Annual Report 2017

“The Library is one of the most impactful, far-reaching institutions in our community.”
–Amy, Friends Member
Dear Friends,

Because of you, Hennepin County Library is making a lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals every day.

Our 41 library locations, each a beloved local treasure, are welcoming hubs for the exchange of information, ideas, and opinions... a daily source of imagination and inspiration for thousands... and the place to grow, discover, reflect, and respond.

In recognition of your vital support, we are delighted to share Friends of the Hennepin County Library’s 2017 Annual Report, highlighting the life-changing programs, services, and resources Friends members are making possible.

From creating pop-up libraries in under-served neighborhoods, to providing job opportunities to teens, to ensuring every member of our community has the opportunity to read, engage, and learn through our outreach services initiatives, our Library is a gateway to limitless opportunities for all.

Thank you for extending the transformational power of our Library to every corner of our county and beyond.

Kai Sakstrup
Board President

Kristi Pearson
Executive Director

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- Finance Director

Kristi Pearson
- Executive Director
Pride in our Library . . .

As Hennepin County Library's non-profit fundraising partner, Friends of the Hennepin County Library builds awareness, appreciation, and financial support for our world-class library.

. . . inspires our mission

- 5.3M library visits to 41 libraries across Hennepin County
- 12.8M website visits to hclib.org
- 855,000 library cardholders
- 9,400 inspiring programs engaged 208,000 patrons
- 15.1M items borrowed
- 2.4M downloads of books, movies, and music
## Financial Statement

**Statement of Operational Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate, Foundation and Government Grants</td>
<td>$576,662</td>
<td>$94,040</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$670,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions, In-Kind</td>
<td>75,315</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships, Individual Gifts and Memorials</td>
<td>1,144,793</td>
<td>1,617</td>
<td>2,105</td>
<td>1,148,515</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Revenue</td>
<td>291,162</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>291,162</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>170,486</td>
<td>86,928</td>
<td></td>
<td>257,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,258,418</strong></td>
<td><strong>182,585</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,105</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,443,108</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>284,516</td>
<td>(284,516)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,542,934</strong></td>
<td>(101,931)</td>
<td><strong>2,105</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,443,108</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>1,908,537</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,908,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>100,331</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>389,186</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>389,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,398,054</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,398,054</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS                     | 144,880      | (101,931)             | 2,105                 | 45,054   |

| Net Assets – Beginning of the Year       | 1,624,265    | 1,201,610             | 551,599               | 3,377,474|

| NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR                 | **$1,769,145**| **$1,099,679**        | **$553,704**          | **$3,422,528**|

A full audit conducted by Akins Henke & Company is available on our website at www.supportHCLib.org.

Please contact Linda Merritt, Finance Director, at 612-543-8103 or lmerritt@hclib.org to request a paper copy of the audit.

In 2013, Friends of HCL moved to a guaranteed funding model, meaning the total funding given annually to the Library is now decided prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year. Specific amounts are designated to each of HCL’s priority funding areas. See the graph to the right for 2017’s priority funding areas and amounts.
Growing Membership Means Growing Library Support

Member Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>8,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding to the library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$256,700</td>
<td>$1,275,418</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Support Makes a Profound Impact

- **Youth: School Readiness/Technology**
  - $287,592
  - Homework Help, Early Learning, Summer Learning, Best Buy Teen Tech Center, and more

- **Innovation**
  - $324,580
  - MnSpin, ConnectED, Library Welcome Van, Donor Designated Projects, and more

- **Youth: Pathways to Careers**
  - $223,600
  - Teen Tech Squad and Teen Specialist Program

- **Collections**
  - $103,000
  - High demand titles, Special Collections, and more

- **Local Libraries**
  - $205,942
  - Local programming enrichment

- **Community Based Service**
  - $130,705
  - Library services to seniors, correctional facilities, Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center, Franklin Learning Center, and more
Fueling Curious Minds through Summer Learning

Summer has always been a time for play, laughter, curiosity, and exploration. But it can also be a time when children lose academic gains achieved during the school year. Summer Learning combines the joys of summer fun with educational experiences that keep children discovering, engaging, and learning.

