



**Saint Paul
Public Library**

Connected Communities: Strengthening Libraries as Spaces of Belonging

Overview

- \$1M granted to The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library
- Also granted to the Friends of Hennepin County Library
- Timeline: July 2026-June 2029
- Will include collaborative professional development with Hennepin County Library's similar program

Goals

- Build and restore trust in public institutions like the library for all residents
- Deliver services that directly address peoples' learning and information needs
- Provide safe and welcoming spaces and programs that celebrate our humanity and create comfort, joy, and inspiration
- Address widening learning gaps, like literacy, that perpetuate social and economic inequities

Project activities

- Expand Community Services team by adding two new staff positions, working with K'nyaw and Spanish-speaking communities
- Support for existing library resources and services
 - Cell-Ed, ABE materials, Read Brave, North Star Digital Literacy assessment
- Support partial FTE Library Safety Specialist for 2027 and 2028
- Public-facing programs and activities like Family Literacy Nights
- Design and implementation of a communications strategy including community members to help promote services
- Support for artist fees—may include publishing new works in K'nyaw and English



Questions?

