

Annual
Report
2023



Seedlings
BRAILLE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Bringing braille
books to children
around the world
for 39 years!



Jack, 2



Forest, 2

“Seedlings gave us easy, early access to braille books at a time when braille and tactile literacy was new and intimidating. To discover the Seedlings website filled with fun books took a huge weight off of us.”

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Our Mission

Seedlings is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization dedicated to increasing the opportunity for literacy and education by providing high-quality, free and low-cost children's literature in braille.

From a parent and board member

Throughout the years, Seedlings has been opening doors to endless worlds of imagination for children like my daughter, Khara. Diving into the world of braille has been an extraordinary journey for our family and the invaluable contributions of Seedlings have played a pivotal role in shaping this experience. Their commitment to fostering literacy for children with vision loss has not only enriched Khara's education, but has also transformed the way we connect as a family.

Khara has felt a special connection with Seedlings since she began receiving Seedlings' books 12 years ago. She says, "Seedlings has been so important in my journey to learning braille. They have so many books on topics I am interested in, like Stevie Wonder and Alexander Hamilton, that I couldn't find in other places. I have been able to build my own personal braille book library at home and pick up a book to read whenever I want. I can read what my friends are reading. It makes me feel included."

Having access to braille through Seedlings has not only enhanced Khara's reading skills, but has also cultivated a deep love for literature. These books are not just stories; they empower children with vision loss to independently explore narratives and ideas. Seedlings has helped us to seamlessly integrate braille literacy into our daily lives, turning reading sessions into moments of shared joy and discovery. Their unwavering dedication to promoting braille literacy has been instrumental in shaping Khara's educational journey, creating a foundation for a future filled with limitless possibilities.

We are so grateful to Seedlings' staff, volunteers and donors. Together, we can continue to positively impact the lives of children with vision loss, just like Khara.



Khara, 12

"I have been able to build my own personal braille book library at home and pick up a book to read whenever I want. I can read what my friends are reading. It makes me feel included."

Jennifer Joseph Board Member, pictured with her daughter, Khara

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The wonderful people from Alpha USA and D&B Landscaping who take hundreds of braille books to the Post Office for us every week!

2023 By the Numbers

48,254

Record total number of braille books distributed in 2023

Up 28% from 2022

32,815

Record number of FREE braille books distributed in 2023

68% of the total

730,207

All-time total number of braille books distributed

Since 1985

\$10

Average cost per book

All books are \$20 or less

95/843

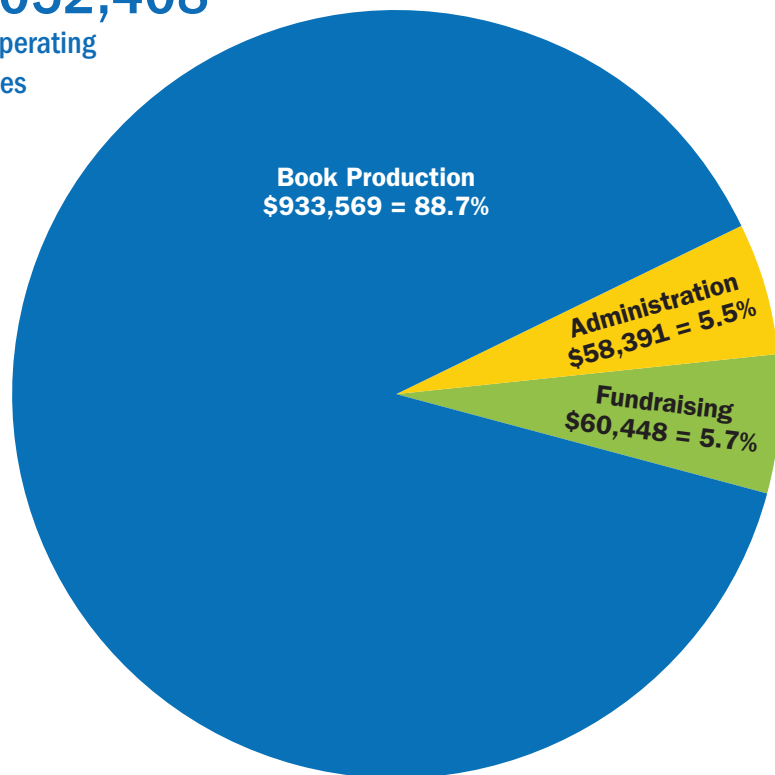
Titles converted to the new braille code / Total titles in UEB

Seedlings is a leader in this area

Historically, braille readers have far less access to books than sighted readers.

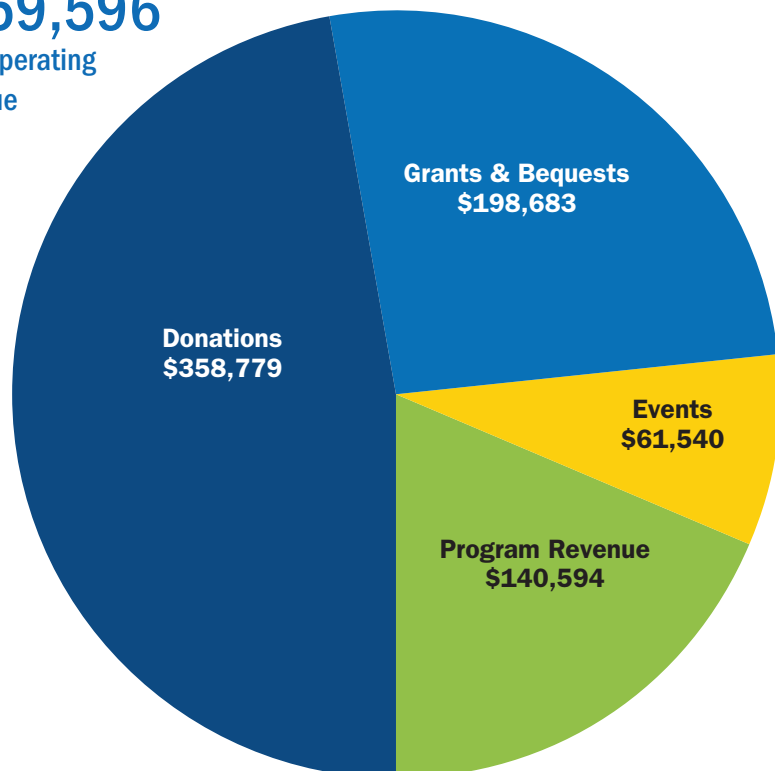
\$1,052,408

Total Operating Expenses



\$759,596

Total Operating Revenue



(All amounts are pre-audit numbers.)

2024 Goals

50,000

Produce and distribute over 50,000 braille books for children.

34,000

Give away at least 34,000 books while keeping the subsidized price of the rest to an average of less than \$10.

60

Add at least 60 new titles to Seedlings' UEB selections.

Website

Launch a new, improved website. Coming Soon!

Lettie, 3

“Lettie reads through the books by herself. She does not know braille yet but feels through the pages and tells the story. She also loves story time and feeling through the books as we read them out loud.”



FREE Book Programs

The Book Angel Program (BAP)

BAP enables every child with vision loss in the U.S. and Canada to receive 5 free braille books from Seedlings per year.

In 2023, a record 11,646 books were sent to children through this program, bringing the total to 95,605 free Book Angel books since 2002.

The Adopt-A-Reader Program (AAR)

Donors can make a big impact on a child's life through this program. By donating \$100, they are matched with a child from MI, OH, IL, or IN who then receive a box of 10 free braille books from Seedlings.

In 2023, a record 976 books were sent to AAR children with vision loss, bringing the total to 6,221 free books since 2011.

Teachers of The Visually Impaired Program (TVIP)

Our hearts go out to all the teachers who all too often have very few materials available to help them teach braille to their students.

Through TVIP teachers across the U.S. were the gracious recipients of a record 6,150 free books, bringing the total free TVIP books to 24,020 since the 2019 start of this program.

Braille for Beginners (B4B)

Getting our books into the hands of toddlers and preschoolers with vision loss became a priority when we realized that success in school and beyond depends heavily on children and their families having braille books in their homes at an early age. Through the B4B program, thousands of Print-Braille-& Picture Books are sent to Early Intervention programs across the U.S. to share with the families they serve.

In 2023, almost 10,900 free beginning books were placed in the homes of children with vision loss, more than double what was sent out in 2022. This record year brings the total of free B4B books to 22,124 since 2019.

