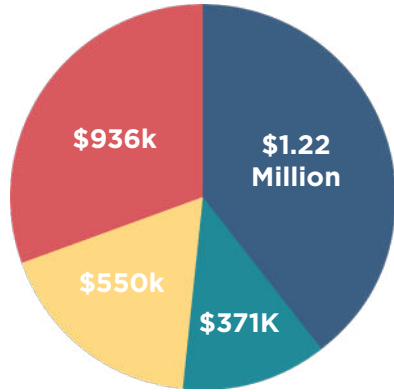


# The Friends Financial Snapshot 2023

The Friends is proud to be a financially healthy organization with a broad range of revenue streams.



## Revenue

- Grants and donations
- Event tickets, sponsorships, & donations
- Consulting services & other revenue
- Endowment draws

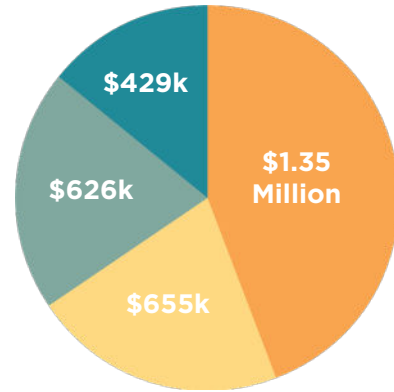
Revenue total: \$3,077,000

Our structure allows us to contribute funding as well as “people power” to libraries to boost their impact.

## Expenses

- Staff who work on fundraising, advocacy, & programming
- Direct library support
- Programs & services for libraries
- Friends operations

Expenses total: \$3,060,000



## By the Numbers

8,600+ Friends supporters	1,700+ Friends donors	3,000+ Friends program & event attendees
16 Friends staff members	41 Friends board members	49 Library grants managed

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Have you picked up your Library Passport yet?

**Discover Your Library this summer!** Stop by any Saint Paul Public Library location to pick up a free passport. Complete your passport by August 15, 2024, for the chance to win prizes! What will you discover?

Learn more at [thefriends.org/passport](https://thefriends.org/passport).



We **Believe** in Our Community.  
We **Invest** in Our Library.

Your support makes a difference.



# How The Friends Works

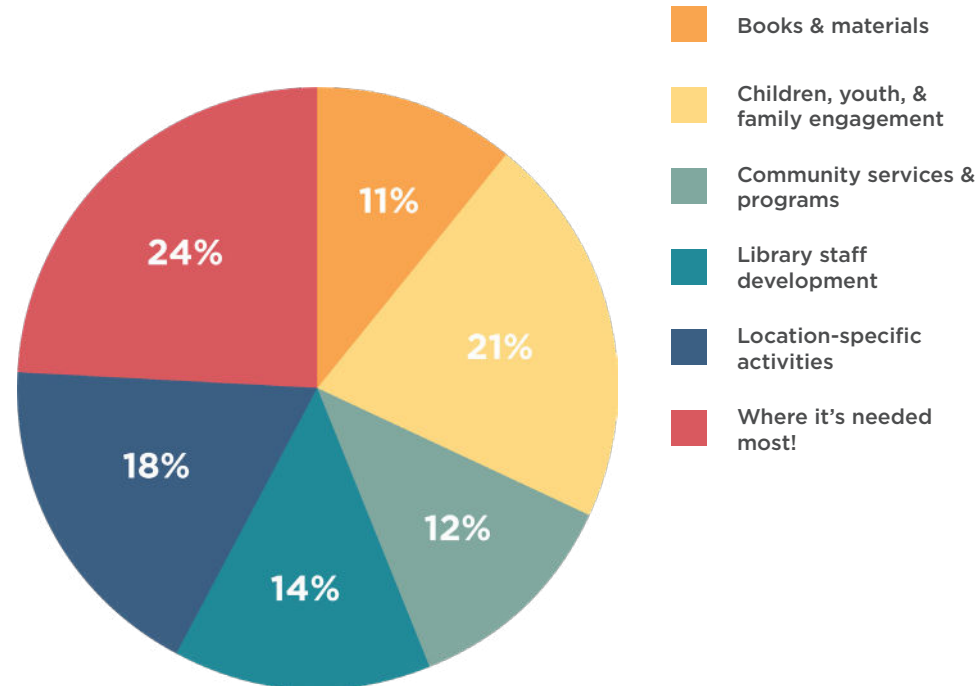
The Friends (your friendly neighborhood library support organization) invests in the Library through fundraising, advocacy, and programming. Here's a look at how that happens and the role you play.

## FUNDRAISING

Tax dollars are not enough to provide all the resources residents seek at Saint Paul Public Library. That's where The Friends comes in! **We partner with Library staff to identify and fund resources to better serve our community.**



The Friends directs funding to the Library to support the following activities:



## ADVOCACY

The Friends engages citizens and elected officials to advocate for strong public investment in the Library. **Your voice as a citizen is critical to show our legislators that residents value their library.**



**Advocacy Spotlight:** Last year we saw some big wins for our libraries:

- The state legislature increased funding for libraries across Minnesota.
- The Friends secured state funding for our work as the Minnesota Center for the Book with the help of our state legislators.
- Saint Paul City Council approved a budget that includes substantial investment in safety initiatives for our libraries and additional money for library materials (the stuff we check out!).

Learn more at [thefriends.org/advocacy](https://thefriends.org/advocacy).



## PROGRAMS & SERVICES

As Minnesota's Center for the Book, **The Friends produces dynamic programming for libraries that promotes reading and literacy for all ages and reaches every corner of the state.** We also share our expertise to support and strengthen libraries nationally through our consulting services, Library Strategies.

### By the Numbers



### Programs

<b>One Book   One Minnesota</b> Virtual, statewide book club	<b>Fireside Reading Series</b> Intimate author talks in Saint Paul libraries	<b>Moving Words</b> Discussions in libraries with Minnesota Book Award winners and finalists
<b>Minnesota Book Awards</b> Year-long program celebrating and connecting readers and writers	<b>Minnesota Writers on the Map</b> Print and digital resource for noteworthy Minnesota writers	<b>Minnesota Writers Directory</b> Digital directory of current authors in Minnesota available for engagements

