

# 

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Oct. 1, 2023 - Sept. 30, 2024

## President's Message: Growth



Growing our mission impact is a value of APH, and a value shared by the field. There is much work to be done, and we all have our roles to play. We all know that growth is not easy. Challenging barriers is a task that challenges us not only professionally, but personally as well. I want to share three truths about the word "Grow," and a challenge.

Change. Growth begins with a willingness to embrace change. In fact, growth only happens in an atmosphere of change and accepting this is the first step.

Pain. Growth is uncomfortable. Pain is part of growth and accepting and pushing past the discomfort will move you forward

Gain. Gain will happen when you stay committed to the work. The full process of Growth requires focus and tenacity.

As leaders and doers in this field, we are all in a phase of growth. I want to challenge you all to be courageous. Embrace the discomfort and most importantly, celebrate your gains. Your successes will be the fuel that inspires others to take the risk to grow. We look forward to growing our collective impact with all of you over this next year.

mal

Craig

## Growing the Impact of Braille

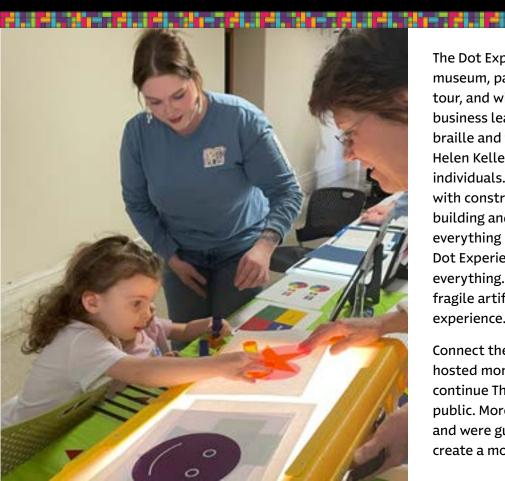
The Monarch soared into classrooms this fall, and after two years of work, the first eBraille working draft was published in August 2024. These initiatives are key to APH's commitment, and the commitment of all of our partners, to grow access to braille globally.



#### What teachers and parents are saying about the Monarch:

- "My students love the graphing function! We have been completing trigonometric equations with sine and cosine I could see the joy in the student's face to finally be able to participate fully in his learning and be an active learner using this device in pre-calculus class."
- "This device is going to make our students active learners, not passive learners."
- "The Monarch revolutionized Kennedy's education, breaking down educational obstacles and opening a world of limitless learning. For the first time, she can access textbooks, tactile graphics, and digital content in real-time— empowering her to learn, explore, and engage on equal footing with her peers. This isn't just a tool; it's a lifeline to knowledge, independence, and a future without limits." **Katie C.**, *parent*

## The Dot Experience: Growing Community Understanding



The Dot Experience, which will open in 2026, is part museum, part center for education, and part factory tour, and will be open to families, tourists, scholars, and business leaders alike. The Dot Experience will celebrate braille and the experiences of historical people like Helen Keller and Louis Braille, along with everyday individuals. Much progress was made this past year with construction of both the new museum experience building and the exhibits. While most museums have everything behind glass and "do not touch" signs, The Dot Experience will encourage visitors to interact with everything. Touchable replicas will be provided for fragile artifacts, ensuring an immersive and accessible experience.

Connect the Dots, powered by the PNC Foundation, hosted monthly family events at local libraries to continue The Dot Experience's mission of educating the public. More than 3,000 people attended the events and were guided in building an understanding of how to create a more welcoming society for all. "They were all excited at the change and difference it made to carry only one device compared to all the books."





## **Growing** Learning Solutions

More than 30 new or updated products were released for availability to classrooms in 2024. Among those include:

#### **Memory Puzzles: Shapes**

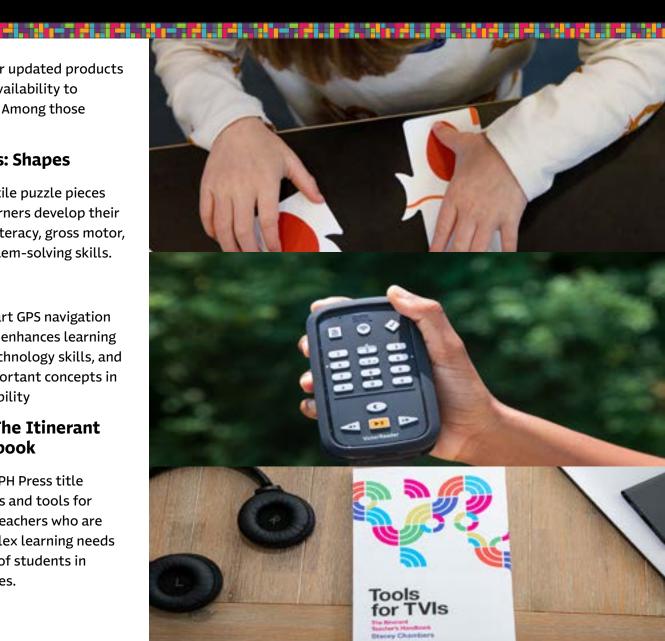
These matching tactile puzzle pieces help very young learners develop their braille and tactile literacy, gross motor, matching, and problem-solving skills.

