



2023 Annual Report



**Libraries
Without Borders**
US





Who We Are

Libraries Without Borders US expands access to essential information, educational opportunities, and critical resources.

What We Do

We identify the barriers that prevent marginalized communities from accessing books, internet connectivity, computers, and other essential sources of information.

We partner with public libraries and community organizations to expand their reach and increase the accessibility of their offerings. This connects communities directly to language, literacy, and social resources, creating sustainable pathways for upward mobility.

We work in urban, suburban, and rural regions, centering communities that will benefit most from the services and resources of their local libraries.

Why We Do It

Libraries are vital public institutions that advance equity by providing access to books and information, educational opportunities, community and online resources, and so much more. We believe everyone deserves access to the library.

By strengthening access to libraries, we are building more inclusive communities.





Nina Safane
Executive Director



Dear friends,

We are incredibly grateful to the generous supporters and partners that made our work possible in 2023. We are delighted to share this report, which highlights progress underway and new possibilities on the horizon for Libraries Without Borders US (LWB US).

Reflecting back, 2023 was a building year for LWB US. We established new collaborations and launched a new partnership strategy with library systems across the country. Ultimately, we built momentum toward our organization's mission for connecting communities to essential information, educational opportunities, and critical resources.

Looking ahead, we are expanding our partnerships and have exciting new developments in the works to advance equitable access to information across the US.



Patrick Weil
Founder and Chairman



Recently Launched Projects

In 2023, LWB US made significant progress on key projects that are increasing access to critical community resources.

Baltimore, Maryland

Training barbershop and salon staff to connect patrons to local mental health supports and resources.

Loiza, Puerto Rico

Preserving and protecting Loiza's rich cultural heritage by capturing oral histories and cultural assets through community-driven, digital archive trainings.



New Library Systems Strategy

In 2023, LWB US also laid important groundwork for our new national library systems strategy, using data driven models to connect new populations with essential library services and resources.

For example, in partnership with the Connecticut State Library, we increased the capacity of six libraries representing rural, suburban, and urban communities to sustainably expand their reach.*



Library & Community Assessment



Stakeholder Interviews



Infrastructure Mapping

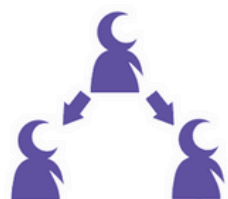


Demographic Data Collection



Community Canvassing

Strategies & Solutions



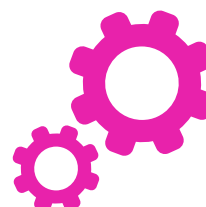
Community Outreach



Partnership Development



Library Access Hubs



Asset Optimization

“By collaborating with LWB US, our library is now able to strategically coordinate our resources to reach all of our community members and provide what they want and need from their public library.”

Cathleen Special
Executive Director, Otis Library

OUR REACH



20+

Community Events
Hosted



25+

Trainings Offered to Community
Members & Library Staff



250,000+

Residents with Deepened
Library Connections

OUR IMPACT

- + Increased library access and use within underserved communities
- + Expanded library staff capacity and effectiveness
- + Deeper sustainable partnerships between libraries and community organizations
- + Enhanced access to library resources and services



The Future Is Bright

Looking to the year ahead, LWB US is launching exciting new projects and expanded partnerships.

Puerto Rico Library Directory

With support from the Mellon Foundation, LWB US will launch an island-wide library directory and network across Puerto Rico to increase library access for residents and foster partnerships between community-serving organizations.



