not include them.

We will still focus on the DDD boundaries but have created this footprint to include more businesses in the Downtown Milford Inc. family. This will help those businesses grow and provide Downtown Milford Inc. with additional resources to help us in our mission.

SLIDE FIVE

In March, we moved into a brand-new office space. What was formerly the Marvel Agency will now be known as Trinity Executive Center. The space we inhabit was completely renovated for our needs and we are excited to begin a new chapter in this wonderful, historic building.

SLIDE SIX

When we reviewed and updated the job description for what was previously the Executive Director, we felt that the title no longer worked. Going forward, the position will be called the Downtown Milford Coordinator. We are in the final rounds of interviews for the position and hope to have someone on board in the next few weeks.

While we are in the hiring process, the day-to-day functions of Downtown Milford Inc. are being handled by me as president with assistance from the rest of the board.

SLIDE SEVEN

We are also pleased to welcome a new board member, Curt Gaul. Curt comes to us with a strong background in history as a retired National Park ranger. He will be joining our Design Committee and working with us on historic preservation.

SLIDE EIGHT

We have also launched a completely overhauled website. Please take a look at it to see what is new and different. You will find that there is now a link related to our financials. It will take you to our latest IRS filings as required by law to provide. We will also be posting monthly board minutes to the site as well.

This just gives you a brief overview of what is on the site. Our Events page has a calendar for all events in the city, thanks to Joey Phillips, information about our various events, etc. Our Business Directory will eventually have a photo of all downtown businesses that with the click of a mouse will take you to their website. The About Us page provides you with our mission statement, board and committee members, DMI sponsorship information, volunteer opportunities and any employment opportunities we may have. The "More" button will take you to any fundraisers we offer, like the ongoing Terri Lynn fundraiser to benefit the Santa House. It also has a "Resources" option where people can find links to helpful business resources in Milford and throughout the state.

SLIDE NINE

We provided you with our 2024 and 2025 budget separately, but we just wanted to highlight some of the information. In 2024, Downtown Milford Inc. had income of just over \$117,000 with expenses of just over \$95,000. This means we ended the year with a small profit that will roll into new events and programs for 2025.

SLIDE TEN

In 2024, we held events almost every month of the year. We do have a few new events planned for 2025 which I will highlight later. Starting in December, one of the things we decided to do is to begin partnering with other organizations for special events and we will highlight those later as well.

SLIDE ELEVEN

As you can see, our three largest events in 2024 were the Irish Music & Dance, Pub Crawl, Bug & Bud and the Holiday Stroll. These events brought almost 15,000 visitors to Milford last year. According to the Small Business Association, one visitor to a festival brings an average of \$150 in spending to the area. This means Downtown Milford Inc. events brought and estimated \$2.25 million in economic benefits to the downtown area.

SLIDE TWELVE

In 2024, events sponsored by Downtown Milford Inc. raised \$45,800.76 in net income and we obtained \$61,723.86 in sponsorships. You may notice a few familiar faces at some of these events.

SLIDE THIRTEEN

In December, we partnered with the city for the annual tree lighting. In January, we partnered with the ministerial society for the MLK celebration. In March, we will partner with Irish Rose for the Irish Music and Dance Concert as this will not be a fundraiser for Downtown Milford Inc. this year.

SLIDE FOURTEEN

Over the past year, Downtown Milford Inc., in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce welcomed eight new businesses to downtown Milford. Stone & Sage Holistic Center, Stewart's Gourmet Candies & Snow Cones, Cured Plate, WTF Meadery, Ericka Passwaters Permanent Makeup, Studio You, Splash, Milford Memories & More as well as Imperial Nutrition.

SLIDE FIFTEEN

Last year, we began holding monthly business forums to gain feedback from local businesses. During those forums, we realized we needed some feedback from others as well. We created a short, ten question survey and asked businesses, residents and visitors to complete it. A sign with a QR code was placed in the kiosk and we provided businesses with the QR code to place in their establishments.