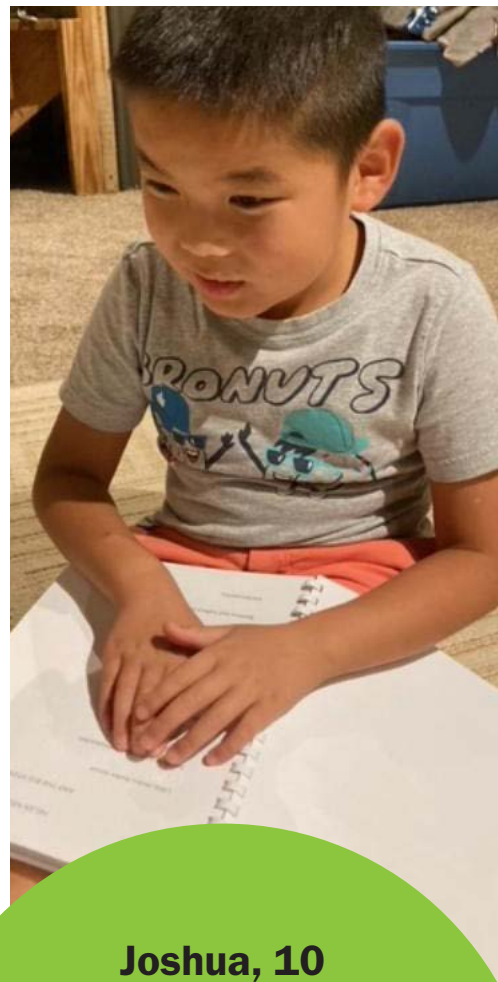
The Rose Project

Rose, our oldest free program, was established through a bequest in 1994. It enables children with vision loss to access free World Book Encyclopedia articles in braille.

In 2023, 70 braille articles were transcribed, printed, and sent to children across the U.S. to broaden their knowledge and assist with their schoolwork, bringing the grand total to over 11,250 articles.

In 2023, a record 68% of all the books distributed by Seedlings were sent free of charge!

Thank you to all of our generous donors for making these programs possible!



Joshua, 10

“My favorite chapter book is ‘James and the Giant Peach’. I like Seedlings books because then I can read the same books as my brothers and sisters.”

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Many, many thanks!

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Linnea, 3

“I’m the parent of a 3-year-old child who is DeafBlind. I love how Seedlings books facilitate literacy activities between Linnea and her three older siblings.”

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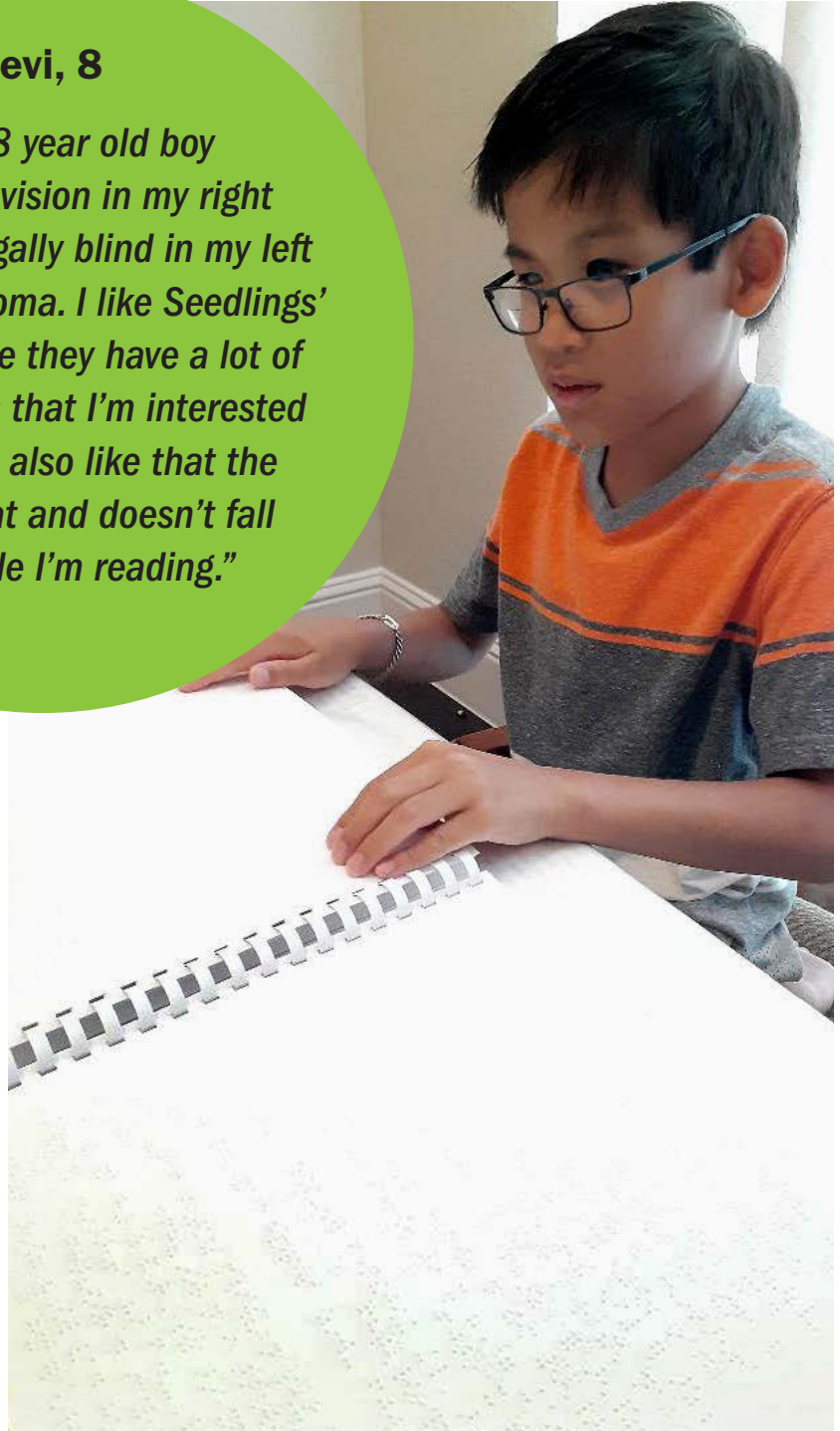
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Levi, 8

"I'm an 8 year old boy who has no vision in my right eye and am legally blind in my left eye from glaucoma. I like Seedlings' books because they have a lot of popular books that I'm interested in reading! I also like that the book lays flat and doesn't fall apart while I'm reading."

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Tarra Voigtman
Gary Vorhes
Amy Wahl
Donna Walker
Susan & Jack Ward
Jan & George
Warmuskerken
Chrystal Warren
Marilyn Watkins
Warren & Ann Watkins
Cynthia Watson
Charles Webb
Jack R. Webb
Susan Weinger
Annette Weir
Donna & Scott Wellman
Richard & Mary Welscott
Ken & Margo Wenzel



Memorial Tributes

Sue Abraham from Tom & Patti Barbuto
David Aitken from David & Carol McCreadie
Bruce Alderman from Debra Bonde
Arielle Anderson from Sara Swift
Mary Ann Arnerich from Michael & Debra Hoppe
Gerry Babin from Bob & Kathy Esper
Steve Barkley from Janet Backus
Cecilia Barrett from Tom & Marilyn Keller
Susan Moses Bartholomew from Jane & Gail Minnick
George E. Baxter from Janet Simms
Gene Bay from Gary & Sandy Salyer
Steve Beckner from Kathy Esper
Genevieve Bedard from Camille Koss
Donna Bednar from Ken & Mary Thompson
Mary Behnan from Michele Nagy
Bill Behrendt from Kathy Esper
J.B. Bell from Jane & Gail Minnick
Ed Berrigan from Marge Peltz
Patricia Beyer from Susan Newton
Merle Bingler from The Curry Family
Paul Bizak from Tom & Patti Barbuto
Rev. Paul Blomquist from Doris Edwards & Family
Lion Judy Bock from Bedford Lions Club
Anna K. Bonde from Debra Bonde, Bill & Susan Bresler, Tim & Charlene Schnelle
Fred Bongiovanni from Marge Peltz
Elizabeth (Betty) Jane Boss from Cindy Hryczyk
Patrick Brennan from Louise & Richard Nelson
Don Brennehan from Bedford Lions Club
Jackie Brennehan from Bedford Lions Club
Joanne Brickman from Rick Swaine
Katie Buffone from Bill Bialkowski
Charles Burda from Susan Burda
Mary Ann Burda from Susan Burda
Douglas Burger from Barbara & Larry Muzzin
Phyllis Burns from Melinda Girard, Michelle Milko, Douglas Sciberras
Dr. David Butler from Pete & Debbie Charnley
Sally Cabot from Erin & Rick Swaine
Vivian Callahan from Ann Devereux & Family
Matthew T. Campbell from Steve & Nancy Campbell
Helen Cantrell from William Cantrell
David Lee Carlson from Karen Schubert
Janet Carr from Debbie & Dan Catenacci
Bobbie, Bill & Nancy Cason from Debra Bonde, Spring Graf
Bruce Chambers from Bill Bialkowski
Rita Chene from Anne & John Adamus
Karen Christensen from Susan Bradley
Elwin Russell (Russ) Clark from Marilyn Vandenberg
Dennis Cochill from Carol & Bill Irvine, Camille Koss
Thomas J. Cooney from The Hryczyk Family
Judith Couture from Sharon Rose
Mary Cowper from Donna Cook, Grandpa Joe & the Gill Family
Mary Crawford from Karen Haynes
Ronald Creighton from Diane Diem
Andrew Cruthers from Marilyn Schwasta
Patrick Dahlin from Greg & Marlene Dahlin