Training Workshops with the Connecticut State Library*

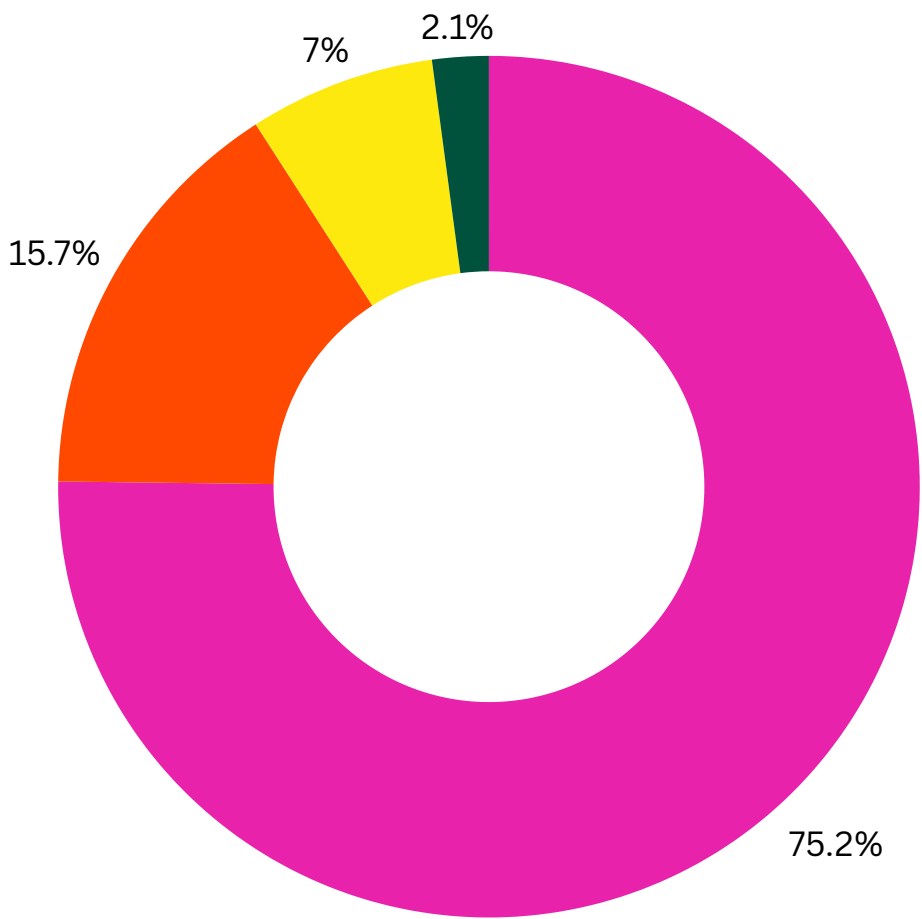
Building on the success of our 2023 pilot, we will extend our partnership with the Connecticut State Library to collaboratively provide training for library staff from 190 public libraries across Connecticut. The goal is to scale successful outreach strategies and tools that will expand their reach and impact in their local communities.



Revenue & Support

Grants & Contracts*	\$1,350,369
Individual Donors	\$282,071
In-Kind Services	\$125,417
Other Income	\$38,015

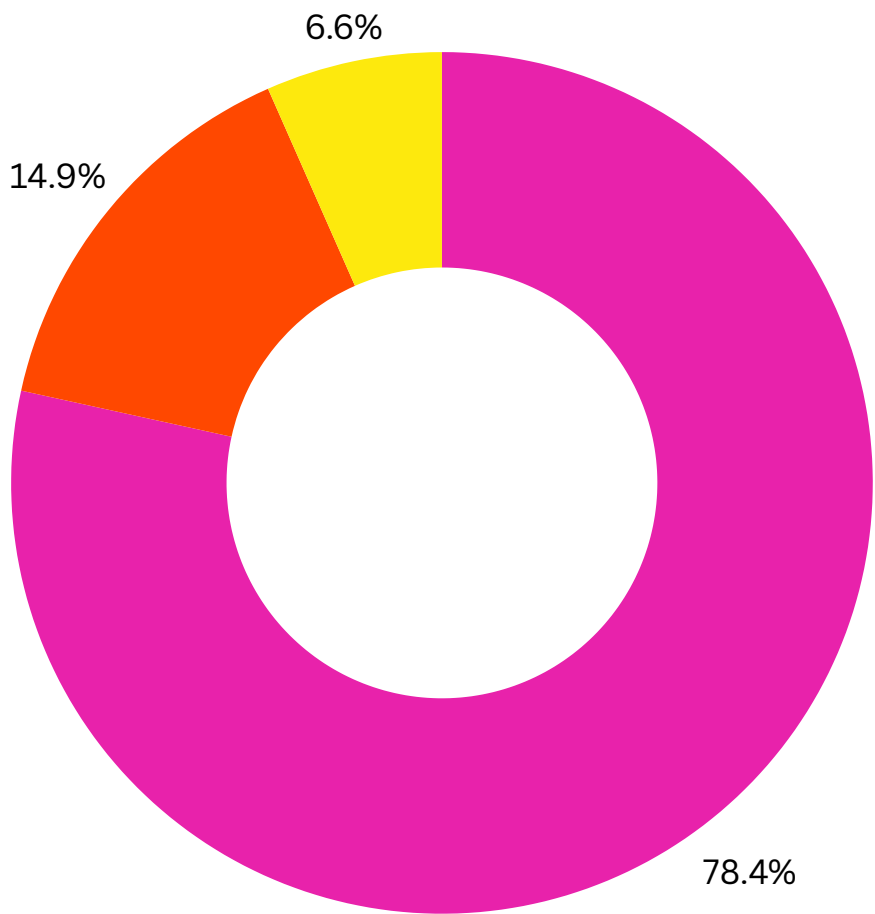
Total Revenue \$1,795,872



Expenses

Program Services	\$824,585
Administration	\$157,151
Fundraising	\$69,541

Total Expenses \$1,051,277



*Grants and contract revenue in 2023 includes revenue restricted for future use in 2024 and 2025.