As you can see, we learned some interesting facts. People prefer festivals on Walnut Street with the road blocked, like to have vendors, like the events we sponsor and feel food trucks enhance the experience.

SLIDE SIXTEEN

This slide was created for the city's information. One question asked what attracted people to downtown and, as you can see, the top answer was that the town was walkable.

SLIDE SEVENTEEN

We asked what type of events people would like to see and we got quite a range of responses. To be clear, Downtown Milford Inc. cannot do all of these events, but maybe sharing this information could give other non-profits and businesses ideas.

SLIDE EIGHTEEN

Now I come to one of the most exciting things happening this year. Our Farmer's Market turns 30 this year. We have confirmed with the State of Delaware Agricultural Department that we are the longest running farmer's market in the state. As a result, we plan a big celebration on the opening day of the market and are going to highlight the market at all events throughout the year.

SLIDE NINETEEN

We do have two new events we are working on right now. Our new Multicultural Committee is working on a multicultural event that we hope to have take place in August. We are also working on a possible Independence Day celebration for this year as well.

SLIDE TWENTY

We wanted to highlight the two events we have partnered on recently. The MLK Celebration was attended by over 100 people. Our follow up survey found that the event was well-organized, inspiring and a learning experience. Every respondent wanted the event to return next year.

SLIDE TWENTY ONE

The City Tree Lighting event had the highest attendance in recent history. Our Multicultural Committee, consisting of Neyda Albarran, Dwayne Powell and Darron Johnson Wilson, helped the city bring all holiday traditions to the tree lighting with the presentation of a menorah, a kinara and an advent wreath.

SLIDE TWENTY TWO

We have also rebranded our social media and, under the guidance of Neyda Albarran, are growing that audience. In the past month, as you can see, we have had significant interaction on social media. We are continuing to highlight downtown businesses, especially those in the new footprint. We have been so successful, businesses outside our footprint are asking how they can get highlighted.

SLIDE TWENTY THREE

Finally, as you are all aware, the Vineyard Shipyard project has ended. Downtown Milford Inc. filed the final report with Longwood for the last grant received. However, there is still \$600,000 awarded to Downtown Milford Inc., but appropriated for the shipyard.

Downtown Milford Inc. is requesting the assistance of our legislators to approve reappropriation of those funds for historic preservation in Milford. What we hope to do is

create a grant fund that would allow property owners to make façade repairs to any building that is on the historic registry.

We would love for the city to support us in this request when any of you are speaking to our legislators.

SLIDE TWENTY FOUR

And that is our presentation. Are there any questions or comments?

Carlisle Fire Company Inc. FY26 Budget Request

Carlisle Fire Company Inc. FY26 Budget Request

Within City Limits

- Growth
- Proposed Growth
- Age of The Community
 - Current
 - Relocating
- Medical Facilities

Carlisle Fire Company Inc.

FY26 Budget Request

Fire Company Related

- City Electric/Water/Trash for 3 Buildings
- FD & EMS
 - Increasing
 - Call Volumes
 - 2 Ambulances are not enough
 - Mutual Aid for 3rd, 4th, 5th + emergencies
 - Costs
 - Fuel Costs
 - Insurance
 - Vehicle Replacement
 - Equipment

Carlisle Fire Company Inc. FY26 Budget Request

Fire Company Related

- Personnel
 - Staffing of 2 full time EMS crews (8 People), EMS Supervisor & Administrative Secretary
 - Increasing Costs
 - Employee Health and Dental
 - Salary/Payroll Tax
 - State Pension (Cost increasing FY26)
 - Addition
 - Paid Medical Leave Act

Carlisle Fire Company Inc. FY26 Budget Request

The Carlisle Fire Company Inc. is asking for
\$300,000



A COMMUNITY
FREE OF HUNGER

WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to inspire hope in our communities by providing food to nourish Delawareans, while collaborating on long-term solutions to hunger and poverty.