Many people made special donations to Seedlings in 2023 in memory of friends and loved ones.

Every \$10 donation subsidized the production of one braille book, and each of these books was inscribed (in print and in braille) with the honoree's name. Thank you!

Patricia Davis from Daniel Collins, Sue Ward
Cheryl DeMatty from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz
Dawn DeRose from Sara Byczek, Chuck & Mary Risch, Dave & Doreen Sapp, Cynthia Shuereb, Daniel Urbanowicz
Dorothy DeWolff from Dea DeWolff
Marcial Dias from Ray & Nancy Doute
Crystal Dickinson from Eleanor Smith
Rita Dictor from Marilyn Hersh
Vince Dobrski from Bob & Kathy Esper
Nicole Rae Doerr from Jacquelynn Stengel
John Dombles from Camille Koss
John Dortenzo from Cindi Fluhrer
Kurt C. Drath from Erin J. Paschke
Liana Drath from Erin J. Paschke
Edward Dreslinski from Marsha Dreslinski
Caz Drygas from Marge Peltz
Robert Dubois from Michele Nagy
Michael Duby from Kenneth Wenzel
Richard Dunlap from Jane & Gail Minnick
Noretta Dunworth from Anne Adamus & Family
Don Durance from Susan Durance
Menzo & Doris Durham from Lee & Kathy Kappler
Patrick Dutton from Marilyn Hersh
Roger Dyke from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz
Herbert "Barney" Eagon, Jr. from Gary & Sandy Salyer
Eileen Eardley from Al Eardley, Robert & Barbara Eckfeld
Gladys Beach Eckardt from Susan Eckardt Misiewicz
Steven Eckber from Barbara Geller
William Eckenrode from Ray & Nancy Doute
Ellen Marie Eland from Dave Swaine, Rick Swaine
Lillian Enger from Carol & Bill Irvine
Jerry Estwick from JhaNette Rivera
MaryJane & Emil Fava from Ray & Nancy Doute
Thomas Firouz Motamed from Harold & Marilynn Gallick
Domenic Fleming from Bob & Kathy Esper
Eva Fluhrer from Carol Fluhrer
Currin Forker from Donna & Jerry Gothe
Jane Elizabeth Foust from Ray & Nancy Doute
Gilbert Francis from Sara Swift
Daniel P. Franks from Robert & Catherine Mears
Sandra Frankum from Eleanor Smith

Geraldine Franz from Angela Bednarczyk, Rita Brincat, Jean & Ray Cavaliere, John & Pam Gamache, Tom Gamache, Keegan Gore & North American Lighting, Mary & Paul Jakary, Nancy Kelel, Jeff & Diane Korona, Timothy Kubera, Cynthia Oliver, Lisa & Brian Pelton, Linda Rogers, Theresa Shepherd, The Yarnevich Family
Marcia Franz from Sue Kelel
William Franz from Sue Kelel
Brian Fraser from Sara Swift
Laurie French from Tom & Patti Barbuto
Valerie French from Tom & Patti Barbuto
Madelyne Friedman from Barbara Eisenberg & Family
Richard Frizzell from Mary Anne Merucci
Diane Marie Frushour from The Hryczyk Family
Louis M. Fucinari from Ken & Michele Nagy
Jean Gable from Carol & Bill Irvine
Paul Gach from Valerie Gach
Mollie Galate from Debra Bonde, Bill & Susan Bresler, Jeanine Courtney-Clark, Orlean Lewelling, Lou & Jean Suveg
Jeanenne Gallagher from Michelle Milko
Cecil Gatewood from Pamela Gatewood
Anne Gaul from Anita Battjes
Dan Gausman from Charlene Guggisberg
Steve Gaynor from Kathy Donagrandi
Andy George from Jerry & Denise Kwas
Monica Gershenzon from Marilyn Gutman
Christine Gilmartin from Eileen St. John
Stephanie T. Goecke from Ray & Nancy Doute
Donna June Gordon from Jane & Gail Minnick
Lerald Gray from Fred Bero
Carol Gray Pool from Gary & Sandy Salyer
Tasia Green from Elsie Rao
Pat Grosteffon from Bedford Lions Club
Rosalie Guerra from Nick Guerra
Irma Guest from Barbara Guest
Timothy Guest from Barbara Guest
Cindi Gutowski from Ann Christenson
Loretta Habecker from Retta Jones
Richard Hamilton from Sharon Rose
Bob Hannel from Sylvia & Earl Elkowitz
Bob Hardies from Patricia Lajko
Deborah Hargesheimer from Ron & Barbara Broadley
Marilyn Harmon from Mike Baxter, Marcy Dicker, Julie Hapeman, Lynn Kealey, Amy Kirkpatrick

Memorial Tributes *continued*

Tim Hatton from Maureen & Michael Seccombe

David Haupt from Ken & Jan Butler

Susan J. Hayes from Kathleen Burdette

Sandy Hemple from Randy & Teresa DeGraaf

Richard W. Hively from Iris E. Hively

Peter Hoadley from Barbara Hoadley, Russell Hoadley

Patrick Hoener from Sara Swift

Carol Holland from Ellen Bain, Ron & Barbara Broadley

Caden Holloway from Amy Lamiman

Joan Ann Holmes from Rick Swaine

Scooter Honhart from Kimberly Otto

Harry S. Hopkins, Jr. from Mary Anne Merucci

Barbara Hulburd Iannucci from Patricia Iannucci-Waller

Harvey Hunt from Tom & Marilyn Keller

Grace Irvine from Carol & Bill Irvine

Mary Jane from Joyce Costanza

Angela Jankowski from Carol & Bill Irvine

Michael Januszek from Karen Taylor

Dorothy Jarco from Patricia Jarco

Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, Jr. from Ray & Nancy Doute

Elizabeth (Betty) Slating Johnson from Cindy Hryczyk

Ted Johnson from Jackie Stengel

Elda Juengel from Anonymous Donor

Clint Kane from Marilyn Hersh

Susan Kardes from Oakland Schools SSLI

Michael A. Kartheiser from Janet Backus

Diana Katz from Susan Bilsky (The Book Club)

Josephine Kauffman from Vi Hanis, Anna Merucci & Family

Marlene Kaufman from Marilyn Hersh

Emma Jane Keller from Kathy Donagranti

Cynthia Kelly from Judith Herriff, Stephen Kelly, Cecile MacRae, Norm & Kathy Stevens

Larry Kelly from Sara Swift

Betty Kimber from Janice Porter

Joyce King from Mary Thompson

Kory M. Klubek from Marian Klubek

Donald Knoerl from Deborah Catenacci

Katherine Koellner from Eileen St. John

Austin Michael Komar from Janet Backus

Azra Konichek from Marilyn Watkins

Jay Korelitz from Debra Bonde

Nancy Korvela from Anita Battjes

Rebecca Korzec from Erin & Rick Swaine

Patricia Kowalske from Sara Swift

George Kramar from Harold & Marilyn Gallick

Ruth La Cascia from Eileen St. John

Joan LaForest from Joan Allen

John E. Lahr from Elsie Hannigan

Linda LaLonde from Bob & Kathy Esper

Gay Larken from Nancy Schulz

Lisa Renee LaVigne from Sara Swift

Jack Lawrence from Ken & Mary Thompson

Jean Leahey from Eileen St. John

Kathy Leahy from David Swaine, Erin & Rick Swaine

Kim Learned from Anonymous Donor

Elsie Catherine Lee from Sara & Lynn Swift

Maurice Lefford from Sharon Kirchner

Rachel Leja from Denise Bagozzi, The Bagozzi Family, Ashley & Garrett Frazier, Ronald & Gayle Kucharski

