FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 2026

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Library System
PHONE: 845-471-6060 ext. 239
EMAIL: rsmith@midhudson.org

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM MEMBER LIBRARIES AWARDED MORE THAN $1.7 MILLION IN NYS LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION AID

(Hudson Valley, NY) – **The FY 2024-2025 State Aid for Public Library Construction Grant Program Awards** were announced on December 23, 2025, and 13 Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) Member Libraries have been awarded funds, for a total allotment of $1,715,727.

2025 Awards in the Mid-Hudson Library System include:

- **Claverack Free Library: $11,172**

Installation of Emergency Generator

- **Heermance Memorial Library (Coxsackie): $14,028**

Roof Replacement and Handicapped Entrance

- **Hyde Park Library District: $121,250**

Energy Efficient HVAC System Upgrade

- **Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library (Cold Spring): $55,296**

Energy Efficiency Project

- **Kingston Library: $587,708**

Basement Renovation

- **Marlboro Free Library: $288,681**

Children's Library Upgrades and Improvements

- **Morton Memorial Library (Pine Hill): $14,512**

Upgrades to HVAC System

- **Olive Free Library Association: $34,428**

Construction

- **Patterson Library: $176,068**

Phase 2 Adult Collection Area Improvements

- **Plattekill Public Library: $22,719**

Septic System Replacement

- **Pleasant Valley Library: $14,323**

Installation of 2 Double EV Charging Stations

- **Putnam Valley Free Library: $72,709**

Renovation of the Community Room

- **Woodstock Public Library District: $302,833**

Fire Safety and Accessibility Renovation

"We are grateful to our elected officials for their support of this critical state aid program," said Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, MHLS Executive Director, "These funds greatly assist local libraries keep up with the aging infrastructure our libraries are operating within." There is a documented need of $1.75 billion for public library construction and renovation in New York State. More than half of the over 1,000 public library buildings in New York are now over 60 years old and one third are between 30 and 60 years old. The funds for all listed projects are from $44 million in capital funds for public library construction and broadband infrastructure projects provided in the FY2024-2025 State Budget. To view other projects that were funded and to learn more about the urgent need New York's public libraries have for renovations and upgrades, visit https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/info/plcovrvw.htm

About Us

Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) is a cooperative public library system chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and overseen by the New York State Education Department via the Division of Library Development (DLD). MHLS is dedicated to working together with sixty-six (66) member libraries in the Mid-Hudson region to strengthen local library services while saving local tax dollars. For more information, visit www.midhudson.org or follow the library system on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

###