In 2017, our 41 libraries hosted more than 850 summer programs, many with a STEM, art, or literacy focus, attracting more than 12,000 youth participants.

At Sumner Library, for example, HCL partnered with the Minneapolis Institute of Art to offer an artist-in-residence program. Participants in “Stitched Together Stories” collaborated with North Minneapolis artist Keegan Xavi to create drawings, collages, and mosaics that were pieced together into paper quilts displayed throughout Sumner Library’s main floor. One student, Amina, was inspired to make an image of a dinosaur with colorful flowers on one side and monochrome patterns on the other. She explained that this was a visual representation of how different people can be on the outside and the inside.

Building Student Confidence and Academic Success

Homework Help is a drop-in tutoring program offering youth a free, safe, and welcoming space to work with adult volunteers, master academic concepts, improve reading comprehension, and complete homework assignments. Last year, 260 volunteer tutors devoted more than 7,000 hours, serving 1,100 unique youth representing all grade levels.
Homework Help offers rigorous academic support in multiple subjects like English, math, and science. Nearly **70% of youth participants attend Homework Help at least once a week.** Many of our students are first or second generation immigrants who confront cultural and linguistic barriers when trying to complete their assignments. “I don’t get the homework when my teacher talks about it,” one Homework Help participant explained, “but when the helpers help me, I get it.”

Last year, Homework Help was more popular than ever, experiencing a 25% increase in attendance, totaling more than 16,000 individual tutoring sessions. **85% of participants say they are doing better in school because of Homework Help,** and many others indicate that the program is crucial to helping them maintain good grades.

Researchers have linked social isolation with depression, heart disease, stroke, and many other ills. It is no wonder many At Home patrons call the program a “lifeline,” and not just because of the personal contact with our library staff and volunteers. Brain imaging has revealed that books really do have the power to “transport” readers. In fact, reading a novel engages many of the same processes as real-world experiences!

In 2017, your support helped fund specially-trained librarians who answered questions, connected patrons with services and information, and fulfilled requests for books and other resources.

“This service is one of the strongest threads keeping me peaceful and with a great sense of joy and mental activity during my chronic times,” one patron says. “Quite often, those delightful blue bags packed with laughter, liberating knowledge, and entertainment are the only mail I receive.”

**Transforming How Homebound Patrons Access our Library**

At Home Services provides nearly 1,000 homebound people the opportunity to access our library’s expansive collection, engage with compassionate volunteers, stay connected with the wider world, and let their imaginations soar beyond their physical limitations.

> The service is one of the strongest threads keeping me peaceful and with a great sense of joy and mental activity during my chronic times.
>  
> – At Home Services Patron

The service is one of the strongest threads keeping me peaceful and with a great sense of joy and mental activity during my chronic times.

– At Home Services Patron
Empowering Teens through STEM-Based Learning

Teen Tech Center

Inside Minneapolis Central Library is a state-of-the-art creative space built exclusively for teens. The Best Buy Teen Tech Center is equipped with powerful computers loaded with software like Photoshop, a green screen for video productions, and even a fully-equipped music recording studio!

Because of your support in 2017, an average of 30 teens per day came to record music, build robots, create digital videos, engineer and print 3-D objects, develop video games, write computer programs, design and sew their own clothes, build customized computers, and much more.

Tierni, a student who initially came to the Center because it was a safe place to go after school, says, “Before I came here, I never knew what my passion was. Since coming, I’ve learned sewing is my passion and want to further it, keep learning, and start my own clothing-line business. If you have a passion, go for it!”

Teen Tech Squad

Teen Tech Squad is a year-round youth employment program that gives 34 teenagers the opportunity to share their interest in STEM subjects and facilitate engaging, hands-on workshops that bring hundreds of diverse youth into local libraries. The program offers workforce opportunities that are rarely available to teens: not only a strong wage of $15/hour, but work experiences and responsibilities that build vital 21st century skills like collaboration, communication, and self-directed learning, and “hard” technology skills in fields like coding and robotics.

