



## Friends & Foundation *of the* Rochester Public Library

115 South Avenue - Rochester, NY 14604 - 585.428.8325 - ffrpl.org

Mr. Ned Davis  
Dr. Anne Kress  
123 Fake Street  
Rochester, NY 14610

April 2018

Dear Ned & Anne,

For some patrons, the Library is truly a lifesaver.

David, age 30, visits the Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County four or five times each week. He is insured through Medicaid but currently has no primary care physician. So when he saw Nurse Barb at *Health Central* – the Library’s innovative consumer health information center, funded last year by the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library through grants and donations – he stopped in for a blood pressure screening.



“Staff at the Library are my friends,” he said.

“I feel comfortable here. I used to be homeless, and now I want to lead the way for other people.”

Barbara Best, retired RN, is one of several medical, legal and social service professionals regularly improving the quality of patrons’ lives at Central Library. Nurse Barb volunteers at *Health Central* in the Science & History Division two days a week to monitor patrons’ blood pressure, glucose, heart rate, body mass index and vision. Working with Library staff, Barb can refer patrons like David to clinics for additional care, and also suggest other needed resources for other patrons.

Once a month, the Rochester Regional Health Mobile Dentist Unit holds regular hours at Central Library, providing cleanings, extractions and other dental procedures at no cost to people with nowhere else to turn. And around the corner from *Health Central* on the Library's 3rd floor, the *Library Resource Outreach Center* serves patrons five days a week helping with questions about housing, food, employment and legal issues.

While David's numbers are good, approximately 60 percent of the patrons Nurse Barb recently checked have had elevated blood pressure or other risk factors; if left unchecked, they could lead to a heart attack, stroke or even death. And like many patrons she sees, David's only other option for health care is the hospital or emergency room. The health checks offered at Central Library save the cost and effort of a hospital visit within a more inviting atmosphere.

"I need to make sure my engine is running properly," he said. "I want to keep healthy for my family."

**The Rochester Public Library is more than you think – and your tax-deductible contribution to the Friends & Foundation of RPL's 2017-2018 Annual Campaign critically impacts our community by making services, resources and positive connections like these possible.** Please give today and give generously. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,



Peg Glisson, Board President

Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library

P.S. Your giving really matters today. Please help us meet our campaign goal by June 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Thank you!