WHY WE ARE NEEDED

- 1 in 8 Delawareans is food insecure
- 1 in 5 Delaware children is food insecure



WHAT IS FOOD INSECURITY?



FOOD SECURITY

Access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life

HUNGER

Hunger is a “personal, physical sensation of discomfort.”

FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity is “the lack of available financial resources for nutritionally adequate food at the household level.”

WHO IS FOOD INSECURE?



SENIORS



CHILDREN



WORKING POOR

AND MANY OTHERS... FAR TOO MANY
DELAWAREANS ARE ONE PAYCHECK AWAY FROM
NEEDING THE SERVICES OF THE FOOD BANK

SOME CHALLENGES OUR NEIGHBORS EXPERIENCE

- High cost of childcare
- Inflation = high costs across the board, especially groceries
- Lack of affordable housing
- Medical expenses



HOW DO WE MEET THE DEMAND?

- Large facilities enabled us to distribute 19.5 million meals last year and change many lives
- Partnerships
- Generous community



Newark facility :
80,000-square -feet



Milford facility :
70,000-square -feet

FOOD FOR TODAY...
FOOD FOR TOMORROW...



FOOD
DISTRIBUTION
PROGRAMS



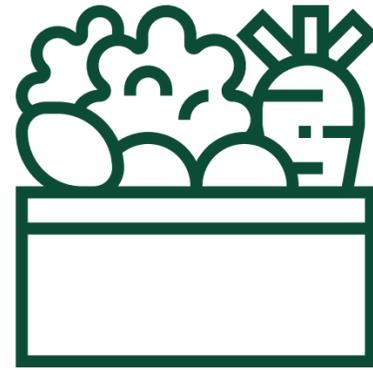
WORKFORCE &
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMS





FOOD FOR TODAY

HOW WE DISTRIBUTE FOOD



PARTNER
FOOD
CLOSETS



WEEKEND
BACKPACK
PROGRAM



HEALTHY
PANTRY
CENTERS



MOBILE
PANTRY
PROGRAM



HOME
DELIVERY
PROGRAM



SENIOR
NUTRITION
PROGRAM

PARTNER FOOD CLOSETS



- Provide food to close to 200 organizations throughout the state.
- Distributed more than 6 million pounds last year = 7.4 million meals
- Partners include emergency food closets, shelters, soup kitchens, school pantries and more.
 - Some you may know:
 - YWCA
 - Ministry of Caring
 - St. Patrick's Center
 - Salvation Army



BACKPACK PROGRAM



- Weekend and holiday meals for kids when school is not in session.
- Distributed on Fridays or the last day before a holiday.
- Teacher or other school official discreetly places the bag in the child's backpack
- Distributed 302,483 meal kits through 197 schools/ daycares last year



HEALTHY PANTRY CENTER



- On-site food pantry at the Food Bank in Newark and Milford
- Choice food pantries
- Nonperishable items, meats, produce, dairy
- 46,961 visitors last year



MOBILE PANTRY



- Food Bank partners with organizations throughout the state
- Most distributions are held as a drive -thru
- Nonperishables and perishable items are loaded into vehicles
- Held 513 mobile pantries last year - 49,796 visitors
- 4 million pounds distributed or 4.9 million meals



HOME DELIVERY



- Nonperishable food delivered by Amazon Flex drivers once per month
- Intended for households who are homebound, lack transportation or cannot get to food pantries
- Box contains nonperishable food items
- Last year we made 17,116 deliveries



WHERE DO WE GET ALL OF THE FOOD?