Offering twice-monthly workshops to their younger peers at seven Hennepin County libraries and the new Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center, teen leaders created...
welcoming environments where youth from different backgrounds assist, collaborate, encourage, and laugh with one another. The majority of TTS’s hundreds of youth participants receive free or reduced-price lunch at school. More than 80% are youth of color, and almost half speak another language.

Your support is making a measurable impact! By offering hands-on, creative activities, with opportunity for fun and teamwork, Teen Tech Squad is changing young peoples’ ideas about science and technology, building their confidence in challenging academic subjects, and inspiring them to envision themselves in ambitious STEM careers. 95% of participants say they feel part of a supportive community while participating in their Teen Tech Squad. 93% feel more confident solving tough science, tech, engineering, art, or math problems because of TTS workshops, and 93% say they are more interested in STEM subjects due to their participation in TTS.

Transforming Access to Local Minnesota Music

In recent years, librarians began noticing that the shift to MP3 and streaming services was making it much harder to track down CDs produced by local musicians. With the support of Friends of the Hennepin County Library, a new online music streaming and downloading platform - MnSpin - was launched.

MnSpin features more than 50 local artists representing Minnesota’s incredible range of musical talent, from hip-hop, jazz, and underground rock, to mariachi, reggae, country, and more!

In an effort to support local artists financially, MnSpin pays musicians for the rights to share each album, funding that would not have been possible without your support.

Through MnSpin, HCL is helping artists gain greater exposure, and music lovers delve deeper into the local music scene by exploring new hometown sounds. Anyone can stream the music by some of Minnesota’s most talented musicians, and library patrons can download the music to carry with them wherever they go.

“We have such a rich and diverse local music scene, and any music lover can find something new and exciting through MnSpin.
– HCL Director Lois Langer Thompson
Individual Donors

Thank You Minerva Leadership Circle Members

The Minerva Leadership Circle recognizes those who support our Library at an exceptional level, $1,000 or more annually. Named in honor of the Roman goddess of wisdom and protector of libraries, Minerva members ensure Hennepin County Library remains a pillar of our community.

Tax-deductible gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2017.

$25,000+
Anonymous

$10,000+ (Champions)
Anonymous
Anonymous in honor of Special Olympics MN
Julie Allinson and Paul Erickson
The Estate of Linda Brandt
The Estate of Mary Michael Connolly
Estate of Melanie J. Haddox
Darby and Geri Nelson
Mary and Thomas Racciatti
The Estate of Robert and Joan Rohlf

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Laura and Benjamin Cooper
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Jonathan Gaw and Rebecca Wright
John and Theresa Gibbs
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Kristi and Scott Pearson
Patricia Ploetz
Nick and Judy Priadka
Kai and Carolyn Sakstrup
Barbara Sletten
Catherine Taylor

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Margaret and DeWalt H. Ankeny, Jr.
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Karen Cooper and Bruce Schneier
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Alison Eckhoff and Mark Sannes

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Thomas and Kristina Hauschild
Dawn Hill
Elizabeth and Edwin Hlavka
Arthur and Donna Hogenson
Sally Hwang
Britta Iwen
John R. Jenson
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Kathleen Jones
Susan and Philip Jones
Carol Jordan and Robert Callahan
Miriam and Erwin Kelen
Susan M. Kennedy
Mike Kesti and Jennifer May
Judy Kingsberg
Kathy Kirschbaum
William H. and Sarah B. Kling Donor
Advised Fund of the Minnesota Community Foundation
I love the Library because it’s a great place for kids of all ages to spend their time and use the vast resources to build a future for themselves and others.
– Mike, Friend Member

Friends of the Hennepin County Library is truly grateful to our 8,500 donors who made tax-deductible gifts of up to $1,000 in 2017.

