

Raising Funds for the North Valley Public Library

North Valley Public Library is supported financially in a number of ways: through a local property tax/mil levy on the voters of the Stevensville and Lone Rock School districts; state dollars from the coal severance taxes for shared library projects like the Montana Shared Catalog; state aid as voted by the legislature; patron charges for services like copying, interlibrary loan, overdue fines; and generous donations from patrons and library supporters. Total anticipated revenue for 2025 in these areas is \$430,801.

To raise additional funds for the library, the nonprofit NVPL Foundation and Friends of the Library hold fundraising events throughout the year, including the Spring Soiree, Birdies for Books golf scramble (summer), Big Book Sale (fall), and Holiday Bookorations (winter). These funds can be used wherever needed, and the NVPL Foundation has initiated a separate fundraising line for the new library.

Another valuable source of funding for the library is grants, such as those received from the Rapp Family Foundation, Annie Maclay Leffingwell Trust, Ravalli Electric Cooperative's Power of Change program, and the Town Pump Foundation. Most of these grants are for \$10,000 or less, but they play a valuable role in the ongoing function, appearance, and efficiency of the library. They support programming, library holdings, computers, toys and games, and functional items that make the North Valley Public Library more inviting and accessible.

These charitable foundations provide ongoing opportunities to apply for grant funding and the **Grants Manager of the NVPL Foundation applies for applicable grants** as they are published. The content for each grant application is discussed with the Library Director and staff to determine the most urgent needs of the library.

Included here is a log of **grant activity since 2016**, demonstrating that the NVPL Foundation has a reasonably good track record with granting agencies, and we are grateful for the partnership of these generous philanthropists.

As we begin to plan for a new library building, we will continue to apply for grants that improve the function and contents at our current site on Main Street. However, none of the grants that we currently write, and many other grants that are available, **DO NOT COVER** construction. So, **we will begin a capital campaign to fund a new building**. This will include soliciting donors for gifts at all levels, as well as writing specific grants that cover construction and building costs.

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For additional questions related to the grants process, or if you know of an organization that might want to support our efforts, please contact NVPL Foundation Grants Manager Donna Bainbridge at (406) 370-4563 or email dbridge@montana.net.