

Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.



Since 1971

Over 50 Years of Excellence

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Herrling – President / Librarian

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Aaron Konkol – Office Manager

Sue Danz – Braille Coordinator

President's Report

Spring is a time of new growth and renewal, and we have had lots of those types of activities during the last year and into the future.

Lindy Walton has led our braille transcribers in a refresh of our knowledge of Braille Formats using the Braille Formats Study Guide. These virtual continuing education classes keep us up to date braille-wise, and in contact with our fellow volunteers. Learning is a continual process. Speaking of which, our current class of braille transcribers are heading towards the finish line this Spring. We hope to welcome them as new volunteers sometime this summer.

Our office has been busy as well with braille production for clients, including many, many Nemeth tactiles for schools thanks to Melody Moore.

We continue to foster connections with our fellow non-profits, including Madison Reading Project, RSVP, Wisconsin Braille, and Wisconsin Council for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Working together on common goals makes us all stronger.

Our library continues to provide braille reading material for clients all over the United States. Thanks to the Madison Reading Project, Wisconsin Braille, and a Thrivent grant (thanks to volunteer Lynn Mack) we have been able to add many quality books to our collection at no cost.

As always, many thanks to all our volunteers!

Patricia Herrling, BLTS President

Production Totals

Embossed and E-mailed Pages

2001 – 55,467	2013 – 34,947
2002 – 41,781	2014 – 40,037
2003 – 41,092	2015 – 39,417
2004 – 45,314	2016 – 29,632
2005 – 54,218	2017 – 34,898
2006 – 68,750	2018 – 36,512
2007 – 66,107	2019 – 33,820
2008 – 59,510	2020 – 39,140
2009 – 59,181	2021 – 51,249
2010 – 43,036	2022 – 48,805
2011 – 41,357	2023 – 49,150
2012 – 42,270	2024 – 49,609

2024 New Pages Allocation

School Materials	2,678
Lending Library	10,522
Individual Sales	13,107
Business Sales	1,779
Office and Class	128
E-files only	0
Non-Profit Agencies	0
Total (New Pages)	28,214

BLTS Lending Library Report 2024

LOANED

<u>Year</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
2007	810	450	1,260
2008	755	468	1,223
2009	847	454	1,301
2010	836	347	1,183
2011	801	340	1,141
2012	706	652	1,358
2013	708	656	1,364
2014	702	523	1,224
2015	633	610	1,243
2016	707	624	1,331
2017	588	576	1,167
2018	529	605	1,135
2019	485	590	1,077
2020	617	468	1,085
2021	505	498	1,008
2022	508	408	916
2023	448	505	953
2024	523	436	959

2024 Borrowers

Active: 144 (12 schools total)

New borrowers: 4

Collection

Total new books added to collection **61**

new adult books **28**

new children's or print/braille books **33**

Total Inventory: 2,359 items

Observations

Circulation remains steady. Supplements always garner requests and we continue to receive many thanks and bravos for the work we are doing for braille literacy.

"Thanks so much for this service! My daughter loved looking through the cookbooks."

"Thank you for the years you have provided me with braille. I have enjoyed each and everyone."

"Thank you for all the wonderful books from the lending library. Keep up the good work for the blind community."

We continue to partner with other agencies and resources for braille readers, such as the Madison Reading Project, Wisconsin Braille, and the Wisconsin Council for the Blind and Visually Impaired, to make sure as many braille readers as possible know about our lending library and braille transcription services.

Goals for 2025: Continue to explore opportunities to meet the current braille needs of our library users, and the best technologies to provide them.

2024 Active Membership

Active Braillelists – 12

Other Active Members - 4

2024 Volunteer Hours

Braille Transcribing (completed in 2024) 4,468 hours – 22,337 pages

Service Hours 1,801 hours

Total Volunteer Hours 6,269 hours

2024 Membership

In Memoriam

Jane Ayer
Ruth Elizabeth Bartlett
Dorothy Camper

Sandy Adams

Judy Amacker

Carol Birch

Dorothy Brar

Giso Broman

Pat Bunders

Terry Busby

Allison Chamberlain

Mémée Chun

Cindy Collins

Mary Ann Damm

Mary Daniel

Sue Danz

Joel DeVore

Kathy Dorn

Jill Dumphy

Pat Foltz

Kay Goepfert

Rebecca Gottlieb

Angelique Green

Jo Ann Gustavson

Deborah Hanson

Lori Hanson

Barb Henning

Patricia Herrling

Connie Jacobus

Brenda Johll

Shirley Johnson

Elizabeth Kanne

Peter Kauffman

Mary Kienitz

Aaron Konkol

Ron & Debbie Konkol

Lynn Mack

Jane Maher

Alison McKee

Linda Mitchell

Melody Moore

Sue Nelson

Jenelle Niemi

Karen Perzentka

Bev Pfister

Pat & Erik Popp

Sylvia Rausch

Elnor Reichel

Constance Risjord

Barb Schlinkert

Julie Schoepp

Judy Sherry

Joan Sholdt

Jane Stark

Lisa Stefl

Betty Stoffel

Julie Sumwalt

Lindy Walton

Vickie Warner

2024 Fundraising

Community:	\$43,886.45
Membership:	<u>\$12,234.64</u>
Total Contributions:	\$56,121.09

2024 Contributors

(★ Indicates that donor is a Member of BLTS)

Over \$1000

Epic Systems Corp	★ Sue Nelson
Jack Deloss Taylor Charitable Fdn.	.Sanford Weisberger
Wispect, Inc	★ Jane Stark
★ Joan Sholdt	

