



Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library

180 Sheridan Blvd., Denver, CO 80226

We are the Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library (CTBL). Our organization is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) agency whose primary purpose is to financially assist the Library with its efforts to provide reading materials to Colorado residents who are unable to read standard print. We are strong advocates for the Library; and, the Friends' support has been a crucial factor in the Library's ability to serve its patrons. All that's needed to become a member of the Friends is a tax-deductible donation. A board of directors, elected from the membership, manages the affairs of the organization.

CTBL in a nutshell:

The Colorado Talking Book Library has existed for over 89 years. We serve all Coloradans, young and growing older, with over 7,000 patrons statewide. For people who can't read standard print, we provide free audio, braille, and large print books, keeping them connected to educational, informational, and recreational reading. Eligible patrons are blind, vision-impaired, and learning or physically disabled because of conditions such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, traumatic brain injury or learning disabilities. CTBL patrons tell us: "My world would be so small without talking books." "With every book, you light up my life with a new adventure." "I really look forward to getting my books. They are my lifeline."

The Friends support includes:

- An in-house studio where books and magazines are recorded
- A volunteer program which provides the equivalent of ten full-time staff
- Furniture and equipment when needed.

We help CTBL:

- Reach the estimated 450,000 eligible Coloradans not receiving our services
- Create awareness and broaden our community of support
- Raise money to support CTBL programs

Our Board's Role:

The Board governs the work of the non-profit. We have no paid staff. 91% of the funds raised are used to support CTBL services. Administrative costs are held to just 9%. The Board does not govern the work of the Library. However, the Director of CTBL uses the Board as an advisory resource.

Qualities our Board members possess:

- Passion for the mission of the Friends of CTBL
- Advocacy experience
- Fundraising experience
- Experience with CTBL services
- Familiarity with disabled or aging populations

What talent or experience could you bring to the Friends Board?

Our Meetings:

Currently, our meetings are held quarterly on the third Tuesday of January, April, July, and October. Your attendance is required. Transportation is not reimbursed, except in special circumstances, and is subject to Board approval. Because of current public health restrictions, meetings are held using Zoom video conferencing and begin at 5:00 pm. When meetings are held in person, they start with dinner at 5:30 pm and the meeting at 6:00 pm. Zoom attendance is possible.

New Board Members:

Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library invites participation on the Board from individuals who support the mission of CTBL. People who want to use their talents to impact the quality of life for all eligible Coloradans. If you are interested, please complete an application form, and return it by mail to: President of the Friends, 180 Sheridan Blvd., Denver, CO. 80226, or by email to President of the Friends at steffen_n@cde.state.co.us. We will reach out to you.

Thank you for your support and interest in The Friends Board of Directors.

For more information, please contact the President of the Friends at 303-727-9277; or visit <http://www.friendsofctbl.org> and www.myctbl.org