Girl Scout Donates Neurodiverse Tools to Troy Public Library

TROY, MICHIGAN: Troy Public Library (TPL) partners with Lauren Hatto, a Juliette Girl Scout of Southeastern Michigan (GSSEM) on a project to provide resources and better services to neurodiverse library users in the Troy community.

Hatto used her Girl Scout Gold Award Project to raise awareness and donate neuro-affirming books and sensory-supports to TPL. “My Gold Award project was to provide neurodiverse support through communication, neuro-affirming books, and sensory tools to the Troy Public Library. These tools aim to increase all patrons’ sense of belonging,” says Hatto.

TPL’s Universal Access collection also supports neurodiverse users, creating an opportunity to make the items donated by Hatto available to the public. The collection houses non-traditional adaptive devices and materials that provide a multi-sensory experience to learning reading, math, motor skills, social-emotional skills, science, technology, and more. “Our Universal Access collection is very popular with our families, as it offers an opportunity to discover new resources and test out what works best for them before they invest in specialized items,” says Manda Carr, Youth Services Librarian.

Hatto’s low-tech communication support device is available for patrons at the Library’s service desks.

“This project allowed me to explore a new area of knowledge that I hadn't had much experience with previously. I'm passionate about making a positive difference in the world for others, and this project allowed
me to do that in a meaningful, worthwhile, and sustainable way,” said Hatto.

Troy Public Library is located at 510 W. Big Beaver Rd., just northeast of City Hall.
Visit troypl.org for more information or call 248.524.3538.

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