

Jeffersonville Carnegie Library Foundation

Jeffersonville, IN

Shortly after The Foundation acquired the old Carnegie Library facility, an unusual opportunity presented itself. The Remnant Trust, arguably one of the finest rare book collections in the world, would relocate its headquarters and holdings to Jeffersonville once the building was renovated.

It was a great opportunity but a lot of work had to be done first to raise the funds and the visibility. That's when the JCLF team contacted The Covenant Group. "It was a huge task," said Tom Lindley, Chairman of JCLF. "We were on a tight timeline and had only three years from our first discussions to opening the doors to the public. The experience and expertise The Covenant Group brought to the project, especially in the early stages, was a great help. We got off to a good start, because they helped us devise a game plan to lay the groundwork for success from the beginning."

The Covenant Group began by conducting a feasibility study to determine whether or not the Foundation's goal of raising \$4 million was achievable. Lindley commented, "The Covenant Group's process helped build our credibility with the general public. By conducting interviews with civic and community leaders, key volunteers, and corporate representatives it helped us generate awareness for our project outside of our immediate circle," Lindley stated. "We did not waste time or resources, which can happen if your organization is following the wrong path or presenting an inconsistent message to the public."

The Covenant Group partnered with JCLF as campaign counsel to continue to build on the early success. They are approaching the \$4 million with plenty of time to spare. "We are right on schedule," says Lindley. The Jeffersonville Carnegie Library will open its doors to the public in late October, 2006.

"The Covenant Group is a team of honorable, intelligent, committed and effective people. They are good partners and teammates. If JCLF is ever in need again of strategic planning services, fundraising counsel or other consulting services, or if we know of other organizations that are, The Covenant Group is the first call that I would make."