

Corrales Community Library Community Assessment

Reviewed in 2017, valid until June 30, 2022 signed

Geographic and Demographic Information

The Corrales Community Library is located in the village of Corrales, fifteen miles north of downtown Albuquerque, along the Rio Grande River. The library serves the residents of the village and surrounding communities, including Albuquerque and Rio Rancho. The patron database reports that library cards in the system have been issued to 64% Corrales residents, 22% Albuquerque residents, 14% Sandoval county residents and from around the state of New Mexico.

The village has an active agricultural community with a growers' market twice a week during the growing season. Gardening is a popular subject in the library collection. Many of the homes in Corrales are built on one acre lots or larger with septic systems and wells. The business district is currently working on a limited sewer system to avoid further saturation issues with the ground water. The village enjoys one of the lowest crime rates in the state of New Mexico, attracting retirees from around the country.

A 2014 estimate shows the population of Corrales to be 8,374 residents. The village has a finite area for population growth, surrounded by Albuquerque on the south and Rio Rancho on the West and north side of the village. The Rio Grande River forms the boundary along the east side of the village.

There are 3,295 households with a median age of 54.6 years. The community is well educated with 50.3 % having a bachelor's degree or higher. The last assessment in 2007 indicated a median age of 42.2 and 35% of the residents as having a bachelor's degree or higher. The median income for Corrales is one of the highest in the area, \$80,840.

A survey done in July 2015 in the library and online, shows patrons overwhelmingly speak highly of the library – its building, staff and volunteers, programming and collection. It is valued as a community resource and as a gathering place. The number one reason patrons use the library is to check out books and periodicals (84 %). Checking out DVDs (58%) is the next most popular reason for using the library. Selecting audio books and music CDs were the next most popular reasons for using the library. Over 25% of the respondents say that they use the library as a social meeting place.

For future planning, there was a lot of feedback requesting more types of programs, both for adults and children. These programs included gardening, game nights, documentary film nights and computer classes (tips, shortcuts, photo and video software).

Local Government

A mayor and six council members govern the village of Corrales. Council meetings are held twice monthly in the village's Court House. Directors of each department prepare monthly statistical reports for the village administration to review. The Library Director reports to the mayor and village administrator. A library board of seven members is appointed by the mayor to act in an advisory capacity to the director and assist in setting policies for the on-going success of the library.

The Corrales Community Library was established in 1957 on the grounds of Corrales Elementary School. The focus was on giving children access to a library. In 1979, the library opened at its current location in La Entrada Park, near the center of the village.

The librarian was a volunteer position until August 1979. Currently, there are four paid staff positions and over seventy adult and student volunteers. The library is funded from several sources. The village of Corrales pays for salaries, benefits, utilities and maintenance contracts with an operating budget of \$189,441 (FY2105). Bonds from Sandoval County and the State of New Mexico, with funding from annual State grants, supplement the library's funding. Staff members have successfully secured grants from private sources, including a recent grant from Target to fund music and percussion instruments to enhance story time.

The library has expanded to add a new Teen room in 2006 and a quiet reading room in 2014. Regular programming for teen patrons is scheduled throughout the year. Weekly Chess nights and Ukulele lessons are scheduled for fall and spring 2016. The reading room offers Wi-Fi access and a reading area with newspapers and periodicals. Local authors are scheduled on a regular basis during evening hours to do readings and discuss their books.

Community Support

The Corrales Library was built in 1979 with volunteer support both financially and working on the site with digging the footings and peeling vigas, laying brick floors and many other tasks. There have been several additions to the library, including the new quiet reading room. The Friends of the Library were a big part of the fundraising for this new room. The Friends offer crucial financial support for services in the library. The New York Times subscription, programming for children and funding purchases for a media collection are just a few of the benefits to the library. They have book sales, restaurant fundraisers and concerts to enhance the funds for the library endowment. The library benefits from a large group of volunteers from the community. There are over seventy volunteers, including teens, working at the circulation desk, processing materials and with the shelving of books and media. Having teen and adult volunteers working together in the library has been discovered to be beneficial. There is a mutual respect and nice rapport that has developed between these two age groups.

