

Annual Contributions & Grants 2022-2023

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Annual Report 2022-2023

The MCL Foundation is a 501©(3) organization that raises funds to advance the development of innovative library-based programs that focus on families, children, businesses, literacy and information technologies. The Foundation fosters dynamic programs created at the Middle Country Public Library that can be replicated regionally and nationally, enabling community libraries to better meet changing social and economic needs.

Annual Message

Vision. Innovation. Ingenuity. These are the hallmarks of the Middle Country Library Foundation. By recognizing the needs of the local community and envisioning possible avenues of support, the Foundation has provided the spark for the far-reaching initiatives that have propelled the Middle Country Public Library to national recognition, even as it continues to be the pride of the local community. Family Place Libraries™, the Miller Business Center, and 211 Long Island are the cornerstones on which the MCL Foundation continues to support and nurture the families, businesses, and individuals that make this community strong.

As a national leader for childhood literacy and family centered services, **Family Place Libraries™** was awarded its second IMLS grant to work in partnership with the Smithsonian and the Goodling Institute at Pennsylvania State University to create and disseminate Talk to Me Toolkits, which support digital literacy for families. Over the course of the year, Family Place™ staff reviewed and fine-tuned the Toolkit, presented it to families and received feedback, incorporated the feedback, and then presented the Toolkit to pilot sites on Long Island and in Texas, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Eventually, this Toolkit will be available to all Family Place Libraries™ for use in programming. This is great news for the MCL Foundation and for the 500+ Family Place Libraries™ in 33 states across the country. This year also saw a complete redesign of the Family Place Libraries™ website and member portal, allowing for a stronger online presence and capacity. Please visit the new site at <https://www.familyplacelibraries.org/>.

Miller Business Center continued forging important connections with entrepreneurs and business organizations through its two exceptionally popular annual events, Strictly Business and Women's EXPO, both of which were held inside the library for the first time since 2019. These events, the lifeblood of the Miller Center, brought a sense of renewal and community. The Miller Center also brought back the Business Networking Open House, providing an opportunity for showcasing the offerings available through the Center and enabling business owners and entrepreneurs to share their missions and messages.

As the region's most comprehensive information and referral resource, **211 Long Island Database** connected over 400,000 visitors to the health and human services they needed. It provided a lifeline to our neighbors in need of food, legal guidance, and rent and mortgage payment assistance. In the aftermath of COVID and multiple regional disasters, a National 211 Data Platform has been undertaken by United Way Worldwide and state 211 systems around the country, including 211 New York State. The NDP currently represents 45 States and Puerto Rico; roughly 91% of the 240 call centers that comprise 211 across the United States. As a large regional partner in the 211 New York State network, 211 Long Island is proud to be included as part of this national resource.

Enclosed is our annual report. Press is available on the *News* page at <https://middlecountrylibraryfoundation.org/press/news/>. We are grateful for the generous support of our wonderful donors, partners, and friends who helped us provide life-enhancing initiatives here and across the United States. The MCL Foundation will continue to enrich our diverse community, fortify small businesses, and bolster families. We thank you for your enthusiastic and unwavering support of these efforts!



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