

**Community Specialists transform and expand library services to create connections between staff and community members, fostering a true sense of belonging and ownership at the library. The work is intentionally intergenerational, multilingual, and culturally informed to support inclusivity and accessibility.**

Community Specialists work with the following communities:

- African-American
- Hmong
- K'Nyaw
- Somali
- Spanish-Speaking

Services offered:

- Computer classes
- Cultural programs
- One-to-one help interpreting information
- Connecting to resources

## By The Numbers

**6,800**

**interactions where  
Community Specialists  
offered in-depth  
help to community  
members**

**45**

**Events where staff  
tabled and connected  
with community  
members**



## Highlights

- A participant achieved three levels of English Level proficiency by attending ELL classes and using SPPL-Cell Ed, a cellphone based platform for essential skills training. He became a US Citizen and obtained a job as a math tutor for Latino students in a local school district.
- Play and Learn sessions with Hmong Early Childhood Coalition focused on interactive play and early learning activities specific to the Hmong Culture and Language to help ages 0-5 and their caregivers with school readiness, reinforce active listening, and improve literacy.
- All eight participants of the Black American Computer Literacy Class completed their first certification in basic computer skills. Three former participants used skills learned in this class to obtain employment.
- Community Iftar Dinner hosted 85 community members to learn about one another's cultures and traditions to build understanding, connection, and belonging in our city.

"I attended a citizenship class at Rondo Library and learned about Hmong Cultural Center. They helped me get ready for my citizenship test. I passed my interview on Dec. 5th, 2024. I am now a US citizen!"  
-Hmong library patron

"I'm going to earn all my certificates and train to become a facilitator."  
- Black-American Computer Literacy Class participant

"Dear teacher, thank you for encouraging me to continue my education. Thanks to the Digital Skills classes, I completed my GED online." -Spanish-speaking library patron