William "Bill" Lennox from Diane Diem

Msgn. Peter Lentine from Mrs. Burt Thomas Weyhing III

Joanne D. LeVon from Michael LeVon

Bill Lewelling from Beverly & Paul Bogoslaw, Orlean Lewelling

Cole Lewis from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Carol Beth Lexby from John & Barbara Sullivan

Patricia Lillie from David & Carol McCreadie

Kathy Lindstrand from Charlene Guggisberg

Carol Sue Lintz from William Bialkowski

Audrey Liptow from Tom & Marilyn Keller

Dick Loncar from Marge Peltz

Melvin Losey from Lee & Kathy Kappler

Bernice Love from Mark & Kimberly Love

Anthony Lumia, Jr. from Ray & Nancy Doute

Matthew Madigan from Sara Swift

Kristyn Mahle from Judie & Dennis Mahle

Walter Maile from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Evelyn Maison from Lori & John Stofflett

Louise Manning from Jane & Gail Minnick

N. Lucille Martin from Kerry & Sharon Holmes

Ed Mayausky from Kathy Esper

Carolyn McAlpine from Sara Swift

Stuart McCann from Christine Cahill

Helen & Tom McCarthy from Eileen St. John

Mary McCarthy from Eileen St. John

Ron McComas from Christine Cahill

Keweenaw McGinty from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz

Kona McGinty from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz

Maureen McLachlan from Christine Cahill

Mrs P. McLaren from Susan McLaren

John McMahan, Sr. from Nancy & Dave Hanna

Mary Lou Megge from Arlene Gothe, Gerald Gothe

Frances Melaragni from Anna Merucci

Mark Mendes from Eileen St. John

Betty Jean Mervis from Carol Fluhrer

Earl Meyers from Barbara Geller

Sister Eileen Meyers, OP from Don & Gail Barthauer

Nicole Miaza Winekoff from Phyllis & Jackie Stengel & Jackie Shriner

Bruce Allen Middleton, Jr., J.D. from Jackie Stengel

Sally Miller from Christine Cahill

Yvette "Bunny" Mizner from Adrienne Gersten

Marjorie Monaghan from Sara Swift

Richard Monnette from Ray & Nancy Doute, Jerry & Denise Kwas

Shirley A. Monto from University of Toledo Medical Center - Administration

Aunt Ruth Morgan from Carole Bloomfield

Kimberly Morgan from Michelle Milko

Elaine Perkins Morse from Nancy Duffy, Jeanne Perkins

Dan Mullen from Marilyn Hersh

Mary Ellen Murphy from Cindy Hryczyk

Gerald Myers from Rick Swaine

William Thomas Myers from Mrs. Burt Thomas Weyhing III

Helen Nett from Ann Christenson, Bob & Linda Grimm, Paul & Pat Leplae

John Francis (Jack) Newlon from Ray & Nancy Doute

Irene "Ducky" Nole from Rita Howell

Maxine Norden from Mark & Rochelle Ranta

Jimmy O'Callaghan from Eileen St. John

Joseph Michael Owens from David Titus

Michael Joseph Owens from David Titus

Maria Pagliari from Anna Merucci & Family

James Pardo from Bruce Paige & Diane Diem

Jerry L. Partovich from Iris & Milton Zaft

E. H. Paschke from Erin Paschke

Tom & Joan Patterson from Theodore & Valentina Katikos, Ken Patterson, Ralph Sovran, Ann Wilkes

Jerry Peck from John & Lori Stofflett

Carol Ann Pelc from Alice, Sandy, Sue & Jack Horecki

Dan Pelto from Tom & Marilyn Keller

Cheryl Peplinski from Amanda Hercula

Jay Pepper from Lori Stofflett

Rosemary Perkins from Jerry & Denise Kwas

Neil M. Perry from Gary Bukwaz

Joan Petersen from Deborah Myers

Zoe Angelinh Peterson from The Nelson Family
Marjorie Jane Petroskey from Debra Bonde, Ray & Nancy Doute, Ted & Terri Langlois, Erin Swaine, Richard & Regina Wysocki

Celina Pitt from Nancy & Sheldon Satovsky

Peggy Pitt from Sheila Berman Kohn

Kurt Pochert from Ron & Anita Battjes

Sue Podczervinski from Erin Swaine

Gary Pollack from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz

Marilyn Popyk from Mary Anne Merucci

Carol Prenz from Cindi Fluhrer

William Przbyski from Bill Bialkowski

Karen Rajnish from Gary & Amelia Bukwaz

Rachel J. Rayson from Denise & David Levy

Peter E. Recker from Linda Flohr

Irene Riley from Janice Riley

Anthony Albert Rinaldi from Ray & Nancy Doute

Kathleen Rivetti from Mary Ann Mlynarski

Mary Ruth Roberts from Janet Backus

John Robinson from Jim & Karen Boydston, Steven & Susan Brennan, Su Brinson, Lori & Mike Callahan, The Daugherty Family, Christine Janisse, Kapnick & Company, Dean & Marilyn Kinsman, Lily Palaj, Kris Pattenau, Janet & Leo Robinson, Martha Robinson, James & Deborah Smith

Elizabeth K. Rochon from Lorraine Rochon

Sandy & Wendy Rossin from Art & Debra Hirshfield

Jennifer Rowe from Mary Rowe

Linda Ruby from Sandy Stahl

Roxy Rudolph from Donna & Jerry Gothe

Kevin Rushford from Erin & Rick Swaine

Ali Saad from Sandra Stahl

Dee Sadlowski from Michael Berman

Edward J. Salamon from Helen Jenkins

Elizabeth Salamon from Helen Jenkins

Tracy Salisbury from Michelle Hyatt

Ingrid Sandberg from Ray Sandberg

Marcia C. (Guerra) Sansotta from Nick Guerra

Janie Savage from Carol & Bill Irvine

Emma, 2

“Seedlings has been an amazing blessing to us, helping build a braille library for her from the start. Emma loves to read and books have helped significantly with language development. Emma has three older brothers and reading has been a great activity to help with bonding as well.”



Aiden Saveski from Carol & Bill Irvine

Dennis Clayton Schlemmer from Cindy Hryczyk/
Brawley Family

Blake Schmidt from Michele Danilowicz

Bonnie Schmidt from Dan & Marilyn Harmon

Janet Schooly from Marlene Kolodziej

Judi Schwartz from Sara Swift

Kevin Schwiderson from David Swaine

Lane Seaholm from The Nelson Family

Shirley Seewald from Joanne Camiller

Aurora Serra from Anna Merucci & Family

Bill Sherman from Lynn Swift, Sara Swift

Mel Shewach from Michael Berman, Michael &
Margaret LeVon, Cheryl Shewach

Lucy Shinozaki from Art & Debra Hirshfield

Lance R. Short from Ray & Nancy Doute

Ruth Sibert from Mary Anne Merucci

Salvatore Sicoli from The Hryczyk Family

Robert Singbiel from Robert & Catherine Mears

Kimberly Renee Skoczylas from Ray & Nancy
Doute

Cole Ryan Smith from Terry & Lynn Smith

Val Smith from Janet Anderson

Edith Snider from Laura Snider-Feldmesser

Khaldie Mahmoud Sobh from Cindy Hryczyk

Ann Springer from Michael & Debra Hoppe

Betty St. John from Eileen St. John

Chris St. John from Eileen St. John

Art Stachecki from Lois Willett

Joanne E. Stahl from Julie Stahl

Emily Stankus from Renee Fisher & St. Mary
Hospital - Endo, Tina Glowski, Gail Ian, Anna Lage,
Sharron Laing, Susan Morman, Cynthia Stankus
Nadeau, Robert & Suzanne Nix, Karen Pardo, Ryan
Pirooz, Marilyn Pobanz, Tammy Staub & the Anesthesia
Family, Trinity Health Livonia Operating Room, Tarra
Voigtman, Charlotte Werthern

