



# Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement, Inc. Annual Report 2018

The mission of Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement is to provide alternative ways for people with print disabilities to read.

## The Year in Review

With the generous help of our financial supporters, volunteers, staff, and community stakeholders, 2018 was another year filled with accomplishments, advancements and new challenges for ABLE as we continued to work toward our vision of everyone having access to the printed word. Here is a look at just some of what the year held for us:

Our audio team increased the production of audio books by Wisconsin authors that meet the rigorous standards of the National Library Service. ABLE produced a total of 52 books last year, including 41 that are now available through the National Library Service. In addition, ABLE recorded books for the Braille Institute of California, as well as in response to specific requests from individuals.

Accurate and timely response to requests for brailled material for school-age children, including quick turn-around requests, continues to be of critical importance. ABLE produced 11,338 pages of brailled material in response to requests for students while continuing to meet the needs for increasingly complex assignments, including chemistry, trigonometry and Spanish.

One of our challenges has been keeping up with the demand for tactile learning materials for the blind students we serve, most of whom are from Milwaukee Public Schools. Tactiles are raised line drawings that are essential to understanding mathematical graphs, molecular structures and other technical depictions. In recent years the demand for tactiles has risen dramatically, especially for blind students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) classes.

Under the heading of increased accessibility of community resources for those who are blind or visually impaired, we had much to celebrate in 2018. ABLE partnered with Blind Faith Farm to produce a brailled children's book, *Peanut*, a true story about a blind lamb. This book has been given to over 600 blind children. We produced a full, brailled schedule for all ten days of the Wisconsin State Fair. Our expanded partnership with Summerfest means that there will be even more ways for individuals with vision impairments to access both audio and brailled information about the festival. And continuing our outreach, there's the work we began with the Janesville Transit System to provide accessible schedules and route maps.

Finally, we celebrate the impact of our volunteers, who contributed a total of 7,749 hours in 2018. According to the nonprofit membership organization Independent Sector, this represents a dollar value of over \$197,000.

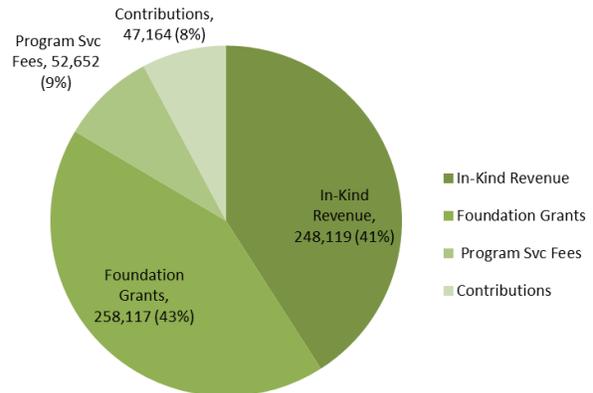
Clearly it's been a busy, productive and successful year!

# Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement, Inc.

## AUDITED FINANCIALS 2018

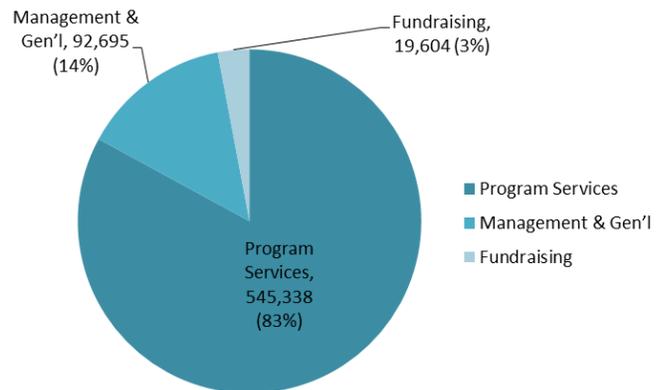
### Support & Revenue

Total Support & Revenue	\$ 606,052
In-Kind Revenue	\$ 248,119
Foundation Grants	\$ 258,117
Program Svc Fees	\$ 52,652
Contributions	\$ 47,164



### Expenses

Total Expenses	\$ 657,637
Program Services	\$ 545,338
Management & Gen'l	\$ 92,695
Fundraising	\$ 19,604



### Staff

Cheryl Orgas  
Executive Director

Shawn Brimley  
Braille Assistant

Karen Riendeau  
Office Manager

Kathleen Bruening  
Braille Specialist

Richard Robbins  
Audio & Network  
Specialist

Claire Egan  
Braille Manager

Andrew Jambura  
Audio Manager

Matthew Scholtes  
Tactile &  
Production  
Manager

Sean Paulson  
Tactile Assistant

### Board of Directors

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