



TREEHOUSE
BOOKS
ANNUAL REPORT 2022



TRANSFORMATION, WONDER, & SURPRISE

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TRANSFORMING

WE SEEK TO RESHAPE OURSELVES: THE BUTTERFLY HAS BECOME A METAPHOR FOR TRANSFORMATION AND HOPE ACROSS CULTURES. IT HAS BECOME A SYMBOL FOR REBIRTH AND RESURRECTION, FOR THE TRIUMPH OF THE SPIRIT AND THE SOUL. TREE HOUSE IS REVELING IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF OUR KIDS AS THEY BECOME READERS, WRITERS, AND THINKERS.

TREE HOUSE BOOKS PEOPLE

TREE HOUSE STAFF

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TANGIE WILSON (THEY/THEM), MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING
SHAKIRA KING (SHE/THEY), LEAD TEACHER
EMMA GOLDSTEIN (SHE/HER), GIVING LIBRARY MANAGER
TITILAYOMI ABIODUN (SHE/THEY), ADMINISTRATOR
CHERYL BRYANT (SHE/HER), LITERACY SPECIALIST
DEIRDRE HYMAN (SHE/HER), WORDS ON WHEELS COORDINATOR
CAMERON BUTLER (HE/HIM), COMMUNITY BOOK DISTRIBUTOR
LIZA VALOVATSKY (SHE/HER), SATURDAY GIVING LIBRARY MANAGER

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THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS, WITHOUT WHOM NONE OF OUR WORK WOULD BE POSSIBLE! WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO DONATE THEIR TIME TO HELP OUR ORGANIZATION AND THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

FROM THE BOARD



"Transformation, Wonder, and Surprise."

We are so grateful to have had another great year of exploration, growth, and evolution in 2022 and are excited to share some of those stories with you as well as announce some big plans for the coming year!

Because of your support of Tree House Books' mission and work, we are setting up for our most exciting chapter yet (more on that and a big announcement at a later date!). The title of this year's annual report, "Transformation, Wonder, and Surprise," is a way to reflect on all that we have accomplished so far as well as look forward eagerly to all of the adventures that lay ahead.

In 2022 we accomplished so much that we're proud to share: We gave away almost 90,000 books (our largest year yet), hosted our first alumni gathering event, continued and grew our Black Girls Book Club for female identifying teens, had another successful Words on Wheels Summer program where we delivered books to 87 families, and had a very busy year for our Bookmobile with 278 stops! As you'll see in this report, there were many more achievements, both small and large, all of which are setting us up to take on what will be one of our largest initiatives to date.

Our Governing Board continues to stand strong as well and has welcomed the addition of some great new board members in 2022. We brought on 4 new board members, saw 3 roll off, and are now at 13, with almost 50% reflecting the Black community we serve. The board also now has alumni and neighborhood participation and we continue to work to reflect our North Philadelphia Community in our board and advisory board makeup. Our staff also continues to evolve and shine as the heart of what we do. In 2022, we have both brought on new, talented, and passionate staff members as well as promoted existing staff members into leadership roles.

There are so many other powerful stories to be told about our work in the last year, and I hope you read on in this report to learn about what we've been up to. We've been lucky over the last few years to experience continued success and growth, and are ready to take the next steps in laying more permanent roots in our community but will need your help to do it.

2023 will be a huge year for Tree House Books as we explore ways to amplify our impact like we never have before. Our big focus this year will be to work towards goals to double our programming, better support our staff, and continue to transform into a pillar for the whole community. Now more than ever, we won't be able to achieve our goals without your continued support and partnership so thank you for being here! I hope that you'll step into this next adventure with us.

Thank so much for your continued support,

Grace Manning

Grace Manning, Board Chair

SOARING

2022 by the numbers

1,821

NEW MEMBERS IN THE
GIVING LIBRARY

8,946

TOTAL GIVING
LIBRARY MEMBERS

87,313

BOOKS DISTRIBUTED

186

SUMMER READERS
IN WORDS ON WHEELS

278

TRAVELING TREE
HOUSE STOPS

48

BOOK DRIVES

342

KIDS & YOUTH
IN LITERACY
PROGRAMS



WONDER & SURPRISES: OUR YEAR IN ACCESS TO BOOKS PROGRAMS

WORDS ON WHEELS

Words on Wheels delivered books to 186 youth in 87 families in the summer of 2022. Thanks to a grant from the William Penn Foundation, 55 children aged 5 to 8 years old participated in our intervention program and saw a 96% success rate! Every year through our Words on Wheels program we deliver age-appropriate books straight to our community members homes. Book deliveries are for Pre-K through 12th grade but we always throw in books for the parents!



