



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 10, 2018

**CONTACT**

Duke Doblick, Director of Fundraising  
610-833-6411

[DoblickD@literacyaccessfund.org](mailto:DoblickD@literacyaccessfund.org)

[www.literacyaccessfund.org](http://www.literacyaccessfund.org)

**LITERACY ACCESS FUND ANNOUNCES PHASE TWO OF 2018 GRANTS  
WITH AWARD TO THE DARBY LIBRARY**

CHESTER, PA - Literacy Access Fund, a 501(c)(3), public charity, announces a grant award of \$5,000 to the Darby Library in Darby Borough, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Literacy Access Fund secures funding from corporate, foundation, and individual partners in order to provide financial support to underfunded public libraries through a competitive granting process. The goal of the organization is to help libraries provide equal access to quality resources for young learners, regardless of economic factors.

Darby Library is the oldest, continuously operating library in the United States, celebrating its 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018. This award will help fund the acquisition of state-of-the-art technology for young children and kick start the **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** program.

Susan Borders, Director of the Library, said, "This grant has enabled the Darby Library to purchase tablets containing educational games from AWE Learning and initiate the **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** Early Literacy Challenge. The one computer we currently have from this company cannot handle the number of children wanting to use it. The rest of the grant will start the **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** program. It is designed to promote reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers and to encourage parent and child bonding through reading. This is accomplished by the Library providing exciting reading materials and incentives toward success."

Deborah B. Sorgi, Ed.D., Chair, Director & President of Literacy Access Fund, shared her thoughts. "Literacy Access Fund congratulates Darby Library on its incredible anniversary and is pleased to support the library's efforts to increase access to early literacy education. Ms. Borders' short- and long-term literacy goals to increase library visits and circulation are commendable for the young learners of Darby Borough and we are proud to partner with this effort." Dr. Sorgi also noted, "We are continuing to identify and support deserving public libraries to help their littlest members read and succeed in school and life."

For more information about Literacy Access Fund, visit <http://www.literacyaccessfund.org> or call 610-833-6411.

***About the Darby Library***

The Darby Library encourages and fosters the spirit of self-improvement among the population of the Borough of Darby by the establishment of a Library, which contains over 20,000 volumes of fiction, non-fiction, and reference books, plus audio, DVD, and video tapes. Information is also accessible through the Internet. The Library sponsors programs for children and adults throughout the year. The Darby Library is a member of the Delaware County Libraries. With this affiliation, our patrons are able to access books from all over Delaware County.

***About Literacy Access Fund***

The mission of Literacy Access Fund is to make literacy a possibility for every child, in every community. The organization supports the public library as a community learning hub and a vital extension of the classroom and awards grants to underfunded public libraries to increase equal access to early literacy skills for young learners. Literacy Access Fund is headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, with the ability to support public libraries across the United States.

# LITERACY ACCESS FUND™



Pictured, left to right: Duke Doblick, CFRE, Director of Fundraising-Literacy Access Fund; Susan Borders, Director-Darby Library; Jan Haigis, Board Trustee; Anthony Santoro, Board Vice President; Charles D. Marvil, Jr., Board President, Gwen Hayes, Board Treasurer; Albert Renzulli, Circulation Manager-Darby Library.