$1,000 - $2,499 cont. (Patrons)
Linda E. Krach
Paul and Linda Krueger
Virginia L Kubic
Karen Jean Larsen and Colin Alworth
Russell and Karen Larsen
Kathleen and Allen Lenzmeier
Virginia Levy
Steve and Tristen Lindemann
Winnie and Keith Lindstam
Tim Lodge and Susanna
Amelar Lodge
Dorothy and Albert Marden
Kathleen Matichek
Donald W. McCarthy
Suzan McGinnis and
Jinger Gustafson
Beth McGuire Theobald and
Tom Theobald
Patricia McGuire
Nancy McLean
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Charles and Carolyn Meyer
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Marcia L. Morris
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Amy Radermacher and David Ratz

Catherine Rashid
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Peg Rasmussen
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David Richards and Gail Manning
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James P. Uttley and Julia McGregor
Karen Viskochil Fund of The
Minneapolis Foundation
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Kurt and Susan Waananen
Steven and Catherine Webster
William and Julia Weiler
Miriam Weinstein
Suzanne Weinstein
Bob and Cheryl Welch
Katherine Wells and
Stephen Willging
Samuel and Mary Wetterlin
Greg and Ellen Weyandt
Karin G. Weyl
Carole and Rick Wiederhorn
Milton and Margie Woodhouse
Margaret Zverinova
Organizational Support & Sponsors
Gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2017

$50,000+
The Clubhouse Network
Minnesota Department of Education

$25,000+
Anonymous
Best Buy Foundation
Friends of the Edina Library
Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board
Olseth Family Foundation

$10,000+
Allianz Life Insurance Company
Archie D. and Bertha H. Walker Foundation
Boston Scientific Foundation
Catholic Community Foundation
Friends of the Eden Prairie Library
Friends of the Maple Grove Library
Friends of the Penn Lake Library
Friends of the Plymouth Library
Friends of the Southdale Library
The Mahle Family Foundation
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$5,000 - $9,999
Anime Twin Cities, Inc.
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Friends of the Champlin Library
Friends of the Excelsior Library
Friends of the Golden Valley Library
Friends of the Lindern Hills Library
Friends of the Nokomis Library
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Saint Paul Rotary Foundation
UnitedHealth Group
Willard E. Smucker Foundation

$2,500 - $4,999
The Arc Greater Twin Cities
Friends of Augsburg Park Library
City of Lakes Rotary Club
Curtis L. Carlson Family Foundation
Friends of the East Lake Library
Friends of the Hopkins Library
Friends of the Minnetonka Library
Friends of the Northeast Library
Friends of the St. Louis Park Library
Friends of the Westonka Library
RBC Foundation - USA
US Bank
The Wallin Foundation

$1,000 - $2,499
Best Buy
Comcast Corporation
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The Estee Lauder Companies
Fredrikson & Byron Foundation
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Graco Foundation
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Friends of the Pierre Bottineau Library
Friends of the Maple Plain Library
Friends of the Rockford Road Library
Friends of the Rogers Library
Friends of the Roosevelt Library
Friends of the Southeast Library
Friends of the St. Anthony Library
Friends of the Webber Park Library
Magers and Quinn Booksellers
Nuveen Investments, Inc.
Proto Labs Foundation

Honorariums & Memorials
In 2017, hundreds of generous individuals made tribute and memorial gifts in support of the Library. For a full acknowledgement of these gifts, please visit supportHCLIB.org/tribute-2017

Bob Rolf, a lifelong champion of libraries, passed away in June 2017. His dynamic career began in 1955 when he became project manager for the planning of the then new Minneapolis Central Library. In 1965, he was recruited to the Library of Congress to oversee the proposed James Madison Memorial Library in Washington D.C. Two years later, he was promoted to Director of Administration for the Library of Congress. In 1969, Bob returned to Minnesota and was hired as the Director of Hennepin County Library, a post he held for the next 25 years. During his tenure, Bob oversaw the expansion of 14 new regional libraries, contributing greatly to Hennepin County Library’s standing as one of the top library systems in the country. The Library Journal named him one of the "Ten Outstanding Library Directors in the Country". We are truly grateful for Bob’s lifetime of service and countless contributions to our beloved Library.