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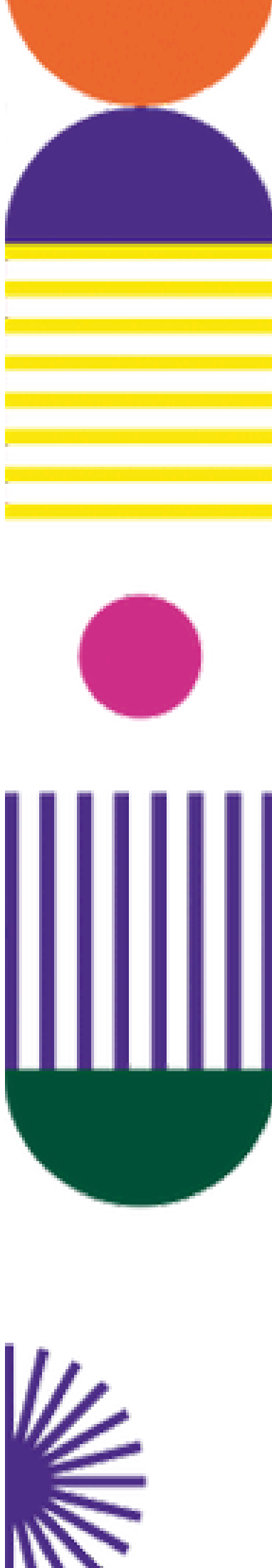
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South Baltimore Gateway Partnership



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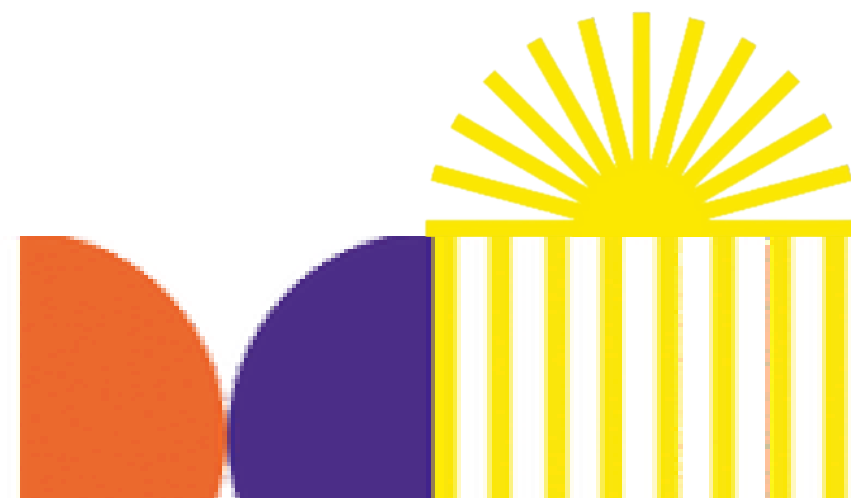
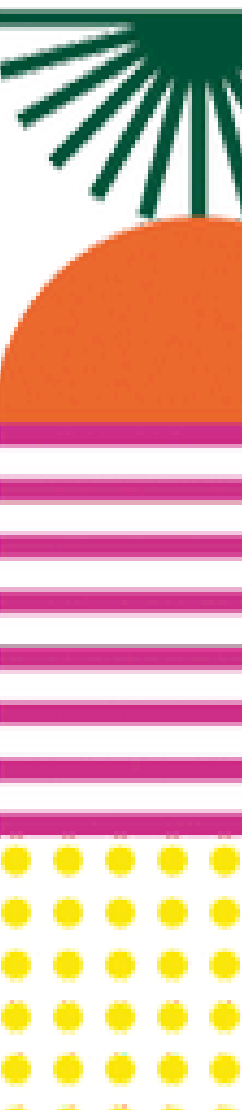
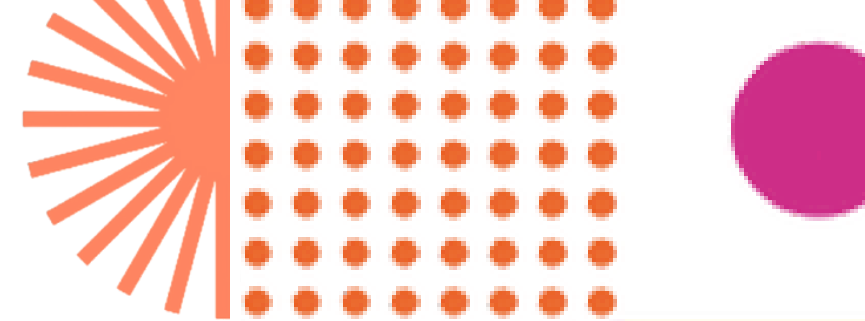
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US

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