

We champion the concept that effectively addressing barriers to access will involve multiple approaches including technology, outreach and strategic site-based services.

The Salem Public Library Foundation aligns with the Mission and Values of the Library in service of the Salem community. Full and equal access is a primary tenet of the mission and strategic plan and of Foundation values.

SPLF embraces and funds innovation and diversity strategies in furtherance of the ideal that all residents of our city, including marginalized and underserved communities, have free and equal access to sustainable library resources and facilities. SPLF works in collaboration with Library Administration, Library Advisory Board, and community partners to invest where non-taxpayer funds can have the greatest impact while not replacing the public's responsibility for funding full operations for a strong public library.

Year upon year we fund initiatives that foster technology access, language access, and other strategies to promote engagement of library patrons in knowledge exploration, service innovations, and culturally and language appropriate services.

SPLF supports City, Library, and Library Advisory Board efforts to reduce and remove barriers to full and equal access to the library. Our library, like every community library, is a great equalizer and investment in the future of Salem and its residents. Engaging marginalized communities in development of remedies to address barriers to library access is important to reach this goal.

We commend the Salem Public Library Advisory Board for its efforts to identify and advocate for multiple strategies to provide library services to underserved portions of the Salem Community. The recently realized free short-term parking which affords low-income families and Salem residents the ability to enter the main library branch without expense is a significant example of their advocacy.

SPLF embraces and funds innovation and diversity strategies in furtherance of the ideal that all residents of our city, including marginalized and underserved communities, have free and equal access to sustainable library resources and facilities wherever they may live.

A library is
not a luxury,
but one of
the
necessities
of life.

Henry Ward Beecher

American Clergyman,
Social Reformer, brother of
Harriet Beecher Stowe