



LITERACY IS AT THE CORE.

Nothing else predicts success in life quite like the ability to read. Literacy impacts education, job preparedness, self-esteem and quality of life. It means a better-educated workforce and engaged citizenry. It means more children performing better in school and more adults able to help their kids with homework. And it's ours to give.

ENRICHING LIVES. IMPROVING LITERACY.
ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY.



\$20 BILLION: THE ESTIMATED COST OF ILLITERACY TO AMERICAN TAXPAYERS EACH YEAR.



LITERACY IS OUR MISSION.

As the Library seeks to expand services for an ever-growing community, the Library Foundation partners with private donors to support programs and resources not covered by tax dollars. With a focus on community outreach, early literacy and lifelong learning, the Library Foundation builds upon a solid tradition of service to the community, while planning for the future.

RECENT FOUNDATION FUNDS HAVE ASSISTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

Placing 24 Mini Libraries throughout St. Charles County

Providing the Juvenile Justice Center with books

Supplying fixtures + furnishings for Spencer Road branch

Providing new St. Charles Habitat for Humanity homeowners with a bookshelf full of books

Providing large print and audio books to senior-living book discussion groups

Books for classrooms and students who complete the Take 20 and Read challenge

LITERACY IS ENGAGEMENT.

The St. Charles City-County Library Foundation is committed to creating programs that bring the benefits of a library system into the community. Whether delivering reading materials, installing mini-libraries or taking pledges, we are creating an environment where literacy thrives.



TAKE 20 AND READ

Take 20 and Read stems from our belief that reading to children is the easiest and best way to help them succeed in school and later in life. This campaign encourages everyone to read 20 minutes each day and brings awareness to the importance of literacy for kids, family and community.

15 THOUSAND+ PEOPLE ARE ENGAGED IN THE PROGRAM



READY TO READ

Ready to Read equips pre-readers and their parents with the tools and best practices on reading fundamentals. Through delivery of early literacy kits and advocating Every Child Ready to Read learning fundamentals, Ready to Read ensures all children in St. Charles County are prepared prior to starting kindergarten.

7 THOUSAND FAMILIES RECEIVE EARLY LITERACY KITS EACH YEAR



BOOKS TO YOU

Books to You provides services to seniors and home-bound individuals who are unable to visit one of our many locations. Through individual volunteer matching and delivery service, Books to You ensures all of St. Charles County is able to enjoy a true library experience in the comfort of their own home.

40+ LOCATIONS RECEIVE MATERIALS EACH MONTH



KAITLIN IS OUR PROOF.

15-year-old Kaitlin had never before read for pleasure. But a six-week stay at the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) in St. Charles would change that forever. Upon entering the Center, Kaitlin's reading comprehension was well below what it should have been...until she took the pledge to Take 20 and Read.

Mary M. from the St. Charles School District worked with Kaitlin using materials from the library and introduced her to *The Selection Series* by Kiera Cass. Kaitlin was instantly hooked

and realized reading could take her places she'd never been, while helping her forget the stress of court dates and family problems.

By the end of her stay at the JJC, Kaitlin had read 10 books and her reading comprehension tested two grade levels higher than when she entered. Mary gave Kaitlin copies of the books that meant so much to her as a reminder that books are a positive escape when things aren't going well.



OF BOOKS READ DURING HER SIX-WEEK STAY AT THE JJC

10

LITERACY IS OUR COMMUNITY.

Supporting our events through attendance and volunteerism increases awareness of the importance of literacy and raises additional support for enhanced library programs and services.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE TO SUPPORT LITERACY

This popular event sells out each year with attendance hovering around 400 people. Along with prizes for the top three scoring tables, attendees have an opportunity to bid on some great auction items and participate in various "between round" games. The 10 rounds of questions range in topics from history to sports to pop culture.

ART UNCORKED: AN EVENING OF GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

An intimate gathering designed for the community to enjoy local artists, the event offers provisions from restaurants,

breweries and wineries in the area along with a silent auction and artwork available for purchase. Guests enjoy the beautiful library in a unique way with their friends and neighbors.

IMAGINE GALA & AUCTION

The formal spring affair with a sit-down dinner and open bar brings the mission of the Library Foundation alive through entertainment, decor, raffles, and silent and live auctions. The magical evening is one that guests will be talking about for weeks and months to come.



100+

VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE SERVICE TO OUR PROGRAMS
AND EVENTS EVERY YEAR

LITERACY IS CONTAGIOUS.

