

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

HELEN KATE FURNESS FREE LIBRARY



100 N Providence Rd

Wallingford, PA 19086

HKFLibrary.org

Dear Members, Supporters, Patrons, and Neighbors,

2022 was the 120th anniversary of the Helen Kate Furness Free Library, and what a banner year it was! With your engagement, we hit new records in Library utilization with over 105,000 items checked out. The Board of Directors set an aspirational fundraising target of \$120,000 for the Library's 120th anniversary and to help close what we anticipated to be a significant operating budget gap, and we exceeded it! We put the Library on track to meet state-mandated requirements around staffing and investment in our collections. We strengthened our partnership with Nether Providence Township and the Rose Valley Borough Council, and both committed to increased annual contributions to the Library for 2023. We used ARPA funds awarded to us by the Nether Providence Township to beautify the Library grounds by replacing a deteriorating fence and taking down unhealthy trees. And so much more!

For the first time since March 2020, the Board of Directors was able to hold in-person fundraising events like Well Red, and wow, did the community turn out! We are so grateful for the strong engagement from our community. It is your generosity that allows us to continue to invest in the gem that is the Helen Kate Furness Free Library.

We are also so fortunate for the dedicated and passionate staff and volunteers operating our Library day in and day out. Thank you to our Library Director, Leah Kulikowski, our staff librarians, Lori Friedgen-Veitch, Molly Deutsch, Laura Gandia, Meg Hawkins, and Beth Noto; and to all of our volunteers! You are the warm, creative, and knowledgeable engine that keeps our Library thriving and meeting the needs of our community.

Thank you, and we look forward to your continued patronage in 2023!

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Lim

Elisabeth Lim

President, Board of Directors



New fence and tree work

Dear Helen Kate Supporters and Patrons,

This year was the 120th anniversary of the Helen Kate Furness Free Library. In many ways, this has been a celebratory year, as we've made meaningful investments towards staffing, cultivating the library collection, programs and events, and maintaining our building and grounds.

We now have 4 full-time librarians on staff, which has enabled us to expand and increase the quality of our services to the community. This year we offered 193 library programs for 3,903 community members of all ages. Children's programs included early literacy storytimes, scavenger hunts, art contests, outdoor movies, and STEM activities. Adults participated in monthly book discussions, a spring plant exchange, a Sandi Nailor Memorial Author Talk featuring Allison Buccola, a local author fair, art and craft workshops, and sessions on college application prep, beekeeping, and native trees.

We have continued to add quality materials to our collections with a focus on diversity. We replaced well-loved but worn classics and added a local author collection to highlight literary talent in Delaware County. Demand for eBooks has soared in recent years (demand is up nearly 60% since pre-pandemic), so we joined Overdrive Advantage and began purchasing eBooks in order to give Helen Kate patrons access to high-demand eBook titles and reduce hold list wait times. We broke our circulation records in July and August of this year, with over 10,000 items checked out each month. In total this year, 105,465 books, eBooks, and other materials were checked out from our library.

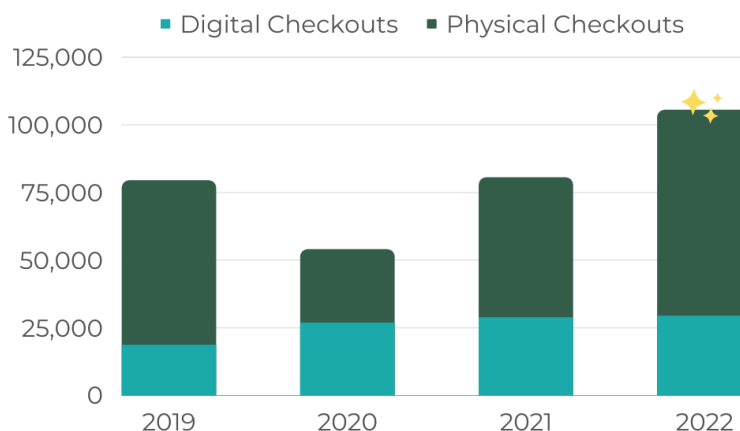
Thank you for being a part of our library community. We are looking forward to another wonderful year with you - our friends, neighbors, and supporters - as we move into 2023.

