



## Meet Dana Conners, Your New Durham County Library Director



Dear Durham,

I am truly excited to join Durham County Library as of today, January 5, and become part of the vibrant and welcoming Durham community. After more than 30 years working in public libraries across North Carolina and Texas, I've been fortunate to support many libraries in achieving their goals while continuing to grow and learn myself. I'm eager to bring that experience to Durham as we continue advancing the library's mission to encourage discovery, connect the community, and lead in literacy.

Durham has always appealed to me as a place where people, ideas, and cultures come together in meaningful ways. Its rich history, diverse neighborhoods, creative energy, and spirit of innovation make it a remarkable place to live and work. I'm excited to serve a community that values its stories, its people, and its future.

What I love most about public libraries is how much they offer—not just books, but opportunities, connections, and support for individuals and families at every stage of life. Libraries evolve with their communities, and that variety and purpose are what keep this work meaningful and inspiring.

As I begin my role, my first priority is to listen, learn, and build strong relationships. I look forward to meeting with staff, the Library Board of Trustees, our Friends of the Durham Library and Durham Library Foundation, County partners, and community members to understand what matters most to you. Being visible and approachable—in our libraries and out in the community—is important to me, and I hope you'll feel comfortable sharing your ideas, questions, and hopes for the library's future.

I also plan to spend time getting to know the library from the inside out: visiting all locations, learning our operations, and hearing directly from staff and customers about what's working well and where we can grow. Along the way, I hope to make a few small but meaningful improvements that show we're moving forward together. Most importantly, I want to ensure the library is aligned with Durham County's broader goals as we begin shaping our next strategic plan.

On a personal note, I enjoy reading (of course!) and working out, and my husband and I love traveling, exploring great food, and spending time with our dog, Baxter, and our cat, Mango. We're excited to discover all that Durham has to offer. Our four children are spread out—two in Austin, one in Washington, D.C., and one attending Cambridge University—but they're eager to visit and get to know the Bull City too.

Thank you for welcoming me into this wonderful community. I look forward to meeting you, learning from you, and working together to make Durham County Library the best it can be.

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### Dana Conners Biography

With more than 30 years of experience in public libraries across North Carolina and Texas, Dana Conners has held leadership roles in systems serving mid-sized and large communities, including Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Union, Cabarrus, and New Hanover Counties. She also served as assistant director of public services at the Austin Public Library in Austin, Texas. Conners' work has included new library openings, long-range planning, and collaborative partnerships that expand access to resources and support lifelong learning. Find out more in [Durham County's press release](#).



Thank you for your feedback!

In October, we asked you, our patrons, to provide feedback on our monthly newsletter. We appreciate you taking the time to participate. We have listened to your great suggestions and are excited to be sharing our first revamped newsletter next month!

