

## Staff & Volunteers

The Library staff, led by Library Director Lynn Burkholder, includes 3 full-time and 16 part-time workers. There were 146 volunteers who donated 3,037 hours of service in the Library. Many other volunteers contributed their time for fundraising activities. In recognition of this service, the Library Board hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social in July.

## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Lower Providence Community Library support the Library through volunteer work and fundraising efforts. In 2016 they assisted with the Annual Wine Tasting, the 20th Anniversary Celebration and sponsored other fundraising activities, including an ongoing used book sale, supermarket receipt refund programs, calendar sales, and basket raffles. The Friends donated \$15,000 to the Library in 2016, used to fund children's and teen programs, the museum pass collection and many new library materials.

**The Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** is the junior division of the Friends. Members take an active part in supporting the Library by helping with the Cabin Fever Book Sale, Library fundraising events, children's programs, the Preschool Halloween Party, LPT Easter Egg Hunt and decorating the Library for the holidays.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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[LowerProvidenceLibrary.org](http://LowerProvidenceLibrary.org)

## Mission

The Lower Providence Community Library provides the highest quality library services to its patrons of all ages. The materials, resources, services and facility meet community needs for education, recreation, technology, and cultural enrichment.

## Vision

Lower Providence Community Library is an essential gathering place; a center of culture, intellect and technology; and a portal for discovery of information and enlightenment for its community.

## 2016 Library Board of Trustees

The Library is governed by a 7-member volunteer Board of Trustees appointed by the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors.

Marie Altieri, President

M. Joseph Clement, Vice-President

Mary Shaw, Secretary

Ben Simkin, Treasurer

Lucy Arnold

Nancy Klein

David Nawrocki

Library Executive Director

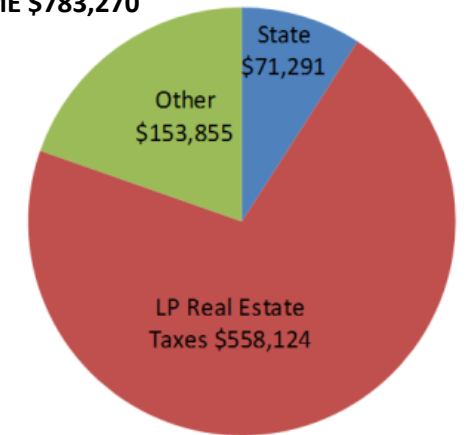
Lynn Burkholder

## Funding

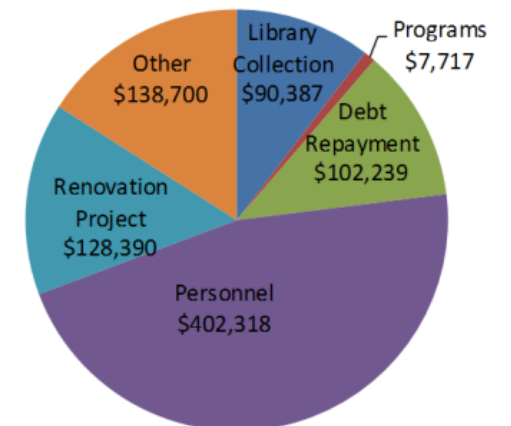
The Library is partially funded by allocations from the state and from Lower Providence Township real estate taxes. The remaining funds for the operating budget are raised by the Library through fundraising events, donations, grants, interest, fines, and fees. The Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

In 2016 the Library spent \$34.19 per capita for each Lower Providence Township resident, \$21.58 of which came from local tax dollars.

### INCOME \$783,270



### EXPENSE \$869,751



## Highlights of 2016

The Library received 182,440 visitors in 2016 and loaned 222,706 items.

Building renovations were the key focus this year, planned in response to community requests and library needs. Work to reconfigure existing space in three areas was begun in May and completed in June. A welcoming cyber café was created with vending for beverages and snacks. It also serves as an informal gathering space for library visitors.

Two enclosed study/meeting rooms were added. These are often in use by individuals seeking a quiet study area and by small groups such as tutors and students. The rooms are available on a first come basis.

The Circulation Desk was redesigned to include the Reference Desk in a central service area. With increased visibility, use of reference services increased. The central work area advances the efficient use of staff resources.

Community members were invited to visit during the last week in June to see the renovations and join in celebrating the 20-year anniversary of the opening of our building on June 29, 1996. Festivities included activities for children, giveaways, refreshments and a display of library scrapbooks from our beginning in 1985 to the present.

Other significant accomplishments include:

- Relocation of the magazine and newspaper collection to the café area
- Consolidation of adult public computers into a single location
- Installation of computer management software to manage public use sessions

## Children's & Teen Programs and Events

The Children's & Teen Department, under the leadership of Sandrah Moles, hosted 488 programs attended by 10,784 children, teens, and adults.

- Story Time—held 4 days a week, 2 sessions each day
- What's the BIG Idea?—two 10-week sessions of this math and science based early literacy program
- Summer Reading Club—597 children and teens registered for the Summer Reading Program
- Science in the Summer—64 children took part in this 4-day science workshop sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline.
- Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child—annual parent/child interactive early literacy event with author visit
- TAB (Teen Advisory Board)—met monthly to plan programs, help with library events and have fun

Many other programs and special events were held throughout the year including author visits, a babysitting certification course, crafts, Legos Club, preschool Halloween party, sign

language, and more. Families enjoyed programs by magicians, storytellers, musicians, theater groups, and puppeteers.

The Library worked cooperatively with Methacton schools by providing classroom visits, participating in Back-to-School night and Career Day events in the schools, and hosting the Skyview Upper Elementary "Challenge Night" event in the library.

Outreach events were provided to several area preschools. Library tours were provided for scout groups and preschool groups and library space was made available for home-school groups.

The Library participated in the Lower Providence Township Easter Egg Hunt with help from the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and in the Lower Providence Fall Festival. Children in the township summer camp programs also participated in some of the library summer programs.

## Adult Programs & Events

The Adult Department, under the direction of Barbara Loewengart, offered 552 programs with an attendance of 5,280. Weekly programs included Mahjong Club, Crafters Club, Canasta, Cercle Francais, English Conversation Class (ESL), yoga, chair yoga, and meditation. Other programs included:

- 3 monthly book discussion groups
- Computer and technology classes
- Adult Summer Reading Program
- Movie showings

- Programs on various topics including gardening, art, crafts, finances, food, Medicare, Social Security, plays, musical performances, writing, and more
- Volunteer Fair with 16 community organizations participating

The two major fundraising events for the year were the 16th Annual Wine Tasting held in March and a Comedy Night in October. Proceeds from these two events raised a net amount of \$22,472 to fund library services.

## Library Resources

The Library collection totals 56,417 physical items; 24,980 e-books, downloadable audiobooks, and streaming video in OverDrive and OneClick; over 50,000 ebooks in Freading, and 104 digital magazines available in Zinio. Library patrons had access to 33 electronic resources. Those purchased with local funds and grant funds for Lower Providence residents include:

- Lynda.com (grant funds)
- ConsumerReports.com
- Morningstar Investment Research Center
- Novelist—readers advisory
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Freading—e-books, always available

Patrons had access to 10 public desktop computers, 10 laptops, two early literacy computers and a wireless internet access