Socioeconomic Climate

The business district in Corrales has always been limited. Strict zoning ordinances and an active Planning and Zoning Commission have kept the business district along Corrales Road. There are no fast food restaurants in Corrales. In the last few years, a vibrant consignment business has grown in the village and a new Pharmacy has opened for residents. There are over 670 business permits in Corrales. Several restaurants - Indigo Crow, Nate and Hannah's and Village Pizza - are always busy when open. There is a lodger's tax to support the cost of advertising for the Bed and Breakfast businesses in the village.

Main Street is a business organization, which publishes a quarterly newsletter sent to every household in Corrales. It highlights a calendar of events, including the seasonal Growers' Market, a very popular Sunday destination. Farming is still a way of life in Corrales. Produce is now grown for the popular "farm to table" restaurants in the area and wine tasting has become a draw with several vineyards in the village. The local Village Mercantile offers feed for large and small animals, and farming supplies. An annual Tractor Show is featured at the Mercantile. Every September, a Harvest Festival is held on the last weekend. Hayrides carry visitors along Corrales Road to several stops, including the Casa San Ysidro Museum. This reconstructed 18th - 19th century home is filled with Spanish colonial furniture, a small chapel and hands-on exhibits. Children from area schools have field trips there to learn the colonial history of New Mexico.

Educational Sources

Corrales Elementary is the only public school in Corrales. It is part of the Albuquerque public school system. There are approximately 600 students enrolled each school year. There are two private schools, Sandia View Academy and Cottonwood Montessori School. Corrales Elementary has an active school library, with parent volunteers and frequent programs. Cottonwood Montessori is currently building a school library with limited funding. Sandia View Academy students visit Corrales Library on a regular basis for school assignments and to develop library skills.

The library has between fifteen and twenty teen volunteers over the school year and during the summer. These students shelve the children's books and assist with setting up for the summer reading program. Over the years, several students have been inspired to pursue a career in Library Science.

A new organization, Corrales Arts Center, offers arts education, for children and adults, in performing and visual arts, linking the Old Church and other cultural venues in the village. The Corrales Cultural Arts Council has been scheduling live concerts in the Old Church for 29 years. These concerts sell out early with a wonderful variety of music.

Informational Sources

Corrales Library is part of a digital consortium with three other Sandoval county libraries: Placitas, Jemez Springs and Cochiti Lake. There are currently 5,341 eBook and eAudio titles available for circulation in the database. The four librarians meet on a quarterly basis to discuss collection development and budgets.

The Corrales Library's website, Corraleslibrary.org, offers on-line resources and the library catalog. According to the July 2015 survey, over 20% of the respondents use the library's Wi-Fi.

There are several public libraries in the area surrounding Corrales. Esther Bone Library, in Rio Rancho, is the closest library, with the North Valley Library being the closest library in Albuquerque.

Barnes and Nobles Bookstore is just outside the village limits. There is a biweekly newspaper, *The Corrales Comment*, a favorite in the community for local news and events, which is available on line, too.

Recreation

Corrales has a very active Recreation Center. A public pool is open seasonally, with swim lessons and a play area with shallow water for younger children. There is an arena for horse events and the two Tennis courts are busy. Soccer fields offer local groups a place to practice and compete with other area teams. The skate park attracts young people, which requires more supervision. The village manages the Bosque preserve with the Nature Conservancy along the Rio Grande River.

It is popular with residents and visitors for walking, bird watching, bike riding and horseback rides. Horses are a big part of Corrales and the ditch banks provide a good place to ride off the main roads.

The Corrales Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission meets quarterly to ensure a long range plan for bike and walking paths throughout the village.

Community Organizations

The Village of Corrales has many volunteer organizations, boards and commissions. Community spirit continues to be an important part of the village.

The Bosque Commission is appointed by the mayor to oversee the preserve along the Rio Grande River. During times of drought, the commission may request the closing of the Bosque for fire safety.

The Corrales Historical Society manages the Historic San Ysidro Church. Art Shows, musical events and weddings are regularly scheduled in the Church.

The Friends of the Library hold book sales twice a year with books donated to the library. Funds help support children’s programming and other library materials.

The Kiwanis Club meets weekly at Village Pizza. This group manages the Harvest Festival and awards grants to local village groups each year with the proceeds from the festival.

