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Baltimore Library Project Book Drive Raises Record \$19,000 Donations will provide 2,700 books for Year 5 schools

BALTIMORE (April 15, 2016) – The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private foundations in the United States, today announced the results of the 5th annual Book Drive in support of the Baltimore Elementary and Middle School Library Project.

More than \$18,620 was collected through online and cash donations that will be used to purchase 2,700 brand new, hardcover children's books for this year's newly renovated school libraries: George Washington Elementary and Hampden Elementary/Middle.

The grand total includes more than \$3,400 collected as part of this year's Penny Drive. Each year, students at current Library Project schools "pay it forward" by collecting pennies and other cash donations. Nine schools participated this year including the winner—Commodore John Rodgers—where students collected more than \$1,400 in change.

Books that were donated at more than 20 locations throughout the greater Baltimore metropolitan area are still being counted. New children's books will be placed in each of the Year 5 school libraries, and gently used books will benefit the Maryland Book Bank, one of more than 40 supportive Library Project partners.

To learn more about the Library Project, visit <u>www.baltimorelibraryproject.org</u>. You can also follow #libraryproject on Facebook and Twitter for all of the latest updates.

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About The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private charitable foundations in the United States, provides approximately \$100 million in annual grants to nonprofits that provide direct services to low-income and vulnerable individuals and families, primarily in the US and Israel. Grants are focused on meeting basic needs and enhancing an individual's ability to meet those needs with emphasis on older adults, the Jewish community, and our hometown communities of Maryland, Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Hawaii. The trustees, some of whom also serve as executive officers of the Foundation, are Donn Weinberg, Barry Schloss, Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Alvin Awaya, and Board Chair Ellen M. Heller. Rachel Garbow Monroe serves as the Weinberg Foundation's President and Chief Executive Officer. For more information please visit <u>www.hjweinbergfoundation.org</u>.