\$500 to \$999

★ Pat Folz	Pleasant T. Rowland Fdn.
Madison Gas & Electric Fdn.	★ Joel DeVore
★ Constance Risjord	Thrivent
★ Barb Schlinkert	★ Melody Moore
Middleton Lions Club	

2024 Contributors (Continued)

(★ Indicates that donor is a Member of BLTS)

\$100 to \$499

★ Sandy Adams	★ Elizabeth Kanne
★ Judy Amacker	★ Ron & Debbie Konkol
Norman & Barbara Berven	Abigail Loomis
★ Dorothy Brar	Barbara Kehrein
★ Memee Chun	McFarland Lioness Club
★ Mary Daniel	McFarland Lions Club
★ Sue Danz	Richard Miller
★ Kathy Dorn	Gerald Ring
★ Jill Dumphy	★ Julie Schoep
Faircrest Association Health Fund Drive	★ Judy Sherry
★ Deborah Hanson	★ Elizabeth Stoffel
★ Lori Hanson	Strand Associates
★ Barb Henning	Wisconsin Council of the Blind
★ Patricia Herrling	

To \$100

★ Cindy Collins	★ Lynn Mack
★ Kay Goepfert	PayPal Giving Fund
★ Jo Ann Gustavson	★ Karen Perzentka
★ Patty Haeger	★ Bev Pfister
★ Peter Kaufman	★ Pat & Erik Popp
★ Mary Kienitz	★ Elnor Reichel
★ Aaron Konkol	Severson-Cairns American Legion Post 501
Burton Kushner	★ Lindy Walton

Comparative Statement
2023 and 2024

Income	2023	2024
Community Contributions	\$48,356.72	\$43,886.45
Member Contributions	\$12,400.83	\$14,650.13
Braille Income	\$12,437.53	\$12,234.64
Mutual Fund Income	\$4,125.75	\$6,150.64
Miscellaneous Income	\$198.83	\$0.00
Class Fees	\$100.00	\$460.00
Total Income	<hr/> \$77,617.18	<hr/> \$77,381.86
 Expenses		
Salaries & Payroll Taxes	\$33,362.89	\$35,700.56
Rent	\$20,427.93	\$20,578.04
Braille & Library Supplies	\$1,916.99	\$4,025.32
Proofreading	\$8,113.20	\$8,630.10
Office Cleaning	\$1,040.00	\$1,040.00
Office Supplies	\$4,166.51	\$3,542.23
Office Equipment & Repairs	\$804.50	\$185.00
OnPay Professional Fees	\$595.40	\$595.38
Social & Awards	\$915.86	\$540.11
Training/Class Material	\$180.00	\$750.00
Banking/Credit Card Fees	\$0.00	\$113.93
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	<hr/> \$70,523.28	<hr/> \$75,700.67
Net Profit/Loss	\$7,093.90	\$1,681.19

Financial Comparison

<i>For the Year Ended</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Excess Income (Loss)</i>	<i>Mutual Fund & Checking Market Value</i>
12/31/1999	\$32,778.11	\$49,589.79	(\$16,811.68)	\$151,194.00
12/31/2000	\$40,324.21	\$52,515.14	(\$12,190.93)	\$122,434.00
12/31/2001	\$37,915.77	\$61,778.94	(\$23,863.17)	\$81,804.00
12/31/2002	\$39,663.27	\$51,589.18	(\$11,925.91)	\$61,595.00
12/31/2003	\$37,050.43	\$50,560.05	(\$13,509.62)	\$67,365.00
12/31/2004	\$47,496.81	\$48,771.04	(\$1,274.23)	\$53,146.00
12/31/2005	\$47,088.57	\$47,224.39	(\$135.82)	\$54,965.00
12/31/2006	\$59,202.00	\$58,721.00	\$481.00	\$154,497.00
12/31/2007	\$59,473.45	\$74,002.41	(\$14,528.96)	\$153,165.33
12/31/2008	\$51,603.35	\$39,817.01	\$11,786.34	\$132,582.95
12/31/2009	\$49,027.00	\$42,344.62	\$6,682.38	\$152,214.00
12/31/2010	\$40,682.86	\$44,068.71	(\$3,385.85)	\$153,632.13
12/31/2011	\$34,121.27	\$38,144.29	(\$4,023.02)	\$147,848.71
12/31/2012	\$38,411.00	\$39,277.00	(\$866.00)	\$156,314.00
12/31/2013	\$42,438.00	\$39,140.00	\$3,298.00	\$168,282.40
12/31/2014	\$38,931.00	\$40,216.00	(\$1,285.00)	\$170,307.00
12/31/2015	\$37,449.00	\$47,017.00	(\$9,568.00)	\$150,163.19
12/31/2016	\$35,720.47	\$47,071.35	(\$11,350.88)	\$147,897.62
12/31/2017	\$47,360.61	\$46,702.66	\$657.95	\$153,858.00
12/31/2018	\$53,085.37	\$57,741.18	(\$4,655.81)	\$133,591.82
12/31/2019	\$55,446.47	\$57,744.78	(\$2,298.31)	\$144,812.05
12/31/2020	\$44,558.54	\$47,528.22	(\$2,969.68)	\$144,850.08
12/31/2021	\$69,134.08	\$65,851.96	\$3,282.12	\$159,276.53
12/31/2022	\$33,852.44	\$66,713.73	(\$32,861.29)	\$108,570.45
12/31/2023	\$77,617.18	\$70,523.28	\$7,093.90	\$120,436.30
12/31/2024	\$77,381.86	\$75,700.67	\$1,681.19	\$125,287.05

Parentheses indicate negative numbers (losses).