Mainstreet is an active business organization working to draw attention to the business community in Corrales. The group has opened a visitor center in the village to promote the area. Starry Nights is an annual fundraiser hosted at the home of a generous local resident. Food and wine make it a very popular event.

San Ysidro Parish, the local Catholic Church, is the largest church in Corrales. Feast Day is celebrated in the middle of May each year with a procession to the Old Church with the choir.

Our newest organization, Village in the Village, is a non-profit 501(c)3, supported by membership fees and donations. VIV is dedicated to keeping Corrales seniors active in the community and in control of their lives. It is based on a national model of more than 100 villages nationwide.

To conclude this report, the following survey results have been included from July 2015.

1. Where do you reside?

| | In-Person | Online | Total | Percent |
|---------------------|-----------|--------|-------|---------|
| Village of Corrales | 64 | 30 | 94 | 66.20% |
| Rio Rancho | 14 | 5 | 19 | 13.38% |
| Other | 18 | 11 | 29 | 20.42% |
| | 96 | | | |
| Albuquerque | 13 | 10 | 23 | |

2. How often do you visit Corrales Community Library?

| | In-Person | Online | Total | Percent |
|---------------------|-----------|--------|-------|---------|
| Never | 5 | 0 | 5 | 3.57% |
| Once a month | 28 | 18 | 46 | 31.43% |
| 1 or 2 times a week | 47 | 16 | 63 | 44.29% |
| Almost daily | 7 | 7 | 14 | 10% |
| Other | 10 | 6 | 16 | 10.71% |

Comments:

- "2-3 times a month" x 2
- "Mostly get books online"
- "first time" x 3
- "Couple times a year"
- "1-2 times a month"
- "Once a year"
- 1-2 weeks

3. Why do you use the library?

| | In-Person | Online | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Check out books / periodicals | 79 | 42 | 121 |
| Check out audiobooks / music CDs | 25 | 18 | 43 |
| Check out DVDs | 59 | 24 | 83 |
| Purchase used books or magazines | 21 | 8 | 29 |
| Use fax machine | 13 | 5 | 18 |
| Use copier | 25 | 15 | 40 |
| Use internet / library computers | 22 | 15 | 37 |
| Complete online coursework | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Access Wi-Fi | 18 | 5 | 23 |
| Attend Adult Programs | 28 | 7 | 35 |
| Attend children's programs | 27 | 7 | 34 |
| Check out eBooks / eAudiobooks | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| To study | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| As a social meeting place | 27 | 9 | 36 |
| Mango: 1 | | | |

4. What programs or services would you like to see at the library?

| | In-Person | Online | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| How to use the library databases | 19 | 9 | 28 |
| Technology classes | 24 | 12 | 36 |
| Other | 29 | 9 | 38 |

"more shelf space"

"Mon. afternoon tea"

"Like for you to go back having a DVD movie display"

"How to use more state library services"

"Access to village documents and information"

"lots"

"Any fun groups for adults or kids"

"More computers"

"More workshops"

"Card making -- stamping up"+

"More craft/cooking programs"

"Cooking classes"

"Community events / online services"

"How to use facebook. How to access Spanish mango"

"Garden planning, pond life" (?)

"Staff makes the library very special. This library is so unique and obviously loved"

"It has delightful surroundings -- very refreshing and relaxing - thank you for your kind attention."

"Programs with documentaries. Ted Talks"

"Ability to rent video games. Books by Mercedes Lackey & Anne Bishop."
 "Keep up the Spanish classes!"
 "Using eBook/eAudiobooks"
 "Classes"
 "Homeschooling activities - guest speakers, community helpers"
 "More family events and concerts."
 "Story times"
 "Wine tasting on Wed. evenings."
 "A room for viewing foreign films in the library."
 "More kids programs, please"

Online:

More adult programs

Interlibrary loan

You already are bordering on loaves-and-fishes -- amazing quality and quantity, but what makes you the best in the state is the amazing service you provide with good cheer and patience.

More community group offerings: mother daughter book groups, for example, book lit discussion group for teens, parenting skills classes

Book club for adults. I also would like to see the library more willing to let local groups reserve rooms for meetings or gatherings. Not sure why the library turns everyone away, especially since it is funded by the people.