Bill Stano from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Thomas Starosciak from David Titus

Kathryn Stedman from Janice Fatt

Alice Steffl from Charlene Guggisberg

Norma Stewart from Debra Bonde

Ray Stewart from Debra Bonde

Arlene Stimac from Carol Ayala, Ken & Jan Butler,
Deborah Lassiter

Florence Theresa Stockman from Rita Howell

Steve Sutara from Cindi Fluhrer

Alex Swanson from Ray & Nancy Doute, Susan
Weinger

Patricia Swartz from Marilyn Hersh

Bob Terrabassi from Barbara Hart

Don Tessmer from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Shirley Thomas from Sally Belanger

William Thomas from Lynn Liddle

Carolyn A. Thornton from The Cole Family

Ed Thornton from Aaron Dick

Mary Tito from Marge Peltz

Carol & Greg Toporek from Erin Paschke

Maria Van Loon from Patricia Lajko

Hannah Vander Vlucht from The Bedford Lions Club

Ray Vargovick from Ron & Barbara Broadley

Patrick Ryan Vaughan from Judie & Dennis Mahle

Phyllis Vecore from Tom & Marilyn Keller

Alexandria Verner from Sara Swift

Kathleen Villeneuve from Theresa Brousseau

David Vitali from Linda Vitali

Michael Walker, Jr. from Jacquelynn Stengel

Otis Ward from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Alberta Weaver from Catherine Cheslak

Charles Welsh from Erin Paschke

Burt Thomas Weyhing III MD from Mrs. Burt
Thomas Weyhing III

Thomas L. Wheeler, Jr. from Ray & Nancy Doute

Frances Whited from Michele & Ken Nagy

Meredith Whittaker from Gordon & Carol Johnson

Shirley P. Wieleba from Joanne Keefer

Ingrid Willemsen from Sharon & Tom Tate

Bob Williams from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Betty J. Wise from Laura Berkowitz

Virginia Wulliman from Dan & Marilyn Harmon

Dale Young from Bob & Kathy Esper

LaVerne Zabel from Charlene Guggisberg

Cal Zanewski from Ray & Nancy Doute

Crystal Zara from Christine Cahill

Janice Ann Zatell from Sherry, Josh, Deb, Jen,
Tameka, Sally B., Jacque, Pam, Julie, Tracy, Tori, Brea,
Laura, Lis, Jen

Thomas Zuchowski from Lori Stofflett

Benny from Tom & Patti Barbuto

Bob from Kenneth & Andrea Sanke

Bob and Maggie from Pat Yakel

Victoria from Irene Clancy

Honor Tributes

Joan Allen in honor of Leo's 5th Birthday

Peggy Aneiros in honor of Rick Aneiros Family

Bob Appelle in honor of Renee Rockhold, Steve & Sally VanRaemdonck, Sara VanRaemdonck, Phil & Nancy Peters, Mark & Julie Diebel, Frank & Kathy Gallo, Paul Appelle, Rick Appelle, Debbie & Reggie Dimattia, Jim & Deanna Behring, David & Cindy Brookes, Kim & Laura White, Bob & Denise White, Dennis & Susan Phillips, Gary Jacob, Rick Jacob, Dave Bombard & Gena Cocco, Gary & Sharon Smits, Don & Ann Platz, Dan & Leslie Keratin, Nancy & Steve Weber

Gary Bailey in honor of Ella Muñoz

William Bialkowski in honor of Walter "Butch" Zajcz

Ray Blaszkiewicz in honor of Ray & Rosemary Blaszkiewicz

Rosemary Blaszkiewicz in honor of Julie & Paul Garvey's 50th Anniversary, Kim McKnight, Eileen Bridenstine, Bernice Washington

Beverly & Paul Bogoslaw in honor of Orlean Lewelling, Orlean Lewelling's 85th Birthday

Debra Bonde in honor of friends and family

Susan Bradley in honor of Sarah Bradley, Mel Bradley, Eric Zarfes, Ariel Zarfes, Marty Finkelshteyn

Deborah Braunstein in honor of Mr. John Scioscia, Lisa Zeiler, Joelle Kupras

Shirley Brown in honor of Pam & Andy Gustafson, Sandi & Ken Banks, Peggy & Greg Sowders, Barb & Randy Frank, Sharon Montagna

Susan Burda in honor of Jeremy Smith, Aimee Smith, Raina Smith, Kate Fok, Kevin Fok

Julie Burger in honor of Deb Novak's Retirement

Catherine Camilleri in honor of Charlie Camilleri

Deborah Catenacci in honor of Joann Knoerl

Pete & Debbie Charnley in honor of Mary Kaye Neumann's Retirement, Dean Adamian, Kim Sorenson, Larry Svally, Matt Charnley, Katie Worley, Steve Charnley, Pete & Debbie Charnley, Paul & Karen Worley

Curtis & Mary Chase in honor of Susan Soulard

Georgia Cheek in honor of Shae, Nora

Cathie Cheslak in honor of Ernie Kuck's 90th Birthday

Rita Cheyne in honor of Michele Richard's 80th Birthday

Denni & Bob Chiavarini in honor of CaraLynn Pender, Clint Chiavarini, Stacy Harrop, Dax Chiavarini, Ivy Chiavarini, Katie Chiavarini, Cameron Bergmans, Dawn & Jeff Thorne

Pamela Chichila in honor of Chris Chichila, Nicole, Ashley, Alex, Daniel, Kailee, Lillian, Gideon, Matthew, Pamela, Brian, Lisa, Monica, Liz, Megan, Joyce, David, John Basim, Joyce Basim, Jeffrey, Beth, Brianah, Brody, Todd, Jenny, Kaitlyn, Nate, Melaine, Haley, Larry

Gary Chuslo in honor of Brenda Chuslo

Irene Clancy in honor of Monika

Dennis & Mary Lynn Colwell in honor of Becky Hunter

Megan Correira in honor of Kathy Ness, Victoria Carreau, Shannon Panus, Bianca Fillion, Julie White, Kristin Dawson, Kristyn Albergaria, Jenna Sorensen, Meghan Kusina, Christine Lefebvre, Emma Quinn

Rebecca Curry in honor of Art Stow's Retirement

The Curry Family in honor of Sandip Pal

Sammi, Chad, Jeremy, Erica Cutler in honor of Jim Tesen

Pam Davis in honor of Grace Evans, Drew & Jennifer, Janiece Davis, Rindy Hubka, Sarah & Andrew

Many people made special donations to Seedlings in 2023 in honor of friends and loved ones.

Every \$10 donation subsidized the production of one braille book, and each of these books was inscribed (in print and in braille) with the honoree's name. Thank you!

Dea DeWolff in honor of Matt & Lisa

Teri DiCicco in honor of Dan Maclver of F&PA

Barbara Diem in honor of Castro's exemplary life

Diane Diem in honor of Ronaele Bowman

Marsha Dreslinski in honor of Norman & Florence Osborn

Mrs. & Mrs. Raymond A. Duff II in honor of Wesley Duff, Michael Duff, Kyle Duff, Alaina Duff, Mark Duff, Alexa Duff, Sandra L. Rogers, Sandra O. Rogers, Patricia Knudsen, Carolyn Danielson

Sam & Kim Falk in honor of Monique Petersen, Lorenz Petersen, Stephan Petersen, Angela Petersen

Mary Filicetti in honor of Daniela Brancaforte

Susan Fisher in honor of Nafisa Keels, Sue Melrose, Debbie Siegel, Judy Matsuoka, Donna Hernandez

Kimberly Franck in honor of Mrs. Marley, Dr. Snyder, Mrs. Bell, Ms. Cameron

Brittany Galisdorfer in honor of Dawn DeRose

Lois Gdowski in honor of Janis Burkhardt

Lee Geraci, Katie Moore, Dominic Geraci, Josie Geraci, Gio Geraci in honor of Charlotte "Mimi" Moore

Tama Gorman in honor of Parker, Zoe, Oliver, Anne & Elsie, Raelen & Finn

Karen Greenwood in honor of Jaxon & Teddy

Marsha Grimstad in honor of Fran Copp's Birthday

Sally Grubb in honor of Ms. Taline Grubb

Pamela & Andrew Gustafson in honor of Shirley Brown

Paul Haley in honor of Family & Friends

Marilyn & Jesse Harmon in honor of Matthew Kickbush's Retirement, Julie Hapeman's PhD, Rita Riekoff's Graduation, Nancy Sterling, Lisa Schermerhorn's National Board Certification, Rachelle Gardner's National Board Certification

