A STRONG FOUNDATION

FY21 Annual Report





A strong foundation provides stability. In architectural structures, it keeps a home or business standing when the forces of nature wreak havoc outside. In a community of family or neighbors, a strong foundation of connection and support means a population that continues to thrive during times of extreme stress. For the Louisville Free Public Library, a strong Library Foundation provides resources enabling it to offer the broadest possible access to knowledge, ideas, and information; supporting Lousivillians in their pursuit of learning no matter what obstacles they face.

This past year has shown us that while difficulties can be intense and abundant, we have the strength and support of community partners and loyal donors to help us weather any storm.

Faced with ongoing challenges and library closures, the Library Foundation chose to seek out opportunities. We took time to reflect and reconsider what we do. We focused on adapting our work and our strategy for an altered world that still needs the library.

First, we worked with LFPL to see what emergent needs we could provide support for. With in-person programming on pause for a large portion of the year, granting priorities shifted. We provided funds for the purchase of additional ebooks and audiobooks, which were in increased demand. In addition, we were able to assist LFPL in getting 30,000+ free "forever" books distributed to families across Louisville.

Next, we advanced our commitment to advocate on behalf of LFPL. We hired a communications manager to ensure our advocacy messages are successful and reach the right people. We launched the Stronger Library, Stronger Louisville campaign reaching out to the community to let them know about library services and garner support.

Recognizing how vital connection is when so many felt isolated, we took Café LOUE virtual, so every citizen in our community still had a chance to connect with their legislators. Hosting eight Café LOUIE's in three months.

We embarked on a new strategic planning process. Amid a changing world, we decided it was the time to rethink and rebuild policies and strategies to strengthen the Library Foundation and to better support LPFL now and well into the future. We look forward to sharing our strategic plan with you in 2022.

While there is still a lot of uncertainty, we know that we are adapting and planning for a strong future. Now, more than ever, our community needs us. And we need you.

We thank you for your continued support and wish you health and peace.



Wollen M. Alah

BILL DUNBAR Chair



CHANDRA GORDON
Executive Director

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions	\$1,532,060
Other Income	70,500
Interest & Dividends	211,997
Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	2,151,377

TOTAL \$3,965,934

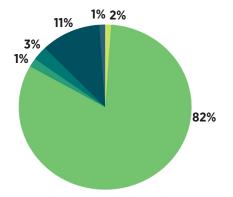
GRANTS & EXPENSES

Program Expenses & Grants to the Library \$820,981 Fundraising Expenses 250,917 Administration 193,626

TOTAL \$1,265,524

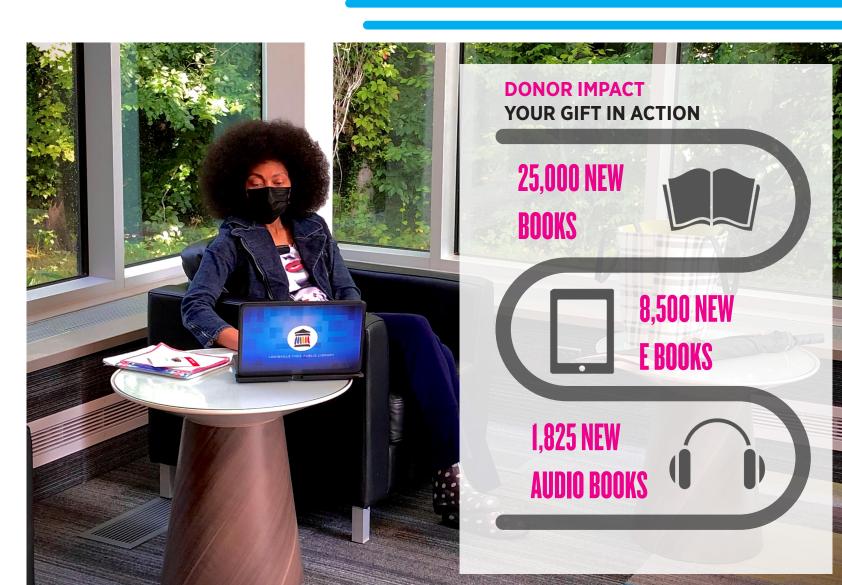
NET SURPLUS \$2,700,410





LIBRARY FOUNDATION GRANTS TO LFPL

- 1% Capital Projects & Technology
- 82% Books, E-magazines & downloadables
- 2% Children's & Teens programs
- 3% Adult Programs
- 11% Communications
- 1% Staff Support



On March 13, 2020, LFPL closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The many weeks and months that have passed since then have been challenging in ways that, at the time, we could barely have imagined. We finally fully reopened just over a full year later, in March 2021. That year was hard on all of us, staff, patrons, and supporters alike. But owing to the hard work and dedication of the outstanding staff at our libraries, as we look ahead to the coming weeks and months, the future looks bright.

In November, we will reopen the Middletown Library. We worked with Louisville Metro and the City of Middletown to find and renovate a new location. The funding for the renovation project is coming from Louisville Metro. The building itself is being provided rent-free by the City of Middletown. It's an outstanding solution that will benefit everyone in the Middletown area, and I am grateful to everyone who has helped make it happen.

Our new bookmobile paid for largely with donated funds is on order, and we expect it to be delivered by early 2022. It will be larger and better equipped than our current bookmobile, allowing us to offer more books to children on those special days when the bookmobile visits. The incredible commitment of Library supporters made that happen, and it is greatly appreciated.

And next year, I also am very excited to begin in earnest the renovation and expansion of the Portland Library. The Portland Library has been a special place for neighborhood residents for over 100 years. While many other libraries in our system have seen dramatic improvements over the past two decades, Portland has been left behind. Now is the time to invest in our community and bring the Portland Library up to the high standards we have set at other libraries across Louisville.

We had tremendous momentum in March 2020, and I know that with the hard work of our staff and the support of our patrons, our Friends, and The Library Foundation, we'll have that momentum back very soon. If you haven't yet, sign up for the Library's email newsletter, follow us on social media, and check out our calendar of upcoming events. After a long trying year, I'm looking forward to seeing you back at the Library.



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Library Director

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Yum! Brands Foundation

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. If there are omissions or errors please contact the Library Foundation so that we may correct our records. Only donors of gifts of \$250 and above made between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 are listed.

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The Honorable Geoffrey P. Morris

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BOOKMOBILE ON THE WAY



Thanks to the generosity of our community, including principal gifts from JBS and Eleemosynary by LMH, we fully funded a new Children's Bookmobile this year!

By traveling to schools, daycares, community centers, and faith-based programs (not to mention parks, laundromats, block parties, stores, etc.) this new "library on wheels" breaks down the boundaries of what a library is and where it can exist.

Keep an eye out for a ribbon cutting in 2022!

Check out a couple of stories that highlight how grants helped the library pivot to a socially distanced world this past year:

Free Books for Toddlers: In response to school, daycare, and library closures, the PNC Foundation provided \$132,000 to place 50,000 "forever" books in the hands of over 10,000 Louisville toddlers.

ACT/SAT Practice Tests: During the pandemic, many students lost access to the programs that traditionally assist them in getting ready for college (including free practice tests at their local library). The Taco Bell Foundation stepped in and allowed their \$10,000 grant to go toward purchasing and distributing ACT/SAT test prep packets to nearly 600 kids throughout Jefferson County.

"My daughter and I were excited to discover the new books at the Little Library in Shelby Park! It gave us something to look forward to when our local library was closed during quarantine." - Lynn

FOUNDATION





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1501.5016.16

LFPLF@lfplfoundation.org LFPLFoundation.org











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