Love the special classes and programs they have.

Introductions to "hidden" resources - including librarians' expertise. Folks don't realize how many ways they can offer help.

Game night on a regular basis, for kids and kids at heart, bring one to share
 EBooks

5. In what areas have the librarians assisted you?

| | In-Person | Online | Total |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Computer catalog | 28 | 20 | 48 |
| Resume help | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Computer help | 26 | 14 | 40 |
| Locating an item on the shelf | 48 | 28 | 76 |
| E-mail / word processing | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| College forms / applications | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Government forms | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Other: | 10 | 9 | 19 |

"Reserving/ordering DVDs"

"Hours of operation"

"Rec books, dvd"

"Sandra is a lot of help!"

"Classroom support, prep, & ideas"

"Quiet."

"Free book bag for kids"

"Social groups"
"Don't need assistance."
"Accessing Mango (database)"

Online:

How to correctly shelve books
so far so good
Suggesting authors or books about a specific subject
Finding or acquiring books and DVDs (amazing inventory!), special requests.
Finding books
Book recommendations
Different words to use to find information on an item.
making me smile

6. What additional assistance would you like to see in the library?

"NA - Very Good"
"I like it the way it is :)"
"Yay for librarians"
"None their [sic] great"
"Computer classes -- tips, shortcuts, photos, videos"
"Additional full time staff"
"More people working there to help others"
"All the staff are very helpful! Thanks to everyone"
"Things are great as is. Volunteers are always very friendly and helpful."

Online:

Can't think of any. I know you have a good range of services. and each one listed in the survey is important.
Computer use class. Not very long. Just basic things
No other assistance needed, the staff and volunteers are of great help.
Nothing!! It's great.

7a. What is the best time for you to use the library?

| | In-Person | Online | Total |
|------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Mornings | 42 | 22 | 64 |
| Afternoons | 41 | 24 | 65 |
| Evenings | 33 | 19 | 52 |

7b. What is the best day for you to use the library?

| In-Person | Online | Total |
|-----------|--------|-------|
|-----------|--------|-------|

| | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|
| Weekdays | 36 | 26 | 62 |
| Weekends | 29 | 22 | 51 |

8. Do you use the library's website and catalog at home/work/etc.?

| | In-Person | Online | Total | Percent |
|-----|-----------|--------|-------|---------|
| Yes | 36 | 35 | 71 | 60.17% |
| No | 35 | 12 | 47 | 39.83% |

9. Please provide any comments...

"Everyone is very helpful and friendly. Feels homey, cozy, very awesome environment. Love this library. Been coming for 30 years now, and bring my four year old sun. :)"

"I love the library, building, atrium, staff"

"What a wonderful place!"

"The Library staff is excellent and very helpful... "It is the best library I have been involved with."

"Best library in the state! Not the biggest, but the best."

"An outstanding facility! A GREAT resource for Corrales."

"Great place"

"It provided wonderful friendships. It's a perfect place to meet people, a social hub!"

"Great place! The best staff and so knowledgeable"

"Excellent organization and staff!"

"I love the place"

"Love it here <3"

"Love the volunteer staff / addition. Thanks to the group's efforts on flowers and paths"

"So many interesting adult and children's programs. Keep up the wonderful work. Thank you!!"

"Good library."

"I did not know I could access the catalog!"

"Really appreciate having the library and the wonderful people who work/volunteer here!"

"Best small library in the state!"

"I love the library!" Let's connect Parks & Rec & library events"

"You rock"

"Great library!! Staff is service oriented"

"Doing a great job!"

"Thank you for your help & service & all you do for our community."

"Appreciate local librarians. Their experience and professionalism cannot be beat. Edwina and Sandra are the best!"

"It is so nice to have people to take care of when we visit vs. the Kiosks at other libraries. Miss Edwina is a wonder."

"Such a great place. The librarians are very professional and always happy to be of assistance. The woman who organizes the adult programs is the best."