Karen Hayes in honor of Lisa Pestello, Daren Reed, Michelle Shaw, Christa Foolkes

Keith & Kate Hayes in honor of David and Rose Scovel, Holly Ward, Heather Barta, Jo Gantzer, Ed Gantzer, Christie and Tony Hamel

Mary Himm in honor of Vi Hanis' 99th Birthday

Vincent & Kathleen Hirschbeck in honor of Jace Broadbin

Retta Jones in honor of Nelson & Annie Habecker, Glennis Habecker, Rob Yanotti, Stephanie Breckenridge, Zack Breckenridge, Taryn Breckenridge, Nancy Breckenridge, Brandon Persico, Brandon Romero, Pat Baker, Laura Howard, Arnold Bellmer, Denise Bellmer, Morgan Bellmer

Mary Ellen Kaas in honor of Chris & Bob McCaffrey

Nina & Jeff Kellogg in honor of The Gill Family, The Auster Family, The family of Alan Kellogg, The family of Donald R. Kellogg, Jr., The Lent Family, Judy and Tom Pitura, Carol Lancaster and Steve King, Boo Fumagalli, Roxanne Surace, Lisa Burke, Ellen Calves, Elena Rover and Calvin Strothenke, Hank and Jackie Bergson, All at BluePath Service Dogs, The Tschorn Family, Cathy and Craig Brownell, Alice M. Kellogg, Corey A. Brownell, Nina Catherine Kellogg Brownell, Patrick Elliot Kellogg Brownell, Jeffery H. Kellogg, James H. Kellogg

Carol Kilsdonk in honor of Del Sellers' 90th Birthday

Debra Kingsbury in honor of James Bentley, Lathan Kingsbury, Reagan Kingsbury, Lorelei Kingsbury, Savannah Kingsbury

Marian Klubek in honor of Kathleen & Michael Szewczyk, Jerry & Nicole Klubek, Kevin & Kimberly Klubek, Kenneth Klubek, Kristy & Robert Georgick, Kimberly Klubek, Kristopher Klubek

Rhoda Knight in honor of Rosezina A. Moore, Cardilia Love, Kim R. Love, Shanda D. Knight, Logan D. Knight, Mariah M. Knight, Roxanne Davis, Shauna Stokes, Wanneta Perkins Hill, Antoine K. Nixon

Jonathan & Linda Koester in honor of Ms. Marjorie Scott, Ms. Virginia Sowizrol

Linda Koester in honor of Caleb and Collin Koester

Sheila Kohn in honor of Claire Galed

Leigh Krauss in honor of Diane Ledbetter

Nancy Krumaker in honor of Patty McConville, Jenifer Robin, Antoinette Marasco, Nick Pittman/NorEasterNick, Aunt Bridget and Uncle Tom Snebold

Marilyn & Andy Kurmas in honor of the birth of Violet Cova Gonzalez

Karen & Lou LaCava in honor of Megan LaCava's Birthday

Michelle & Justin Lair in honor of Madeline Lair, Charlie Lair, Mike & Linda Bierbaum, John & Carol Lair

Katie Lazcano in honor of Irene Riley

Kathy Lewelling in honor of Bill & Orlean Lewelling

Orlean Lewelling in honor of Kathy, Steve, & Will Walsh

Kathy Lipinski in honor of Lucy Spokas

Belinda Long in honor of Gracie Long, Anthony Long, Lucy Mallis, Rosie Mallis, Estella Santos, Frankie Santos

Donna MacKinley in honor of Edward Thornhill

Kris Maedel in honor of Mitchell Maedel

Bob & Chris McCaffrey in honor of James McCaffrey, Matthew McCaffrey, Crystal Kosebutzki, Carly McCaffrey, Mel Kaas

Jo McConahay in honor of Teachers Everywhere

Kim McKnight in honor of Karen & Ed

Jim & Jeanne Meddaugh in honor of Jason Meddaugh

Ron & Sharon Miller in honor of Darlene & Jeff Ebersole, Karen & Rod Vasold

Jeff & Melissa Minor in honor of Shari & Dave Howell

Susan Newton in honor of Robert Beyer

Mary Oches in honor of Lorraine Mangini

Judi Odiorne in honor of Marlene Visconti

Laura Otten in honor of Carol Otten

Angela Pachucki in honor of Rita Alexandra Lindeman, Theodore David Lindeman, Genevieve Bell Pachucki, Daniel Charles Lindeman, Audrey Gail Pachucki, Bolling Michael Pachucki, Hayden Victor Pachucki, Iris Marie Pachucki

Linda Sue Park in honor of Rabbi Lauren Tuchman

Marcia Pavkovich in honor of Margaret Ridley, Megan Bachus, Dianna Myers, Darla Jackson, Ellen Pavkovich

Marge Peltz in honor of Marilyn & Don Colucci's 70th Anniversary

Patricia Peters in honor of Dombroski Family, Peters Family, White Family, Turney Family

Maureen Polania in honor of Tamara Torres' Birthday

Nancy Pratt in honor of Makayla B. McAdams & her mom Jami Jaques

Mark & Rochelle Ranta in honor of William Picker

Elsie Rao in honor of Gary Dobbs

Rock Springs Elementary 2nd Grade Class in honor of Jamie Barnett

Rita Rogers in honor of Hayden Presley, Katie Presley

Danelle Rondinelli in honor of Rick & Erin Swaine

Sharon Rose in honor of Sharon Kirchner's Birthday

Erin Sager in honor of Jenny Siguenza, Holly Hill, Audrey Goldberg, Stephanie Almquist, Joshua Redford, Grandma & Grandpa Sager, Paul Wicker & Deb Martin, Nancy Chwalik, Mary Williams Olsen, John Wicker & Carol Schave

Eileen St. John in honor of Joseph La Cascia

Raymond Sandberg in honor of Mrs. Ingrid M. Sandberg

Kenneth & Andrea Sanke in honor of Petrina

Lisa Savage in honor of Henrietta C. Howard

Mintzi Schramm in honor of Judy Goldwasser's Birthday

Marilyn Schwasta in honor of Chris McCaffery's Birthday

Barbara Scully in honor of Jack Scully, Jenna Scully, Mario Scully, Orion Zalewski

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Seletyn in honor of The Ohio State School for the Blind

Gramps John Simek in honor of Abby Simek

Nanne Simonds in honor of Mr. Dean Fisher, Ms. Gretchen Ross, Ms. Alex Ann Arnold, Ms. Stephanie Lamarre, Mr. Jack Lamarre, Miss Elise Lamarre, Mr. Timothy Simonds, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Simonds, Miss Reilly Simonds, Nick Simonds, Finn Simonds, Tuck Simonds, Ms. Iligene Anderson, Ms. Barbara Spoerl, Mrs. Janet Turley, Ms. Gege Brightman, Mr. Martin Schmidt, Mr. Robert Singer, Mr. Jim Wells, Mrs. Judy Wells

Dr. Fred W. Singleton in honor of Erin K. Knight

Gail & Eugene Smoler in honor of Lorry Cooper's 80th Birthday

Joyce Snyder in honor of Patti Krebsbach

Kathy Snyder in honor of Ana Perry, Amber Harrell, Sophie Harrell, Lauren Scroggins, Diane Taylor, Danny & Pat Patton, Julius Smoore, Mary Heindsley, Carolyn & Ronald Turner, Nakesha Byars

Peggie Sowder in honor of Shirley Brown

Staff of Livonia Ophthalmologists in honor of Dr. Jeffrey Lupovitch, Dr. Michelle Kornblum

Sandra Stahl in honor of Roy & Denise Glicklin's Anniversary, David & Lainie Rabinowitz's Anniversary

Sterling Heights Lioness Lions Club in honor of Lorraine Starnes, Lioness Lion Valerie Gach

Beth Stofflett in honor of Amanda Bird, Michelle Mendenhall

John & Lori Stofflett in honor of Judy Smedberg's Birthday

John, Lori, Jared & Beth Stofflett in honor of Ray Salo's Retirement

Anna Swenson & Mary Filicetti in honor of Ken Marty

Sara Swift in honor of Judi Hoener's 80th Birthday, Barbara Navoy's 90th Birthday, Clifford Ferrari's 7th Birthday, Tony Ferrari's 80th Birthday, Joan McCormick's 80th Birthday, Brian McCormick's 80th Birthday, Frank Strickland's Birthday, Marianne Strickland's Birthday

