

priorities for 2022/2023

Library Buildings for our Future

The Library Foundation is supporting building enhancements for children and teens in eight new and renovated Multnomah County Libraries. Early learning spaces, prominently featured in the children's area of each library, will offer immersive learning experiences that encourage families to spend time at the library and talk with librarians. Tens of thousands of young children will benefit from these research-based interactive spaces. Other building projects supported by the foundation include STEAM learning equipment, technology labs, study spaces for teens, creative learning environments, and outdoor spaces for children and families.

Reach: tens of thousands of children and teens each year for years to come

Early Literacy

The Every Child Initiative is designed to reach young children facing risk factors for low literacy. Five library programs offer engaging educational activities, books in more than 20 languages and cultures, engaging educational activities, and workshops that teach parents about early brain development and the latest in early reading practices for parents. The library partners with hospitals, health clinics, Head Starts, WIC (Women, Infants & Children), teen parent programs, and immigrant and refugee centers to connect children, parents, and grandparents with all the library has to offer.

Reach: 50,000 children, parents, and caregivers

School-Age Success

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) lab programs at the Rockwood Makerspace and take-home STEAM maker mini-kits offer students access to free learning experiences that build confidence and interest in science.

Reach: 30,000 children and teens

Summer Reading engages students in reading when they are at greatest risk of reading skill loss. Library staff and volunteers are especially skilled at connecting with children and parents who may not use the library regularly or even know about the library's many programs.

Reach: 90,000 babies, children, and teens

Gifts to The Library Foundation enable the library to purchase and distribute culturally specific books that engage families in reading and open the door for librarians to have to meaningful conversations with children and their parents. These conversations introduce families to storytimes, homework help, and other library programs for children in under-resourced communities.

Reach: 29,000 books will reach more than 50,000 youth

Learning for Life

Everybody Reads engages our community in reading and discussing one inspiring, thought-provoking book each year. Thousands of high school students and adults receive copies and are able to read and discuss the chosen book. Teens in under-resourced high schools are also able to participate in discussions with the author.

Reach: 15,000 students, educators, and adults

Family Programs, virtual and in-person, engage children and adults in a wide array of educational, instructional and cultural programs offered across our community.

Reach: thousands of children, teens and adults

