



**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Angela Mapes Turner (President)  
(260) 908-6726  
eckhart.library.foundation.elf@gmail.com

## Library Foundation pledges \$100,000 gift to support library critical operations and infrastructure

Auburn, IN – The Eckhart Library Foundation has pledged a \$100,000 gift to the Eckhart Public Library in 2024. These funds will be used by the library to maintain the historic facilities on the library’s campus, operational support, and other infrastructure needs.

The nonprofit Eckhart Library Foundation was founded in 2018 after a tragic fire threatened the historic building, artwork, and collections of Eckhart Public Library. A group of volunteers realized a sustainable means of support was critical to protecting the beauty and history of the library’s property, and a private, nonprofit foundation was created.

The mission of Eckhart Library Foundation is to partner with donors to ensure literacy, learning, and a place for all – forever, through steadfast support of Eckhart Public Library’s critical operations and infrastructure. This group of passionate volunteers has pulled together tremendous resources to meet the needs beyond tax dollars for the local library.

Foundation board members presented Eckhart Public Library executive director Valerie Simmons with a check for the first \$25,000 installment of the pledge at the foundation’s April meeting.

“It is only through the generous support of donors across the nation that we are able to provide at such a level for our local library,” said Angela Mapes Turner, foundation president. “Thank you to those who have given. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the library to not only maintain facilities and operations, but to grow the ways in which they serve our community.”

**ECKHART LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD**

Angela Mapes Turner *President* | Carolyn Foley *Vice President* | Sharon Smith *Treasurer* | Kathie Kock *Secretary* | Hailey Casto  
Julie Heimach | Judy Smith | Robert Tracey



*Photo: Eckhart Library Foundation board members Angela Mapes Turner (left) and Bob Tracey (right) present a \$25,000 check to Valerie Simmons, library executive director (middle). The foundation has pledged \$100,000 in support to the library in 2024.*

ECKHART LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD

Angela Mapes Turner *President* | Carolyn Foley *Vice President* | Sharon Smith *Treasurer* | Kathie Kock *Secretary* | Hailey Casto  
Julie Heimach | Judy Smith | Robert Tracey