

# Walcott Branch

## Usage Statistics for Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016



FY15 **6,515** People visited the  
Walcott Branch

FY16 **7,091** People visited the  
Walcott Branch



FY15 **250** Attended a program

FY16 **620** Attended a program



FY15 **1,245** Public Internet sessions

FY16 **2,059** Public Internet sessions



FY15 **7,471** Materials were checked out

FY16 **8,332** Materials were checked out

# A NEW Walcott Branch

We are working to bring an upgraded facility to Walcott. We see this as an opportunity to invest in the community and enhance the quality of life for this area. The new facility will have a public meeting room, which is something that does not exist in Walcott, with a separate entrance and exit, so that the room can be used even when the Library is closed. This space can be used for educational programs, guest speakers, hands on craft sessions, and community events.

The statistics on the next page show that the usage at the current rental location is growing, but the space does not allow us to meet the needs of the community. The computer usage at Walcott continues to increase because of the many students and residents that don't have access to the Internet. Rural libraries are being used more than ever for homework resources and Internet access. A recent national statistic found that 1 in 4 people do not have access to the Internet, and when you think about things like applying for even an entry level job, completing homework assignments or finding tax information, the Library is a vital community resource!

The cost of the project is \$455,000, and we have secured 45 % of the costs through initial gifts, with lead pledges from:

City of Walcott	\$50,000
Walcott Trust & Savings Bank	\$50,000
RDA	\$30,000
SCRA	\$30,000
Walcott Day Committee	\$15,000

The Scott County Library System is requesting a financial commitment from the County Board of Supervisors on par with the City of Walcott and the pledge from the Walcott Trust & Savings Bank. For a slightly larger gift in the amount of \$75,000, the Community Room could be named in your honor. Our Board of Trustees feels strongly that a commitment from the Supervisors is important to moving this project forward and will inspire businesses and community members to be as generous as possible.

In 2001, when the Eldridge Branch was built, the Supervisors pledged \$450,000 to the \$2.5 million dollar project. The next successful capital campaign that the Library did was for a new bookmobile, and the County did not contribute. The Board only asks for financial support when it is completely necessary, and a pledge from the County would enable us begin the broader campaign with more than 55% of the goal secured. This is a onetime request for financial support in the form of a multi-year pledge and if granted, the money will only be used to fund the capital expenses.