Sampson Family Charitable Foundation
Sit Investments Associates, Inc.
Target Corporation
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Gift Multiplier Program
Thrivent Financial Foundation
Travelers Matching Gifts Foundation
Gratia Legacy Circle Members

The Gratia Legacy Circle honors individuals who have made a bequest in a will or other planned gift to Friends of HCL. It is named for Gratia Countryman, one of the most important leaders in the history of public library service in Hennepin County.

Anonymous
Richard Alberta, PsyD and Hanan Rosenstein, MD
Renner and Martha Anderson
Maryellen and Larry Baumann
Martha Bird
Joyce Borthwick
Leila Brammer
Carol Bridell
Neil Bright and Judy Cowden
David and Sandra Brown
Jack Cole
Francine M. Corcoran
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Chris Du Bois
Mary Ann Elftmann
Linda L. Engberg
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Gus and Pat Fenton
Johanna M. Frerichs
Pam Gagnon
Aimee and William Guidera
Holly and Kelly Guncheon
Deborah Jindra and Peter Bergan
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Bryan W. Swartz
Margaret Telfer and Ed McConaghay
Julia F. Wallace
Mark J. Weber
Stu Wilson and Mel Barker
Corinne Zwickey

We are deeply grateful for the following Library supporters, now passed, who included Friends of HCL in their estate plans.

Anonymous
Barbara Aman
John V. Anderson
Linda Brandt
Alice Burnat
Margaret W. Case
Crystal Clift
Sylvia S. Covet
Mary Michael Connolly
Edna C. Downing
Mary L. Dyar
Thomas F. Field
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Richard Barber Trust
Lillian G. Wallis
Marilee Ward
Yukiko (Becky) Yagyu
Eva O. Young
Wilfred J. Zalaznik
Connecting Friends with Great Storytellers and Creating Meaningful Experiences

We believe in Hennepin County Library’s central role of nurturing, amplifying and sharing unique voices from our community, nation and world. With this in mind, Friends of HCL produces two event series showcasing today’s most thought-provoking literary talent. In our increasingly sold out Pen Pals series, we present an eclectic mix of authors at the top of your reading list, including bestsellers, award winners and book club favorites. In our free Talk of the Stacks series, we delve deeper into topical issues and share voices shaping the here and now. Whether our Friends join us for the first time or the fiftieth, our events aim to celebrate writers, the power of the written word, and the Library’s core commitment to both.
Legendary news reporter and Pen Pals guest author Dan Rather mingles with FHCL Board President Kai Sakstrup, FHCL Executive Director Kristi Pearson, and Library Director Lois Langer Thompson.

Library champions enjoy panoramic views of downtown Minneapolis while supporting our world-class Library.

Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, FHCL Executive Director Kristi Pearson, and Library supporters David Doty and Sam and Sylvia Kaplan.

J.D. Steele leads an unforgettable performance at a special event celebrating our Library’s nationally acclaimed music collection.

Andrew McCarthy, 80s movie icon turned writer, signs copies of his debut novel, Just Fly Away, at Talk of the Stacks with long time fans.
Top 5 Ways to Connect with Friends!

1. Have an extraordinary literary experience with us at a Talk of the Stacks or Pen Pals event! Visit supportHCLIB.org for event information.

2. Follow Friends of the Hennepin County Library on Facebook to connect with fellow library supporters and reading enthusiasts.

3. Sign up for our e-newsletter to stay up-to-date on author events, book sales, and library news. Subscribe at supportHCLIB.org.

4. Join your local library Friends chapter to learn more about volunteer opportunities and other ways to support your neighborhood library!

5. Exchange business cards with us! We’re always looking for organizational partners and sponsors who share our enthusiasm for the Library. Email friends@hclib.org to schedule a time to connect.

Share your Library love using #myhcl!