

## Activities & Priorities – IMLS LSTA New Hampshire State Plan 2017-2022

### I. State Activities

#### Goal 1: Equity of Access

*Objective: Increase the equity of access to library and information services for New Hampshire residents of all abilities and backgrounds by providing resource sharing, electronic resources, and continuing access to historic materials through direct services as well as coordination of linkages among and between libraries and partnerships with other agencies and organizations*

- Activity 1.1: Maintain, expand, and improve the statewide union catalog (NHU-PAC for the benefit of library staff and patrons.
- Activity 1.2: Provide an efficient and cost-effective transportation system to facilitate the exchange of interlibrary loan materials between libraries
- Activity 1.3: Facilitate and manage the NH Downloadable Books Consortium (NHDB) on behalf of the state's public libraries and their patrons.
- Activity 1.4: Maintain a digital archive of "born-digital state government publications, available online to the public at no charge
- Activity 1.5: Facilitate an open source ILS solution for small libraries
- Activity 1.6: The NH Talking Books Service will support access to materials that will help meet the reading needs and interests of NH residents who are physically unable to see, handle, or process printed material comfortably. These services may include developing a strong and current collection of materials; monitoring and promoting technologies of benefit to the low-vision community; improving awareness of and access to the library, both physically and virtually; and building community partnerships with local agencies.
- Activity 1.7: Facilitate and manage access to a variety of online databases for all types of libraries through NHewLink, coordinate group purchases on behalf of libraries of additional database content when feasible, and increase the visibility of these statewide electronic services to New Hampshire citizens
- Activity 1.8: Collect, curate, and protect historic NH printed materials, including through participation in digitization and microfilming projects to support the preservation of knowledge in multiple formats for increased public access.

#### Goal 2: Equity of Service

*Objective: Increase the equity of service to New Hampshire residents by providing professional development resources and opportunities to librarians throughout the state so that they can learn about best practices and library initiatives that will help them better serve their constituents, especially children, older residents, and rural populations.*

- Activity 2.1: Support the programs of the Center for the Book at the NH State Library, which celebrates and promotes reading, books, literacy, and the literary heritage of NH and highlight the role that reading and libraries play in enriching the lives of the people of the Granite State
- Activity 2.2: NHSL librarians will attend professional meetings, conferences, and events to promote statewide library services

- Activity 2.3: Collect and compile public library statistics annually to determine library services trends
- Activity 2.4: Maintain a NH Automated Information System (NHAIS) helpdesk to support libraries in their use of statewide cataloging and interlibrary loan resources including one-on-one technical assistance and online training and webinars
- Activity 2.5: Collaborate with state and national organizations to develop conferences for librarians, including those serving specific populations such as children, teens, older adults, and rural communities
- Activity 2.6: Provide professional development including online resources, training opportunities, and online tools to facilitate networking to enhance the skills of New Hampshire's current library workforce
- Activity 2.7: Deliver assistance and counsel to library personnel to help them improve their services for individuals of all ages
- Activity 2.8: Coordinate statewide literacy projects, including the summer reading program and other programs geared to different age groups and underserved populations

### **Goal 3: Equity of Innovation**

*Objective: Inspire lifelong learning and advance the equity of innovative services and programming by developing projects for use by the state's libraries, including scalable pilot projects, to anticipate and meet the changing needs to New Hampshire's residents for library services and information.*

- Activity 3.1: Partner with libraries and other local/national organizations to support the infrastructure and development of local projects for the digitization and technological sharing of collections and information
- Activity 3.2: Introduce new and existing technologies to libraries that will allow them to create innovative programming and services
- Activity 3.3: Develop and provide online tutorials and other resources that New Hampshire libraries can use to meet their patron's needs for technology assistance

For the full NHSL 5 year plan for IMLS LSTA:

<https://www.nh.gov/nhsl/nhlac/documents/newhampshire5yearplan2017-2022.pdf>

## **II. Federal Priorities – IMLS Grants to States (20 U.S.C. § 9141)**

1. Expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats (including new and emerging technology), in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such individuals' needs for education, lifelong learning, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy and other types of literacy skills;
2. Establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries and entities, as described in 20 U.S.C. § 9134(b)(6), for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services;
3. (A) Provide training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, and advance the delivery of library and information

services; and (B) Enhance efforts to recruit future professionals, including those from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, to the field of library and information services;

4. Develop public and private partnerships with other agencies, tribes, and community-based organizations;
5. Target library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills;
6. Target library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 9902(2) of title 42) applicable to a family of the size involved;
7. Develop library services that provide all users access to information through local, State, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks; and
8. Carry out other activities consistent with the purposes set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 9121, as described in the State library administrative agency's plan.

<https://www.ims.gov/grants/grants-state/purposes-and-priorities-lsta>

### **III. Federal Priorities – IMLS ARPA funds**

*Purpose: To achieve the American Rescue Plan Act's purposes with respect to Grants to States, this funding is to be used by September 30, 2022, in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches. Spending priorities are as follows:*

1. First, to support digital inclusion efforts to enable libraries to reach residents such as through internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and digital content and related resources, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce development needs. The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations:
  - Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - Unemployment
  - Broadband availability;
2. Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;
3. Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs; and
4. With respect to (1), (2), or (3), reach tribal and museum partners best positioned to assist with pandemic response efforts, in addition to traditionally eligible library entities, where appropriate.

*[from the Official Award Notification Letter to Michael York, NH State Librarian from IMLS via email on 4/9/2021]*