Pat & Bill Tancill in honor of Megan & Jake Carlson, Jack Tancill, Nick Tancill, Connor Moran, Maddie Moran, Will Moran, Alex Gray, Nate Gray, Lyn & Tim Sutton, Denise & Jim Biga

Chloe Thomas in honor of Dawn Horning

Sally VanRaemdonck in honor of Bob Appelle and Stephanie Petoniak

Sue Ward in honor of Beth Mascaro, Bette Knedgen, Donna Roemer, Diane Janes, Cheri Muchow

Susan & Mike Wernet in honor of Susan LaBurn's Birthday

Mrs. Burt Thomas Weyhing III in honor of Winnifred Claire Weyhing, Burt Thomas Weyhing V, Andrea Lucia Weyhing, Marco Thomas Weyhing, Orazio August Weyhing, Adela Beatrice Weyhing, Cora Michal Myers, Lorelei Llyn Myers, Emily Egan Marck, Cornelia Egan Dompier, Fr. Donald Worthy, Michael E. Reynolds, Beth Lukhard

Linda Widstrand in honor of Jake Perkins

James Wilson in honor of Al Eardley

Rose & Larry Worobec in honor of Betty MacGregor's 90th Birthday

Michele Zimmerman in honor of Dawn DeRose

Gabe, 11

“For the past 11 years, Seedlings has been our main source for hard copy braille books. Even though Gabe can now access audio books or electronic braille via technology, he still has a preference and love for Seedlings books.”



Special Gifts and Fundraising Events

America's Best Charities, National

Government Employees donated to Seedlings through payroll deductions

Anonymous Donors

Bought items for Seedlings from our Amazon Wish List

Benevity Donors, National

Online Donations

City of Farmington Hills, MI Staff

Casual Day Donations

Facebook Donations, National

Facebook users designated Seedlings as the recipient for special fundraisers

Garden Party Art Show hosted by Diane Irvine

A portion of the proceeds from the Art Show were donated to Seedlings

Kroger Community Rewards, Michigan

Customers designated Seedlings to receive a percentage of sales

Network for Good Donors, National

Online Donations

Rock Springs 2nd Grade Class' Soup Fundraiser

These enterprising 2nd graders raised enough money to make 23 braille books possible

Roy O'Brien Ford, St. Clair Shores, MI

Jeans Day for Seedlings

Thrivent Financial, Members' Choice Dollars, National

Members selected Seedlings to receive their Thrivent Choice Dollars

Create a special fundraising event for your group or office!

Corporate Donations

Alpha USA

Amazon Smile Foundation

American Thermoform Corp.

Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company

Attendance on Demand

The Auto Club Group

Bank of America

Bill Brown Ford

Blackwell Ford, Inc.

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Consolidated Document Solutions

Corewell Health

D&B Landscaping, Inc.

Embassy Title Agency, Inc.

Enviro-Tote, Inc.

EPK Design

First Centennial Title Agency

GBU Financial Life

Homepoint Mortgage Company:

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Kapnick & Company, Inc.

Kresge Foundation

Kroger

Lake Michigan Credit Union

Lesnau Printing Co.

Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC

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Michigan Educational Credit Union

Mikula Dental

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American Revolution: Louisa St. Clair

Chapter & Monguagon Chapter

PNC Financial Services

Shaw Construction & Management

SensComp

SkyOak Wealth

Thrivent Financial

Vericast

Vibe Credit Union

Weingartz Livonia

Wells Fargo Foundation

Wolverine Orthotics, Inc.

World Book

YourCause, LLC

Book Sponsors and UEB Conversion Sponsors

Transcribing new titles into braille is time-consuming and costly. In 2016, the new Unified English Braille Code (UEB) was adopted in the U.S. which requires us to convert existing titles to the new code. This is also an expensive and time-consuming process.

We turned to our loyal supporters for help ... *and as always, we were overwhelmed by your response!*

A \$1,000 contribution enables the launch of a new title.

A \$500 donation enables the conversion of a title to the new braille code.

Book Sponsors

Helped launch 19 new titles!

Garrett Family Foundation

Nick Guerra *in memory of Marcia C. (Guerra) Sansotta & Rosalie J. Guerra*

Barbara Hoadley *in memory of Peter H. Hoadley*

Retta Jones *in memory of Loretta Habecker*

Charles Pokriefka

Tim Schmidt-Eisenlohr *in honor of Luise Schmidt-Eisenlohr*

Ellen Sousa

Donna Weigel & Don Hubler *in honor of Oliver John*

UEB Conversion Sponsors

Helped convert 41 titles to UEB!

Shirley Brown

Curtis & Mary Chase *in honor of Susan Souldard*

Susan Durance *in memory of Don Durance*

Doris Edwards & Family

Carol & Gordon Johnson

The Livonia Lions Club

Thomas & Patricia Meyers

Kenneth & Andrea Sanke

Gary Vorhes

Group Donations

Altrusa International of Grand Rapids
American Business Women's Association:
Novi Oaks Chapter
Bedford Township Lions Club
Beverly Hills Lions Club
Canton Lions Club
Dearborn Heights Lions Club
Delta Gamma: Ann Arbor Alumnae
Delta Gamma: Detroit East Alumnae
Delta Gamma: Detroit West Suburban Alumnae
Delta Kappa Gamma: Gamma Alpha
Delta Kappa Gamma: Gamma Gamma
Elyria Charities
Employees of the City of Farmington Hills
Employees of Roy O'Brien Ford
Friends of the Novi Public Library
Harley's Wallet
Harmony Town Chorus
Harper Woods/Grosse Pointe Woods
Lions Club
Jewish Women International Bowling
Association
Knights of Columbus: St. Francis
Council No. 4401

Lake Orion Lioness/Lions Club
Lakewood Area Lions Club
Lathrup Village Lions Club
Leader Dogs for the Blind
Livonia AM Rotary Club
Livonia Lions Club
Livonia Rotary Club
Livonia Town Hall
Livonia Towne Club
Mahjongg Mavens
Meadowbrook Woman's Club
Michigan Treasure Hunters
New Baltimore Lions Club
Northville Lions Club
Northville Womans Club
Plymouth Lions Club
Rock Springs Elementary -
Second Grade, Denver, NC
Rockwood Area Lions Club
Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church
Royal Oak Lions Club
St. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran Church,
St. Louis, MO

St. Mary Magdalen Parish Women's Guild,
Grand Rapids, MI
Southern Dames of America
Staff of Livonia Ophthalmologists
Sterling Heights Lioness Club
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Trenton Lions Club
Troy Community Lions
Troy Women's Association
United Way of the Capital Region
Wayne Lions Club
Westland Lions Club
Wixom-Walled Lake Lions Club
Wyandotte Lions Club
Wyoming Lions Club

Many groups and corporations
also made contributions to our
online auction. See page 16.

Thank You!

Grants

4Imprint: *Seedlings' apparel*
Beta Sigma Phi Endowment Fund
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
Delta Gamma Chicago West Suburban Alumnae:
Books for the Chicago Lighthouse
Delta Gamma Foundation
Eagles for Children: *Book Angel books for Michigan children*
Edward T. & Ellen K. Dryer Charitable Foundation
Elyria Charities: *Books for the Cleveland Sight Center*
Fred & Maxi Bruhns Foundation
Garrett Family Foundation: *The Book Angel Program
and launch of new titles*
Goodman Family Charitable Trust
Grosse Pointe Memorial Church
Lavelle Fund for the Blind:
*Support for the B4B, BAP, and TVIP Programs, with
an emphasis on the children of New York, New Jersey,
and Connecticut*
Livonia Community Foundation:
Books for Livonia Public Schools
Manat Foundation
Nora Roberts Foundation: *The Book Angel Program*
Oliver Dewey Marcks Foundation
Renaissance Charitable Foundation

Bequests

Hardies Family Trust:
Braille Production equipment upgrades, computers and software
Robert & Margaret Isbell Trust
Estate of Mary Grinnell

Caleb, 4

"Caleb loves to read
books! We love the
fact that Seedlings
offers a great variety
of fun books."