- Community food drives
- Donations from manufacturers
- Wholesale food purchasing
- Retail store donations
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Farmers
- Food Bank Farm/Garden



FOOD BANK FARM/ GARDEN

- Operate a 5 -acre farm at the Food Bank in Newark
- Operate a 3.5 -acre garden at the Milford facility
- Harvested 17,992 pounds of fresh produce last year
- Managed by team of 4 staff members plus volunteers
- Grow year round



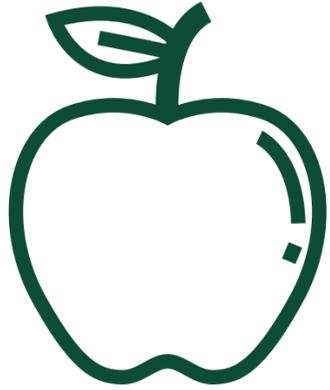
FOOD BANK FARM/GARDEN





FOOD FOR TOMORROW

WORKFORCE &
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT



NUTRITION
EDUCATION



BENEFITS
OUTREACH



\$TAND BY ME
FINANCIAL
COACHING



JOB TRAINING -
FOOD SERVICE/
WAREHOUSING



SPECIALIZED
TRAINING
EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM

NUTRITION EDUCATION



- Nutrition education sessions offered to seniors, adults and children
- Provide recipes using commonly found items in food pantries
- Cooking demonstrations
- Help partner food pantries set up their shelves so neighbors make healthy choices



BENEFITS OUTREACH



- Provide outreach to neighbors about benefits they may be eligible for
 - SNAP
 - Medicaid
 - Purchase of Care
 - Long-term Care
- In addition to outreach, we also walk neighbors through the application process
- These benefits can help free up money in monthly budgets to help cover other costs



STAND BY ME FINANCIAL COACHING



- Partnership with the State of Delaware and United Way of Delaware to house financial coaches at local organizations
- We have two financial coaches on our team
- Assist with
 - Identifying financial goals
 - Mapping out a plan of action
 - Creating a working budget
 - Developing new habits and breaking old ones
 - Dealing with collectors
 - Eliminating debt



JOB TRAINING CULINARY ARTS



The Culinary School

- 14 week training program
 - 12 weeks of classroom/kitchen instruction + 2 week paid work experience
- Certified trade school by the Delaware Department of Education
- Students come from all walks of life. Many are looking for a second chance
- Learn the ins and outs of the food service industry



JOB TRAINING CULINARY ARTS



The Kitchen School

- 12 week training program for adults with disabilities
 - 8 weeks of classroom/kitchen instruction + 4 week work experience with Food Bank job coaches
- Train students to enter food-service workplaces using national industry-based curriculum
- Students receive support and develop an individualized plan needed to enter a workplace, including transportation options



L.O.G.I.C. (Logistics, Operations, General Warehousing and Inventory Control

- 14 week warehousing/logistics training program
- Learn the ins and outs of a working warehouse, including how to use warehouse equipment
- Life skills training
- Students have the opportunity to earn four certifications
 - OSHA-10
 - Forklift
 - Certified Logistics Associate
 - Certified Logistics Technician



JOB TRAINING WAREHOUSING/ LOGISTICS



SPECIALIZED TRAINING EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (S.T.E.P.)



S.T.E.P.

- Fosters diversity and inclusiveness by empowering and employing people with disabilities within our organization.
- We met with directors to determine tasks and identified the following employment opportunities:
 - C a f e
 - H e a l t h y P a n t r y C e n t e r
 - F a r m / G a r d e n
 - O f f i c e S u p p o r t
 - W a r e h o u s e / I n v e n t o r y
 - F a c i l i t i e s



HANDS-ON

TRAINING AT THE

FOOD BANK CAFES



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



VOLUNTEER

On the Farm
In the Garden
Healthy Pantry Center
Volunteer Room
Mentor Students
Mobile Pantries



DONATE

Food drives
Fundraiser s
Special events
\$1 = 3 meals



OTHER WAYS

Dine in the cafe
Soup sale
Catering

www.fbd.volunteerrhub.com



Chad Robinson

GET IN
TOUCH



crobinson@fbid.org



www.fbid.org