TRAVELING TREE HOUSE

In our first full year of our bookmobile, we saw HUGE growth! Kai was our first driver and she quickly adapted to her role. With a huge smile and infectious laugh, Kai made every stop special. When Kai had to move along, it was a seamless passing of the reins to Cameron, our new Community Book Distributor. The kids love Cameron and seeing the Traveling Tree House coming down the street! The Traveling Tree House bookmobile made 278 stops to 107 sites this year.



GIVING LIBRARY & BOOK DISTRIBUTIONS

The Giving Library community space continued to grow, adding 1,821 new members this year, for a total of 8,946 members. Our North Philadelphia Branches (bookshelves in community centers) numbered 16. Our book distributions, in addition to the Giving Library, the Traveling Tree House bookmobile, and our community Branches, continued to supply 112 partners with books for their programs, events, and centers. In all, we gave away 87,313 books in 2022, our biggest year ever!

BOOK SWAPS

Partnering with the community group, OURhive, we created this book-centric outreach targeting young adults. In the People's Lot in Germantown, we held 4 outdoor book swaps featuring a live DJ, handcrafted vendors, and books to take or trade. We are excited to see how this program can grow in 2023!



WONDER & SURPRISES: OUR YEAR IN LITERACY PROGRAMS



AFTER SCHOOL STUDIO

In the afternoon, Tree House Books transforms into a haven for creative expression, where, through self-selected activities, students become artists, musicians, scientists, dancers, and - of course - readers, writers, and thinkers. We have 20 young people who we work with 4 days a week to raise their literacy skills. At the end of last school term the youth created and ran an exhibition located at Life Do Grow farm under former Program Director Sabriaya Shipley.

In September, we welcomed Shakira King as our new Lead Teacher. Under her leadership the youth have increased the number of books they read as well as explored fun monthly themes including holidays around the world and Black history of Philadelphia.



TEEN PROGRAMS

The teens participated throughout the year in clubs on Fridays, including the Black Girls Book Club, Scrabble and Chess Clubs, and Leadership Training. Those students in Leadership Training organized, planned and ran the Mate Masie Youth Literacy Festival and volunteered with partners like Urban Creators. In all 37 teens participated in programming in 2022.



SUMMER CAMP

Popsicles, field trips to outdoor laser tag, the Wagner Science Institute, dancing, jungle gyms, yoga, painting, and, of course, books, books and books. Our staff created programming that focused on literacy, phonics, and arts enrichment so that reading is not just an academic expectation but a fun and exciting part of our students' daily lives. We also paid ten teen workers as Junior Staffers - giving them job experience as well as a place to go every day.

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS



PHILADELPHIA LITERACY DAY!

OUR ANNUAL STREET FESTIVAL'S THEME WAS "BOOKS NOT BULLETS." AS OUR COMMUNITY DEALS WITH THE SCOURGE OF GUN VIOLENCE, WE WANTED TO CELEBRATE THE WAY LITERACY IS A POSITIVE INFLUENCE OUR FRIENDS AT THE DA'S OFFICE AND SENATOR STREET HELPED US ORGANIZE AND OUR PARTNERS AT RUNNING PRESS ONCE AGAIN SUPPLIED ALL OUR AUTHORS.



CHAMPIONS OF LITERACY!

EVERY YEAR OUR TEAM CELEBRATES A CHAMPION OF LITERACY WITH A NIGHT OF FUN AND FOOD! THIS YEAR, WE TOASTED THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FORMER BOARD MEMBERS BRETT, KATHY, AND KRISTIN. WHAT A GREAT TURN OUT CELEBRATING LITERACY, CONNECTING WITH ALUMNI AND LAUGHING AMONG OUR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS.



TOUCHDOWNS FOR BOOKS!



AT THE BEGINNING OF THE EAGLES SEASON, WIP BEAT REPORTER ELIOT SHORR-PARKS CONTACTED US WITH AN IDEA TO RUN A GOFUNDME ALL SEASON LONG - RAISING A BOOK FOR EACH TOUCHDOWN THE EAGLES SCORED! OF COURSE, THE EAGLES WENT ON TO THE SUPER BOWL AND SCORED 72 TDS AND WE RAISED ENOUGH FOR 1,644 BOOKS

PHANATIC ABOUT READING!



