



December 15, 2014

Greetings Thom and the PNBA Board,

We would like to thank you for the very generous donation we received from the *Binc Badge* promotion at this year's PNBA Discovery Show. These funds will go a long way in assisting independent booksellers who are facing personal financial hardship.

We know that in the year ahead, those working on the front lines of bookselling will continue to experience unexpected emergencies. With your continued support, Binc will be there to help get them back on their feet. We are proud to be able to help prevent a minor financial emergency from becoming a major crisis for many of the bookstore employees we assist.

In 2014 with the help of donors and fundraising events like the Binc Badge, the Foundation was able to:

- Assist 41 booksellers and their families with more than \$75,000 in assistance. An average grant of \$1,600 helped:
  - stave off eviction
  - kept utilities turned on
  - assisted domestic violence survivors
  - eliminated overwhelming medical bills (45% of grant requests)
  - made up for lost income when a bookseller was disabled
  - paid funeral expenses for a family member
  - allowed a bookseller to start over after divorce
  - helped a bookseller pay the bills when another wage earner in the household lost a job
- Implement a Matching Grant Program to augment funds raised in a store or community to help a bookseller through tough times
- Award nearly \$200,000 in higher education scholarships to booksellers and their dependents
- Provide booksellers with \$20,000 in professional development scholarships

As Binc has grown, we have added new programs and altered existing ones to meet the needs of today's independent booksellers. Our mission remains the same though, to strengthen the bookselling community through charitable programs that support bookstore employees and their families. In 2014, 83% of grants were issued to independent bookstore employees or owners.

We hope that your board will decide to continue the *Binc Badge* program for 2015. Your members can be assured that all the funds raised through this program will directly benefit the country's bookstore employees.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam French".

Pam French, Executive Director

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