## VR Cardinal LE:

Part book reader part GPS navigation device, the Cardinal enhances learning access, enhances technology skills, and aids in teaching important concepts in orientation and mobility

### Tools for TVIs: The Itinerant Teacher's Handbook

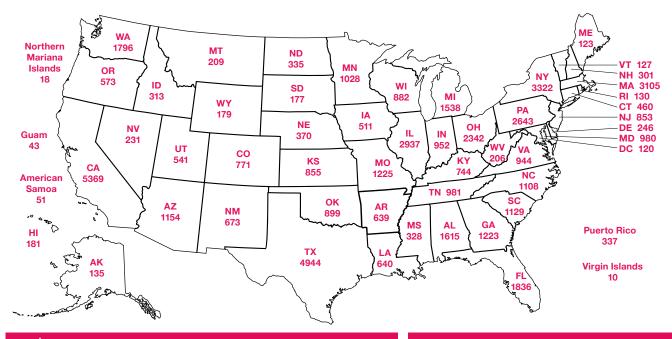
This long-awaited APH Press title provides helpful tips and tools for traveling itinerant teachers who are managing the complex learning needs of a large caseload of students in multiple communities.



## Map + Financial Report + Fiscal Year Highlights

The federal *Act to Promote the Education of the Blind* was enacted by Congress in 1879. This Act is a means for providing educational materials to eligible U.S. students who meet the definition of blindness. An annual registration of eligible students determines the per capita amount of money designated for the purchase of educational materials produced by APH. These funds are credited to the Federal Quota accounts that are maintained and administered by APH and its Ex Officio Trustees throughout the country.

#### SUMMARY: Federal Quota funds due under the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind, fiscal year 2024 based on the 2023 census.



\$24,187,999.Ø8 Total Quota Funds Allocated

55,382 Total Students Registered

Adult

Agencies

8.11%

Schools

for the Blind

Rehabilitation

380

Multiple Disabilities

Services

Student

Percentages

by Program

Type

7.65%

Private/

Agencies

Non-Profit

79.33%

Public

Schools

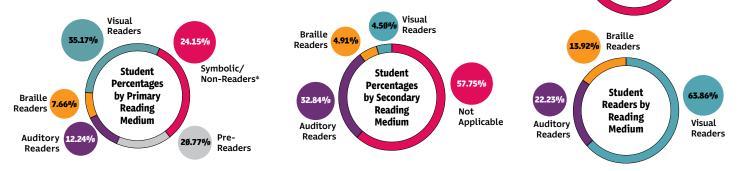
Full Federal Quota Funds Due Report: <a href="http://www.aph.org/app/uploads/2025/01/FY2024-Distribution-of-Eligible-Students.pdf">www.aph.org/app/uploads/2025/01/FY2024-Distribution-of-Eligible-Students.pdf</a>

Appropriate Use of Federal Quota Census Data: The specific purpose of the annual Federal Quota Census is to register students in the United States and outlying areas who meet the definition of blindness and are therefore eligible for adapted educational materials from APH through The Act. Statements regarding student literacy, use of appropriate learning media, and students taught in a specific medium cannot be supported using APH registration data.

#### SUMMARY: Distribution of Eligible Students Based on the Federal Quota Census of January 2, 2024.

#### Student Reading Media Program Type Totals

	Visual	Braille	Auditory	Pre- Symbolic Reader/		
Program Type	Readers	Readers	Readers	Readers	Non-Readers*	TOTAL
Public Schools	16,99Ø	3,Ø39	4,496	8,471	10,941	43,937
Adult Rehabilitation Agencies	514	179	677	138	365	1,873
Services for Students with Multiple Disabilities	54	23	188	21	558	844
Schools for the Blind	1191	757	557	1,461	525	4,491
Private/Non-Profit Agencies	727	247	861	1,412	988	4,235
TOTAL	19.477	4.245	6.779	11.504	13.377	55.382