Help us spread our message of literacy by:

TAKING THE PLEDGE TO READ 20
MINUTES A DAY INDIVIDUALLY
OR AS A FAMILY

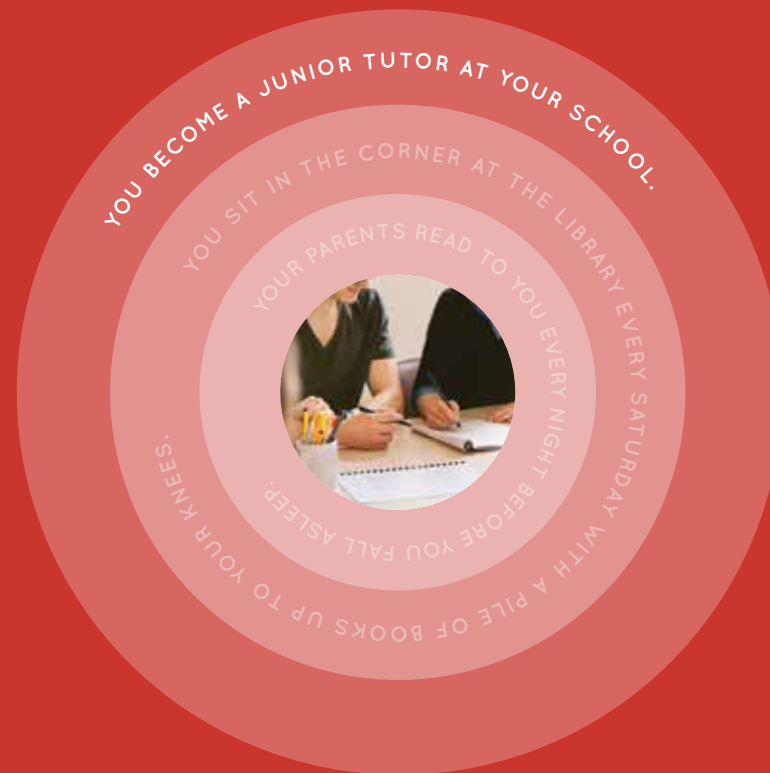
VOLUNTEERING TO BRING BOOKS
TO SOMEONE WHO IS HOME-
BOUND IN YOUR COMMUNITY

DONATING YOUR TIME TO ANY
OF OUR ANNUAL EVENTS

LEADING A BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUP AT ONE OF OUR PARTNER
SENIOR LIVING CENTERS

GETTING INVOLVED BY
HOSTING A BOOK DRIVE

SPONSORING A MINI LIBRARY





A message from

OUR PRESIDENT

Did you know across our nation fewer than half of all children between birth to 5 years of age are read to every day by their parents or other family members? Right now, 1 out of 4 children grow up not knowing how to read. The Library Foundation is committed to changing these numbers at a local level. By providing high-quality books from the beginning of life and empowering parents to embrace their role as their child's first and best teacher we can make a dramatic impact in our community, an impact that will be seen for generations to come.

As you can see along the bottom of these pages, with your support, the St. Charles City-County Library Foundation continues to create new opportunities to better serve those who need it most in our community. Our goals this year are to expand Take 20 and Read, enhance programming for Books to You, increase quantity and variety of children's Spanish materials and provide Ready to Read activity kits to pre-schools. We can do this and so much more with your help. Just imagine what we can do together!

Thank you for joining the St. Charles City-County Library Foundation in our effort to Enrich Lives, Improve Literacy and Engage our Community!

SINCERELY,

KRIS WEIDENBENNER
President, Board of Directors, St. Charles City-County Library Foundation

\$50 ENOUGH FOR FIVE
EARLY LITERACY KITS

\$100 LARGE-PRINT BOOKS
FOR SENIOR LIVING
BOOK DISCUSSIONS

\$250 PICTURE BOOKS
FOR ACTIVITY
KITS

\$500 BOOKSHELF FULL
OF BOOKS FOR
A HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY FAMILY



LITERACY IS OUR FUTURE.

Funding provided by the Foundation complements but does not replace the tax dollars that fund basic library programs and services. That's why we're always looking ahead to see what we can do to invest in future generations.



FINANCIALS

Revenue

PROGRAM/GRANTS	\$40,623
SPECIAL EVENTS	\$117,344
CORPORATE GIFTS	\$42,975
INDIVIDUAL GIFTS	\$10,452
MISCELLANEOUS	\$221

Total: \$211,615

Expense

PROGRAM	\$104,245
FUNDRAISING	\$83,985
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$22,553

Total: \$210,783

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Barnes
Progress West HealthCare Center

Kelli Brammeier
Enterprise

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Ameristar Casino

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Unlimited Play

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Ameren U

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City of St. Charles School District

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Nichols, Stopp & VanHoy, LLC

Kris Weidenbenner
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Blake Wyatt
New Frontier Bank

Kristin Williams
Foundation Executive Director

YOU READ TO YOUR BABY EVERY NIGHT BEFORE HE FALLS ASLEEP.

YOU GRADUATE COLLEGE AS VALEDICTORIAN.

YOU BECOME A JUNIOR TUTOR AT YOUR SCHOOL.

YOU SIT IN THE CORNER AT THE LIBRARY EVERY SATURDAY WITH A PILE OF BOOKS UP TO YOUR KNEES.



YOUR PARENTS READ TO YOU EVERY NIGHT BEFORE YOU FALL ASLEEP.

Literacy is **knowledge**. Literacy is **power**.

LITERACY IS EVERYTHING.



St. Charles City-County
LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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