Sincerely,

Leah Kulikowski

Leah Kulikowski, Library Director

CIRCULATION BY YEAR



2022 BY THE NUMBERS



The library was open
2,266 hours



28,050 people
walked through
our doors



6,989 active card
holders



361 new library
cards issued



Meeting rooms were
reserved by the
community 125 times



Museum passes
were borrowed
312 times



There were 29,455
downloads of
e-content



Contributing to a
total of 105,465
checkouts



We lent our items
outside of Delaware
County 64 times



Our service is
delivered by 4.2
FTE librarians



And 62
volunteers who
gave 3,571 hours



2,696 new items
were added to the
library collections



And brought in 271
items from outside
of Delco upon
patron request



5,982 reference
questions were
asked



Public computers
were used
1,912 times



253 books read in
storytime



194 total
programs offered
(113 for youth &
81 for adults)



3,957 people
attended in total
(3,275 youth &
682 adults)

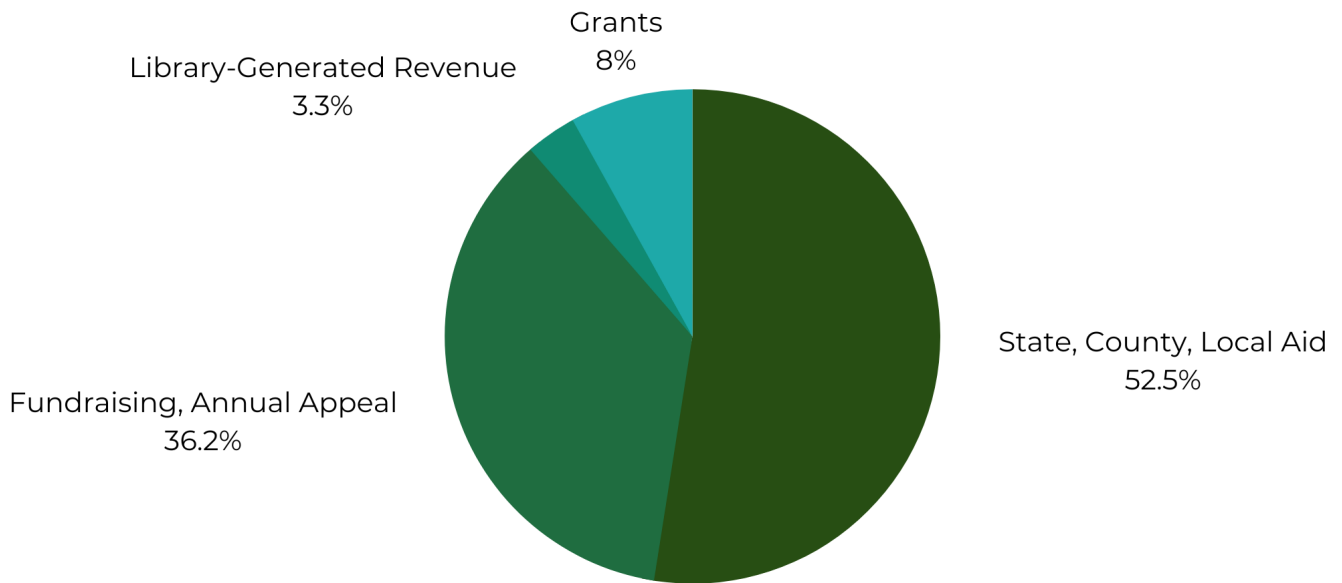


6 outreach
programs reaching
270 community
members



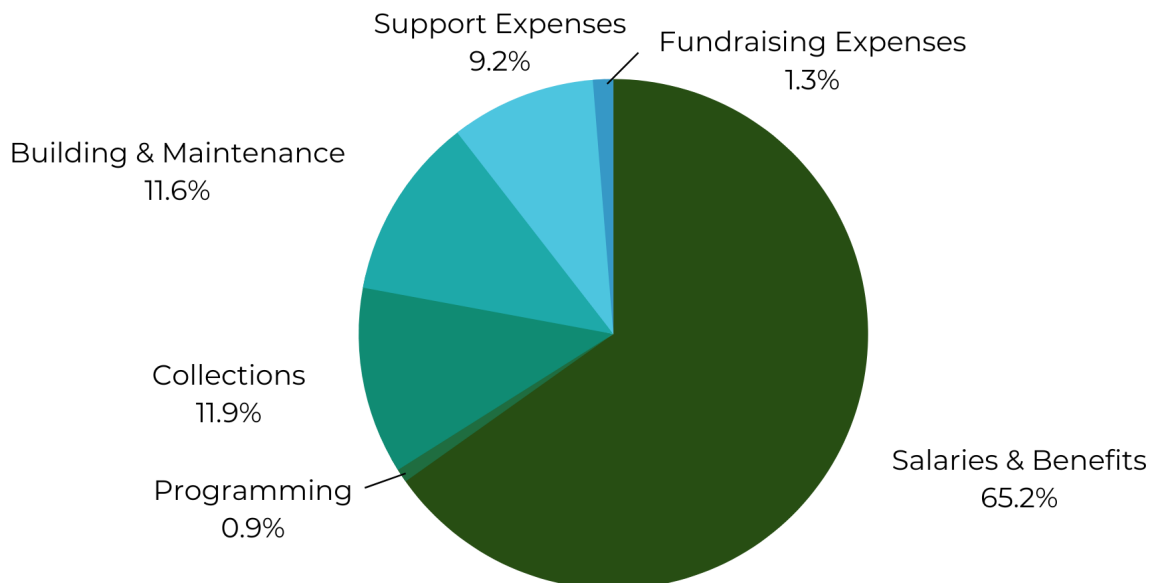
574 generous
donors
(Thank you!)

