



Local Library Champion

Marilyn Donahue, Licking County Library

Marilyn Donahue has made a tremendous impact on the Licking County Library and the community it serves. She actively promotes the library, its services, resources, and programs through her work with the Friends of the Licking County Library and other community organizations.

Donahue is a true example of a library champion — always eager to talk “library” anytime, anywhere. As a founding member and President of the Friends of the Licking County Library, Donahue truly believes in the mission of public libraries. She embraces new ideas and programs that will enhance the library experience, no matter how far-fetched they may seem at the time.



For example, when presented with the idea of the Friends serving as an affiliate for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Licking County, Donahue jumped in with both feet, recruiting volunteers, organizing fundraisers and finding donors. She has been instrumental in the ongoing success of this program. Whether it’s working book sales from open to close or securing funds for a book bike, Donahue finds a way to make it happen.

In addition to her work with the Friends of the Licking County Library, Donahue is active in the community. She is a member of the Monday Talks group and volunteers with a number of organizations in Licking County and the Columbus area. She often donates books to shelters and volunteers her time reading. Donahue worked with the Licking County Probate Courts to provide books to juvenile offenders and their families to encourage reading and learning in their homes. Wherever she goes, Donahue promotes

lifelong learning and encourages people to get a library card, whether it's for the Licking County Library or somewhere else. She is an exceptional volunteer who has a keen understanding of the role of public libraries in thriving communities. The Licking County Library will reap the rewards of her vision and advocacy for many years to come. For these reasons and more, Marilyn Donahue is the recipient of the Local Library Champion Award.