WE HEADED TO THE BALLPARK AND PARTNERED WITH THE PHILLIES FOR THEIR PHANATIC ABOUT READING NIGHT WHERE WE COLLECTED ALMOST 800 USED BOOKS FROM PEOPLE COMING TO THE GAME! WE WERE EXCITED TO CHEER ON OUR FAVORITE BASEBALL TEAM!



CHAMPIONS IN ACTION!

WE WERE RECOGNIZED BY THE GOOD FOLKS AT CITIZENS FOR OUR YEARS-LONG IMPACT IN THE NORTH PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY. WE LOVED MEETING THEM AND HAVING OUR KIDS ON THE NEWS!





FINANCE REPORT

NUMBERS TO WATCH

413

Total donors this year! Thank you! We couldn't do it without you

\$36,000

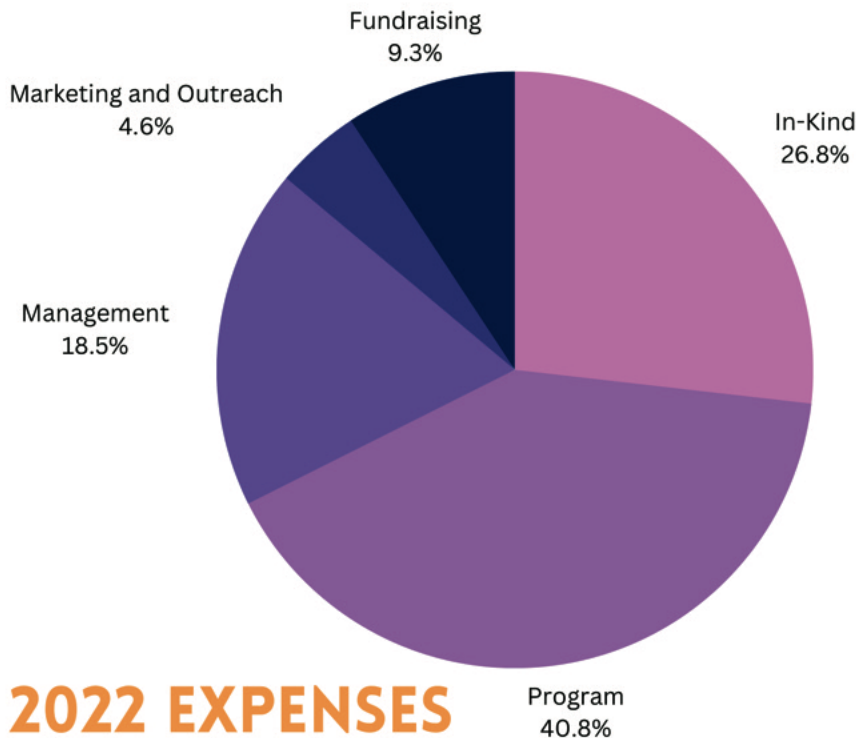
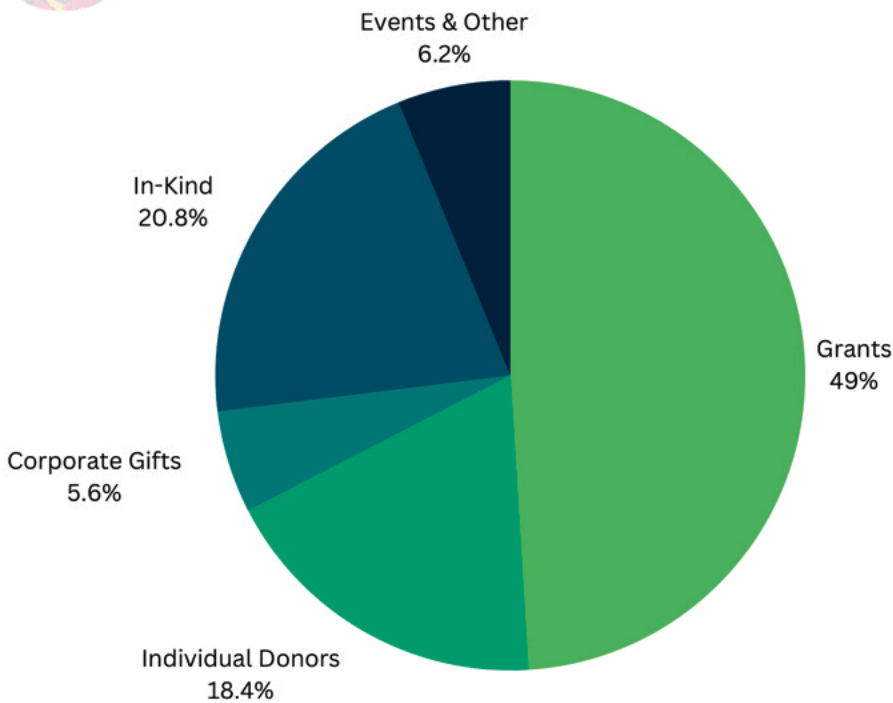
Raised at our Champions Of Literacy - our first in-person event in year!