"Best in the world. :) Thank you :)"
"I love the library! The library rocks! Love Edwina and Sandra -- Rock on!"
"Great library very homie [sic]"
"Sandra does a phenomenal job with adult learning! Please keep them coming"
"More adult classes. Thanks for your classes!! We appreciate all that do :)"
"Great place! The adult programs have taught me a lot!"
"I like all of the rooms and how they are separated from the main library"
"I've really enjoyed the workshops throughout the year!"
"Love it!"
"This library is doing a wonderful job with extracurricular activities for all ages. Easy access and user friendly for all. Keep smiling! You all do a great job. Thank you volunteers also!"
"Organize trips for a fundraising event. Cuba/Caribbean"
"This is a great place."
"We love this library & Ms. Edwina & Ms. Sandra are very helpful."
"Love the kids programs! Thanks for everything!"
"I love all the staff and all the support provided. :)"
"It's a wonderful experience here with lots of useful books and help from the workers"
"You have an excellent library and resource"
"Consistent [sic] hours 9-6 or 7 Mon -> Sat. New computer room with a window would be nice, away and separate from the children's room."
"It's a wonderful -- especially the summer in the park & all the children's programs."
"I think the library is great. The people (staff/volunteers) who work here are very helpful and accommodating. The atmosphere is very peaceful and friendly."
"Thank you for the continued summer programs since I was a child 30 yrs ago to now!"
"I love the children book selections."
"We love this library. Everyone is so helpful. There is a great selection of children's books. The play area in the children's are is great and I like that songs/movement are incorporated into storytime."
"The summer programs are great. Have attended with visiting grandchildren."
"Really nice environment and childrens programs"
"First visit. Wonderful storytime"
"Like the free book stand."
"A wonderful little library with friendly, helpful staff! The Spanish class on Saturdays is great. Thank you. A fine meeting space for organizations, clubs, etc."
"It is a great community library for both children and adults -- very inviting atmosphere and very home-like. Overall great, especially the new reading room! Thanks to all the staff and everyone involved!"
"You're doing a tremendous job with limited resources. Pls, keep it up. A small library can only do so much due to space issues."

Online:

Just need to be able to renew books online

I love this library!

I have been to the libraries in ABQ and Mission Viejo CA and Encinitas CA and Carlsbad CA and Scripps Ranch CA. they each have their finer points; and Corrales is

the most wonderful of all.

I love being able to check out books online for my kindle.

Edwina and other librarians are very friendly and ready to help. I love this library.

Two words: well done!

I adore the Corrales Library! It had a very comfortable feel, I love the organization within the space. All of the employees are kind and helpful. I also love being able to stop on my way home from work in Corrales in the afternoons.

love this library. seems to have difficulty keeping basic HS math books/reference. we love it!!

I love the welcoming atmosphere in the library. They rarely have the books I am looking for, but I enjoy going there all the same.

One of my favorite places to hang out & love attending the knitting social group.

Great DVD collection

Please provide access to more digital books!

You NEED a new IT person. Computer #1 got hacked and ate my thumb. ITS BEEN DOWN EVER SINCE!!!

Great library. Staff needs to get a raise!

Need to add more digital books, especially newest publications, also would be nice to access magazines and newspapers online.

Would like to see more history & biography.

The librarians are very friendly and knowledgeable!

thanks for this library! You have many programs for the whole range of ages. I like the children's one very much. I use the computers a lot.

I would have liked a bigger, better lit, cooler computer area, but i now have one at home

The Corrales Library has kept up with any larger library in providing materials, educational programs, and availability of books, DVDs, etc. They are local librarians that are friendly, knowledgeable and willing to help anyone. Keep up the great, wonderful work!

I was at the 4th of July Parade. The "friends of the library" was the largest, coolest contingent. People around me talked about how much they like the library ; kids mentioned "Miss Edwina" You should know !!!

I check out Kindle books via my home computer. It is GREATLY wonderful! thanks

Please provide more service to patrons who enjoy the sci/fi fantasy genre. At the very least, perhaps have copies of the Hugo award winners? One book a year?

Please? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugo_Award_for_Best_Novel

Love the library and the librarians.

This report was completed by Carla Spencer, with the assistance of library board member, Rita Longino and staff members, Sandra Baldonado, Laura Creech and Edwina Tafoya. Their contributions were invaluable in completing this assessment. Statistics were used from the U.S. Census Bureau.