SUPPORT AND REVENUE



State, County, Local Aid \$ 214,562	Fundraising & Annual Appeal \$ 147,811	Library-Generated Revenue \$ 13,581	Grants \$32,850	Total \$ 408,804
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OPERATING EXPENSES



Salaries & Benefits \$ 260,319	Collections \$ 47,347	Building & Maintenance \$ 46,291	Support Expenses \$ 36,792	Fundraising Expenses \$ 5,149	Programming \$ 3,439	Total \$ 399,337
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VOLUNTEERS

We are incredibly grateful to our volunteers who have contributed their time to the library this year, working at the main desk and children's desk, checking in and out books, assisting patrons, receiving bins of book deliveries, shelving, and many other tasks that keep the library running

62 volunteers collectively dedicated 3,571 hours of their time!

Cathy Bartkowski	Sydney Hall	Aashna Pandey
Nancy Bateman	Mary Halloran	Snehal Pandey
Cliff Bayuk	Liz Hammond	Christine Pasquariello
Carol Beckman	Terry Haynes	Steve Peura
Elizabeth Bergstrom	Anne Hollyer	Rita Pirollo
Sharon Black	Mary Holman	Donna Ranere
Amy Boyce	Erica House	Jai Rastogi
Dana Bradley	Joe Hsu	Akshay Risbud
Christie Cari	Yusuf Husain	Joyce Romoff
CJ Chen	Mary Jones	Kathy Salom
Kyle Chiem	Beth Karn	Diane Scott
Donna Clifford	Lucy Karn	Jack Scott
Shelby Collins	Judy Kiesel	Kim Shimer
Tom Costello	Martha Lambertsen	Yash Singh
Gail Cowan	Kai Lincke	Peggy Steele
Julia Gaudet	Zac Lowe	Nick Tapino
Sachin Goindi	Sue Maze	Tommy Tapino
Richard Griscom	Kathy Michael	Marti Trzepacz
Sandy Gruber	Kate Noto	Mike Vartanian
Jessica Hadley	Anne O'Brien	Gabby Verona
Michelle Hall	Linda O'Hara	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to our Board of Directors for another year of service! They have dedicated many hours to the library and the community this year, including bookkeeping, financial management, grant writing, strategic planning, and spearheading our annual appeal and fundraising events which make up 30-40% of the library's annual operating budget. We value the board's expertise, dedication, enthusiasm, leadership, and generosity.

Elisabeth Lim, *President*

Jessica Brill, *Rose Valley Borough Rep*

Sara Pasternack, *Co-Vice President*

Donna Ferruzzi, *Nether Providence Twp Rep*

Candace Walters, *Co-Vice President*

Hollis Gelber

Kathryn Boland, *Treasurer*

Alli Granger

Joyce Romoff, *Assistant Treasurer*

Kelly Kaminski, *Nether Providence Twp Rep*

Rachel Lundberg, *Recording Secretary*

Emily Lovitz

Ruth Lindeborg, *Corresponding Secretary*

Woody Johnson, *Board Elected*

Elena Sisti

Erin Stancill

Sarah Ware

LIBRARY STAFF

Leah Kulikowski, *Library Director*

Lori Friedgen-Veitch, *Children & Youth Services Librarian*

Molly Deutsch, *Technical Services Librarian*

Laura Gandia, *Public Services Librarian*

Meg Hawkins, *Part-Time Librarian*

Beth Noto, *Part-Time Librarian*