1005

Total gifts in 2022!

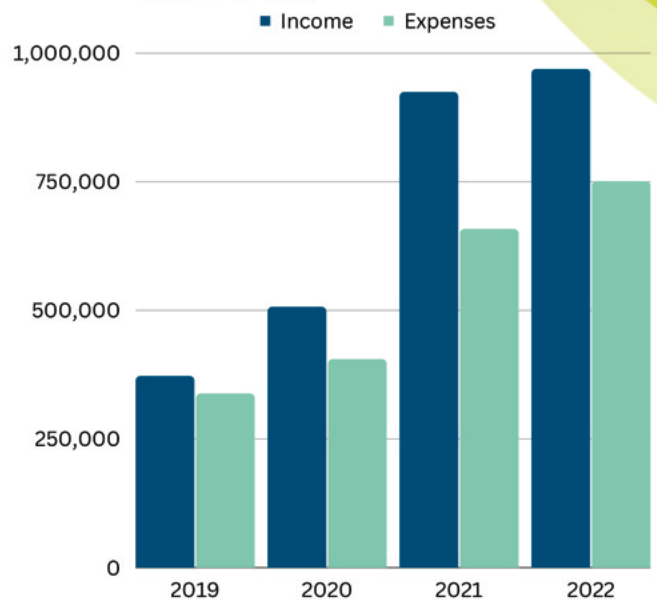


2022 INCOME



2022 EXPENSES

YEAR OVER YEAR BUDGET GROWTH



For more detailed financial information, we have our annual audits on file in the office.

2022 DONORS AND SUPPORTERS (CONTINUED)

We are so grateful to all our donors and partners in this work. This work cannot happen without you.
Donors are listed in alphabetical order within the categories.

Root partners (Gifts of \$1,000 to \$4,999)

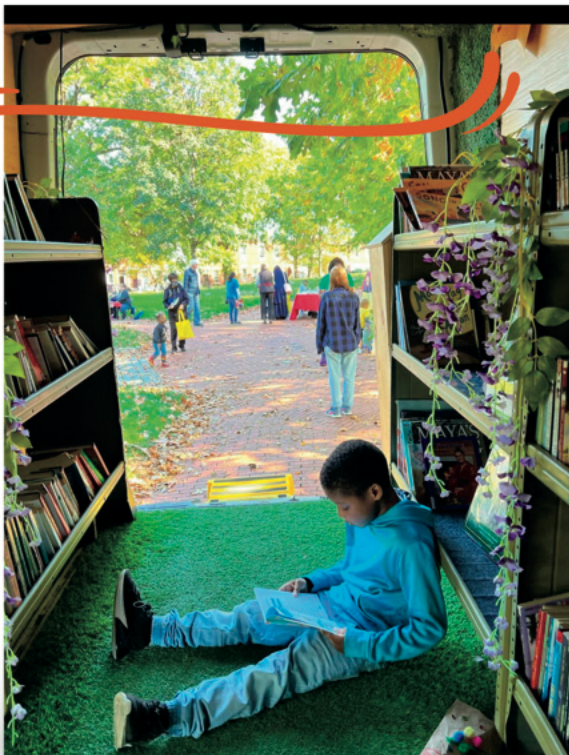
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Unfortunately space considerations don't allow us to print gifts up to \$99 - but we are no less grateful! They can be found on our website.

www.treehousebooks.org



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(Root & Branch partners inside!)