

The East Lake Community Library was conceived on March 13, 1993 by a group of seven East Lake residents who took it upon themselves to recruit volunteers and collect book donations, shelving whatever could be used to provide a library service to the area. Within six weeks they were incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, and on May 1, 1993 the East Lake Community Library opened in a donated 1800 square foot storefront in the Shoppes at Boot Ranch. It soon moved to a larger location in Woodlands Square Shopping Center and thrived there until 1996 when a paying tenant came along and forced them to move. Because no other location was available to them, the books and furnishings were put into storage and the group vigorously campaigned for funding. Due to their determined efforts, a state grant was provided, the Pinellas Library Cooperative committed funds, and the Pinellas County Commission purchased land to begin building a library for the area. In November of 1999, the new East Lake Community Library opened its doors to the public. Each year the library has expanded its collection and services to fulfill the needs of the community.

East Lake Community Library makes a dedicated effort to serve the community by offering programs and services of an educational, cultural, and recreational nature for all ages. Presently, the East Lake Community Library maintains a collection of over 40,000 volumes offering a diverse assortment of fiction, non-fiction, audio books, movies and music. With constant support from the East Lake Advisory Board, The East Lake Friends of the Library, dedicated staff, and wonderful volunteers, the East Lake Community Library will continue to flourish and provide resources to all residents of East Lake.