

Forest Lodge Library Expansion Project Overview 2023



Since 1925 the Forest Lodge Library has served as a vital community asset by providing generations of residents and visitors with access to information, technology, educational and recreational programs. The Forest Lodge Library ranks 8th smallest in size of all 382 Wisconsin libraries, while our resident population ranks 92nd. We have long since outgrown the space capacity of the charming 1,008 square foot log cabin library.

To address this very important need the Library Board has worked to resize our initial expansion plan based on the realities of post-pandemic construction costs. The Forest Lodge Library and the Katie Flowers Endowment, the library's fundraising arm, have established a new fundraising goal of \$1.7 million to finance the cost of a facility expansion to be located on the lot adjacent to the existing log cabin with a connecting corridor.

The expansion facility will enable the library to offer enhanced services to local patrons and to visitors who come for the area's recreational opportunities, cultural amenities, and business services. It will fulfill a community need for public meeting and private work spaces with aligned technology for students and business persons working remotely, as well as for individuals to engage in telehealth and other private appointments. A 21st century library will serve the needs of everyone.

The beloved log cabin will remain an essential part of the library, providing a quiet adult reading area, computer stations and a book sale area, as well as scheduled meeting and programming space. The expansion will house the children's area, private meeting spaces, and offer additional resources and services. The library's collection will be housed in both the log cabin and new building expansion.

When completed the expanded library facility will:

- Fulfill urgent service needs for our communities.
- Allow the library to be in compliance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Provide internet and technology services that include 24/7 wifi, scan/send printers and podcasting equipment.
- Enable the library to offer programming and age-appropriate spaces for everyone from toddlers to seniors.
- Be adjacent to a new municipal parking area, improving safety and accessibility for visiting patrons.
- Draw more visitors to downtown Cable.

To date we have received more than \$600,000 in contributions and pledges, but we remain far short of our \$1.7 million goal. To learn more about this important project please visit forestlodgelibrary.org. All levels of financial support are appreciated and will aid in meeting the facility expansion goal. To discuss a Naming Opportunity or major gift, a donation, stock transfer, IRA contribution or pledge please contact the Library Director at 715-798-3189 or cablelibrary@cable.wislib.org or any member of either the Forest Lodge Library Board of Trustees or the Katie Flowers Endowment Board.

The Katie Flowers Endowment, trade name Forest Lodge Library KFE, is a legally approved Wisconsin 501(c)3 organization whose sole purpose is to support the Forest Lodge Library through tax-deductible fundraising.