On April 24, 1914, 15 members of the Descanso community and the Descanso Improvement Club petitioned the San Diego County Board of Supervisors for a branch of the County Library at Descanso. Following the approval by the Supervisors, the Descanso Branch Library was housed in the Oak Grove Store with Mrs. Inez Gorton as its first Librarian.

Over the years the Library was moved and had been housed in the Descanso Tavern, returned to the Oak Grove Store, then to the Jobes Store in the Descanso Tavern, a watch shop in the home of H.A. Falconer, and the home of James Barkley.

In 1961, the Library moved to the 192 square foot building across from Perkins Store on land leaded from the County Public Works department. It accommodated 1500 books and was called the "Little Library"

A new library, built in 1997 with funds raised by the Descanso Community and the Friends of the Descanso Library ("the Friends") opened its doors near the Descanso School with the "Little Library" moved to the same site, and later the Friends and the community raised funds to construct the community and teen rooms of the Library.

Descanso is proud of and committed to its Library. The Library serves as the hub of the community and is a site of social interaction, learning by students and adults, is a resource for civic, economic and health information and a source of entertainment for all citizens. The citizens of Descanso celebrate its 100th anniversary.