



Friends & Foundation *of the* Rochester Public Library

115 South Avenue - Rochester, NY 14604 - 585.428.8325 - ffrpl.org

March 2022

Dear Library Supporter,

Happy Spring! We hope that this letter finds you well and that you are enjoying the many programs and services that the Rochester Public Library (RPL) has to offer.

While there are still many uncertainties in our world, you can be sure that RPL remains a place of equity, providing valuable information and resources at no cost to every patron. The Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library (FFRPL) continues to provide supplemental support, and **we remain grateful for your generosity.**

RPL continues to adapt as the pandemic continues and society becomes more dependent on digital and online services. Did you know that from April 2020 through October 2021, RPL offered more than 2,000 online programs, with approximately 23,000 patrons attending virtually? This need continues.

In addition to programs, RPL offers many other resources related to technology. **“Without technology, you become invisible in our society,”** said Jay Osborne, supervisor of Central Library’s Technology Center. **Thanks to your past support,** FFRPL provided supplemental furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the Tech Center, enabling RPL to assist patrons with online job searches and interviews, find housing, and expand their skills.

Consider the case of Steven, who came into the Tech Center for help applying for a warehouse job. Staff helped him update his resume, set up a username and password, fill out and submit the application, schedule a private conference room, and test the equipment for a smooth online

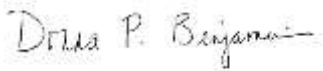
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interview – all while strictly following COVID health and safety protocols. A week later, he stopped in to thank the Tech Center staff for the hours of help they had given him to successfully get the job.

Another patron, Kathy, needed to change her email account in order to access the wi-fi in her apartment. When her internet service provider did not help her make the change, she found assistance at the Tech Center. “It was such a relief to hear the staff say, ‘yes, we can do that’ and to patiently take the time with me,” she said. “Now I can order things online and receive email confirmations. Many people don’t realize the many services the Library offers.”

Your past generosity has helped Steven, Kathy, and numerous other Library patrons access critical resources to improve their lives. **That is why we ask you again this year to give generously to the FFRPL 2021-2022 Annual Campaign**, so we can continue to support the Library’s special spaces, programs, exhibits, and supplemental materials and equipment that are not covered by the municipal budget. We thank you very much for your ongoing generosity!

Sincerely,



Donna P. Benjamin

Board President, Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library

P.S. Giving to FFRPL just got easier! Consider making a secure, automatic monthly or quarterly online donation of your specified amount. Find out more at www.FFRPL.org. **Please give generously to the FFRPL 2021-2022 Annual Campaign today!**