\*Symbolic Readers/Non-Readers: Students who do not demonstrate traditional print or braille reading potential (symbolic readers); non-reading students; students not working on or toward a readiness level; students who do not fall into any of the above categories. Student count totals or percentages with value of Ø do not display. These values are present in the Excel output. Full Distribution of Students Report: <a href="https://www.aph.org/app/uploads/2025/01/FY2024-Distribution-of-Eligible-Students.pdf">www.aph.org/app/uploads/2025/01/FY2024-Distribution-of-Eligible-Students.pdf</a>

## Financial Reports 10/1/23 - 9/30/24

## **Statement of Financial Position**

Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	535,355
Investments	\$	114,578,362
Net receivables	\$	16,362,956
Inventories: Net Reserve	\$	25,7Ø7,655
Property and Equipment	\$	34,937,243
Other assets	\$	5,632,65Ø
Overfunding of the defined benefit plan	\$	3,346,332
Total Assets	\$	201,100,553
Liabilities and Net Assets:		
Accounts payable and accrued payroll	\$	15,388,422
Annuities payable	\$	477,339
Other liabilities	\$	1,879,Ø73
Total Liabilities	\$	17,744,834
Net Assets	\$	181,239,632
Non-controlling interest	\$	2,116,Ø87
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	201,100,553
Statement of Activities		
Revenues:		
Products distributed and sold	\$	41,3Ø4,731
Contributions and bequests	\$	1,361,389
Investment-related activities	\$	
Other income	\$	<b>21,164,8Ø8</b>
Total Revenues	\$	89,Ø69,4Ø2
Expenses:		
Cost of products distributed and sold	\$	39,001,010
Fundraising and development expenses	\$	910,550
General and administrative expenses	\$	9,001,310
Program support expenses	\$	18,425,Ø22
Other expenses	\$	3,484,526
Total Expenses	\$	70,822,418
Net gain from operations	\$	18,246,984
Net gain from change in retirement plan valuation	\$	2,354,165
Non-controlling interest in net loss	\$	864,656
Net Gain for Year Ended September 30, 2024	\$	21,465,8Ø5
Net assets at September 3Ø, 2Ø23	\$	159,773,827
Total Net Assets at September 30, 2024	\$	181,239,632

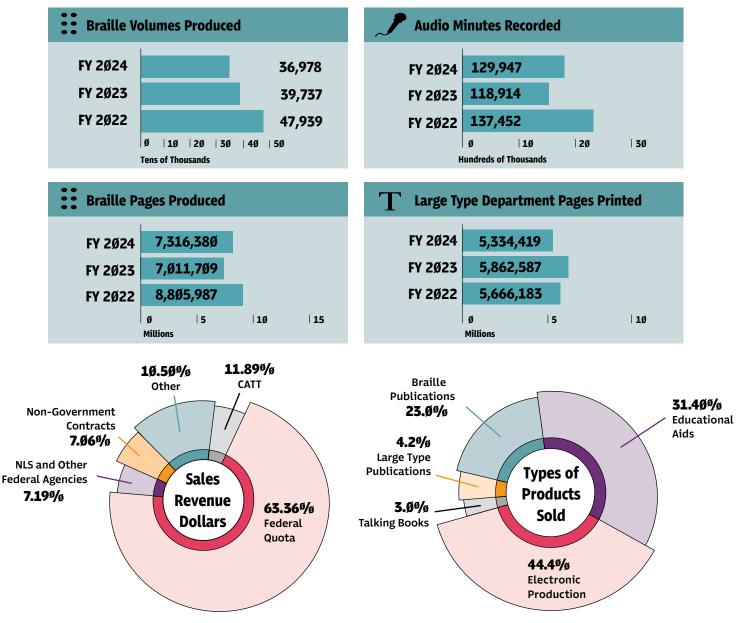
Full Financial Reports, FY24:

www.aph.org/annual-reports/annual-report-fy2024/ www.aph.org/annual-reports/fy2024-aph-financial-statement/ **Full unaudited report is available online.** APH voluntarily complies with the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 that sets the business standards for corporate governance and financial disclosure.

#### Full Financial Reports, FY24:

www.aph.org/annual-reports/annual-report-fy2Ø24/ www.aph.org/annual-reports/fy2Ø24-aph-financial-statement/

## **APH Production Highlights**



## 2024 APH Board Members

Phoebe A. Wood, Chair
Herbert W. Perkins III,
Vice-Chair
Angie M. Evans
Matt Gallagher

Jane W. Hardy David Holton Marjorie Kaiser, Ed.D. Craig Meador, Ed.D. Robin Moore Yung Nguyen W. Barrett Nichols David Nigro Russell Shaffer