

**DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

The Regional Library officially serves Williamsburg and James City County residents as a result of a regional contract implemented in 1977.

In addition to an extensive collection of hardbound and paperback books, the Library circulates musical and instructional audio tapes and books on tape for adults and children. There are special collections for adults who are just acquiring reading skills (ABE) and for those to whom English is a second language (ESL). The video collection, on VHS only, contains feature films for adults and children as well as instructional and cultural tapes. A librarian is on duty at all times to assist with reference, research, and information services including interlibrary loans. The book van delivers home service to outlying communities of the County, to the jail and to nursing homes and the home-bound. The Children's Department, with its own amphitheater, conducts six story hours per week, many worthwhile programs and classes throughout the year and maintains a special Dial-A-Story by phone. The Arts Center offers a concert series, a free weekly film series, several art exhibits and a variety of events. The 268-seat theater, two meeting rooms, and lobby gallery are available for rental to the general public. In July 1996, a new library facility opened in Norge, and is also managed by the Williamsburg Regional Library Board.

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

	FY 97 <u>Budget</u>	FY 98 <u>Budget</u>	Total Regional Library Budget		
				<u>FY 96 Budget</u>	<u>FY 97 Budget</u>
Regional Library and Arts Center	\$ 2,040,000	\$ <b>2,253,049</b>	County	\$2,040,000	\$2,253,049
			City	618,327	582,902
			Other	<u>641,364</u>	<u>659,638</u>
			Total	<u>\$3,299,691</u>	<u>\$3,495,589</u>

**BUDGET COMMENTS**

The proposed funding for the Regional Library provides for the operation of both the Williamsburg and Norge branches. The Library requested funding for an overall merit increase of 6 percent, along with market adjustments for certain positions. The proposed funding level is intended to allow the Library to provide a merit increase that is consistent with the 4 percent average the County is programming for its employees.

The total County contribution of \$2,253,049 does not fully fund the Library's request; it is \$9,834 short of the \$2,262,883 requested by the Regional Library Board. The City/County percentage is calculated on the basis of FY 1996 circulation, and results in the following funding percentages: City - 20.7%; County - 79.3%.