Annual Fall Online Auction

Prize Donors

313 Presents
A.T. Guys
ABC Warehouse
Action Wake Park
African Safari Wildlife Park
Alex & Dave's Auto Repair
Alpha USA
AMC Theatres
Angels, Saints and Stuff
Anita Cardsmart
Aqua Tots
The Ark
Athletika Sports & Fitness
Auburn Cord Duesenberg
Automobile Museum
Awrey Bakery, Minnie Marie
Bakers, Inc.
The Axe Parlor
Bad Brad's BBQ
Beth Bauman
Bavarian Belle Riverboat
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Benihana
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Brewhouse
Black Label Tavern
Bob's Discount Furniture &
Mattress Store
Debra Bonde
Bonobo Winery
Bordine's
Bounce it Up
Breakout Escape Rooms
Jerry & Linda Bricker
British Swim School
Buffalo Wild Wings
Bundled
Busch's Market
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Captain Joe's Grill
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Chang-Hon Tae Kwon Do
Academy
Debbie & Pete Charnley
Cherry Republic
Chevrolet Detroit Grand
Prix by Lear
Chick-fil-a
Carolyn Clifford, WXYZ TV
Detroit
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Community Choice Credit
Union
Cooper's Hawk Winery &
Restaurant
Cottage Inn Pizza
Creation Museum
D&G Heating and Cooling
Daly Restaurant
Deadwood Bar & Grill

DeLuca's Westland
Detroit Can Company
Detroit Institute of Arts
Detroit Lions
Detroit Pistons
Detroit Princess Riverboat
Detroit Red Wings
Detroit Rolling Pub & Cycle
Boat
Detroit Tigers
Detroit Zoological Society
Ann Devereux & Family
DFCU
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Dough Joe's Chocolates
Dow Gardens
Pete Eckert
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Embassy Suites Detroit
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Famous Dave's
Cindy & Todd Fleming
Fox Hills Golf & Banquet
Center
Frederik Meijer Gardens
French Toast
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Germack Pistachio Co.
Glass Bottom Shipwreck
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Golden Gifts Jewelers
Grand Hotel
Grand Traverse Pie Company
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Great Lakes ACE Hardware
Great Lakes Shipwreck
Museum
Green Oaks Golf Course
Karen Hamelink
Hand & Stone Massage
and Facial Spa
Linda Hautala
Rebecca Hercula
Hilton Garden Inn
Holiday Inn Express
Marcella & Allen Holmes
Home Depot
Honey Baked Ham
Honey Tree Grille
Hunts ACE Hardware
Hyatt Place Detroit/Novi
iFly - Indoor Skydiving
Carol & Bill Irvine
J. Alexander's Restaurant
Jersey Mike's Subs
Jet's Pizza
Joe's Produce

Joyview Meat Market
Kawai Piano Gallery of
Michigan
Jessica Kusku
La Bistecca Italian Grille
Las Palapas
John Lawrence
Leda's Coney Island
Diana LeVangie
Barbara Lewis
Livonia Civic Chorus
Livonia Community Rec
Center
Livonia Fire Department
Livonia Golf Division
Livonia Mayor Maureen
Miller Brosnan
Livonia Police Department
The Looney Baker
Mark Love
Luigi's Trattoria Pizzeria
Mackinac State Historic
Parks
Mark Ridley's Comedy
Castle
Brandon McCullough
Meadow Brook Theatre
Merri-Craft Florist
Michigan Renaissance
Festival

Mid-American Fitness
Judy Moehle
Motor City Youth Theatre
Cheri Muchow
Murder Mystery Company
Cheryl Murphy
National Museum of the
Great Lakes
Kari & Troy Nelson
Nico & Vali Italian Eatery
Noreen Owens Photography
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Oakland County Parks
O'Malley's Irish Pub
One Under Craft Beer &
Eats
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Painting with a Twist
Phoenix Theaters
Premier Pet Supply
Pro Sports Zone
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Restore Hyper Wellness
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Rusty Bucket
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Debbie & Dan Walker
Water Brothers Books,
Formerly The Books
Connection
Waterfall Jewelers
Wild Birds Unlimited
Yankee Air Museum
Yes Accessible!
Yip Fitness

A heartfelt thank you for another successful online auction!

This year we raised over \$59,000 – a record breaking amount! Thanks to our generous sponsors, donors and supporters, this event enabled Seedlings to make and distribute more than 5,900 braille books to children with vision loss!

Individual and Fund-A-Need Donors

Natalie Bagley
Mary H. Bailey
Beth Bauman
Karen Bird
Blackwell Ford
Sara Bogart
Debbie & Bill Brown
Maureen & John Cameron
Regina Cassidy
Sarah Chatfield
Deborah Corbeil
William Craig
Jennifer Cutler
First Centennial Title
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Judith Fisher
Cindy & Todd Fleming
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Allison Hintz
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Marston Optometry

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**In Memory of Melvyn D.
Shewach**

Sterling Heights Lioness Club

Rashida Tlaib for Congress

Vibe Credit Union

Weingartz

Wolverine Orthotics, Inc.

Thank you to the nearly 200 bidders who participated in our auction.
Congratulations to all those who won items!

Lily, 3

*"16-month-old Lily
loves singing and
dancing, but most
of all she loves
story time."*



There are many ways to help!

Donate

Since gaining nonprofit status in 1984, Seedlings has relied on your tax-deductible donations to help subsidize the high costs of braille book production, keeping our books affordable for families and teachers.

Please be assured that your donation to Seedlings will be carefully and lovingly administered. The hard work and spirit your gift represents will be matched with our own dedication and energy.

Visit our website to donate today: www.seedlings.org

Planned and Estate Giving

A planned gift is a contribution that is arranged in the present and allocated at a future date. This type of gift is made through a formal financial or estate plan. Planned gifts offer many benefits to you, your estate, the charities you want to support, and the legacy you hope to leave behind.

Commonly donated through a will, estate plan, or charitable bequest, planned gifts can have a major impact on Seedlings' mission and longevity. Contact your estate planning attorney for more information.

Securities

Make a bigger impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to Seedlings. These gifts have enabled us to upgrade some of our aging, specialized equipment and to fund special book giveaways.

Compared with donating cash, or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to increase your gift and your tax deduction. Consult your attorney or tax professional for more information.

Volunteer

Our mission depends on dedicated volunteers. There are many ways to volunteer with or without knowing braille. Help is needed with book production as well as fundraising, particularly in gathering prizes for the Fall Online Auction.

Special Gifts and Fundraising Events

Fundraise your way—anytime and anywhere! DIY fundraisers can come in many forms, like Facebook fundraisers, casual office days, special events, yard sales, shower gifts, and lemonade stands. The possibilities are endless!

**Donations
are always
needed and
appreciated!**

**Every \$10 puts
a braille book in the
eager hands of a child
with vision loss!**

**A \$500 donation
enables the conversion
of a title from the old
code to the new
braille code.**

**A \$1,000
contribution enables
the launch of a brand
new title.**

We are grateful to our volunteers!

We feel so fortunate to have a very dedicated group of volunteers who help with book assembly, binding, labeling, and fundraising.

We couldn't do what we do without you! Thank you!



If you have any questions, would like to volunteer, fundraise, or learn more, please contact us:

www.seedlings.org
info@seedlings.org
800-777-8552

PICTURED

Top: Mary Ann

Left: Ken

Bottom: Marilyn

Through the Years



1984

Debra Bonde learned that braille books were scarce and expensive so she started Seedlings in her basement in Detroit.



1985

A small braille printer made by Debra's father arrived and the first 221 braille books were printed and sent to children in need.



1990

Production grew to 5,000 books per year, leading to a move to the Bentley Center in Livonia, Michigan. We moved to our current office in 1997.



1994

With its first bequest, Seedlings added the first giveaway program: The Rose Project (free encyclopedia articles in braille).



2002

The Book Angel Program was launched, enabling thousands of children with vision loss in the U.S. and Canada to receive free books each year.



2004

Production grew to over 20,000 free and low-cost braille books per year.



2023

Seedlings placed more than 48,000 free and low-cost braille books into the hands of children worldwide!

**Seedlings
Braille Books For Children**

14151 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154

(734) 427-8552 • (800) 777-8552
Fax: (734) 427-8552

info@seedlings.org • www.seedlings.org

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Elizabeth, 8

"The low-cost of Seedlings' books, as well as your free programs, have made it possible for us to grow our home library with books from many genres and reading levels. At this stage, I especially appreciate the Print & Braille books as they provide a wonderful opportunity for Elizabeth to read side-by-side with me or a sibling."

Seedlings Braille Books for Children has been sowing the seeds of literacy and opening doors to education and independence for blind children around the world since 1984!

