The ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Implementation Progress Report is a quarterly representation of the most recent projects and activities that are underway by ALSC committees and staff in support of ALSC’s 2017-2020 Strategic Plan objectives under Advocacy, Diversity & Inclusion and Learning & Development. A full outline of the strategic plan and past progress reports can be accessed on the ALSC website at http://www.ala.org/alsc/aboutalsc/stratplan.

This Implementation Progress report includes updated deadlines for, and some minor revisions to, select strategic plan objectives based on the annual strategic plan review by the ALSC Board of Directors at the 2018 ALA Annual Meeting. The review included an assessment of ALSC resources and activities to determine viable opportunities to continue meeting strategic plan goals.

Advocacy
ALSC will champion the value of library service to children and the resources necessary to deliver on our vision.

1. Establish an accessible content stream of valuation tools and research updates, including customizable content for members, to demonstrate the purpose and value of strong and meaningful children’s librarianship by August 2020. Transforming ALSC
   - Media Mentorship – Young Children, New Media and Libraries (YCNML) – ALSC staff, in partnership with University of Washington, and Kent State University and Claudia Haines updated the 2014 Young Children, New Media and Libraries survey and collected new data during August 2018 that will inform research on media mentorship. Survey results have been shared at ALA’s Midwinter Meeting, other conferences and the February 2019 ALSC Community Forum. The YCNML team conducted a focus group at ALA Annual in Washington DC to learn more about how children’s librarians are supporting families and children ages 0-14 in the ways they use, consume, and produce media in a variety of formats. Survey results can also inform a future IMLS grant to extend the work beyond the survey.
   - Early and Family Literacy Committee – The committee is seeking to secure a recurring ALSC Blog post to inform ALSC members of current research relevant to early and family literacy. EFL members are exploring research relevant to early and family literacy for the purpose of disseminating this information to individuals and agencies serving young children.

2. Articulate a prioritized research agenda, including but not limited to summer learning/out-of-school time, by September 2018, and pursue avenues for conducting and/or supporting the research by September 2020. Transforming Children’s Librarianship
   - Research Agenda Task Force – At 2019 Annual Conference the ALSC Board approved the Research Agenda. The agenda includes six priority research areas that identify relevant research questions and includes a bibliography of research done under each priority area. The Research Agenda will be graphically designed with final production expected by the end of November 2019, followed by strategic promotion of the publication.
3. **Amplify children’s librarians’ essential role as information literacy experts through advocacy outputs, including communications, webinars, and establishing collaborations, by December 2018.** *Transforming Communities through Libraries*

- **Advocacy and Legislation** – The committee hosted a Networking Uncommons Meet-Up at ALA Annual for ALSC members interested in learning about A&L and discussing how advocacy plays into their everyday lives. They contributed to Children's & Libraries (CAL) for the Fall & Winter columns and committed to continued contribution to CAL and the ALSC blog to write about advocacy-related matters. They are talks with PAC about collaborating on a webinar that would coincide with their series highlighting the Champion Children's Services Toolkit.

- **Building Partnerships** - Updates to the Partnership Organization Database listing national youth-service organizations and the recent creation of an Infographic outlining how to build partnerships will help advocate for potential partnerships between libraries and youth services organizations to further their service to their communities and patrons. By building stronger relationships with partners, both parties are able to better advocate their resources to a wider array of patrons.

- **Website Advisory Committee** – The committee is considering ways to amplify ALSC’s role by making the website more visible and relevant to parents and educators and by pulling together materials already provided on ALSC website more accessible to non-Librarians.

- **Public Awareness Committee (PAC)** – The committee put the finishing touches on the Championing Children’s Services toolkit and is in the process of planning a webinar series with the Advocacy & Legislation committee that considers how to advocate for library services for children using the toolkit.

  A PAC member authored a blog post highlighting the resolution passed by ALA regarding library service for children in migrant detention centers.

- **National Summer Learning Association** - In 2018, ALSC collaborated with the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) along with the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM) to promote National Summer Learning Day (July 12, 2018). The ALSC Board voted to maintain this collaboration from 2019-2021. This year, NSLA promoted a weeklong summer learning event from July 8-13, 2019 organized around theme days. Summer learning resources, including ALSC summer reading booklists were shared with NSLA to support this year’s event.

- **Project LOCAL / Project VOICE** - ALSC staff, in partnership with the research team, J. Elizabeth Mills, Kathleen Campana, and Dr. Michelle H. Martin, developed a white paper that will share Project LOCAL research results examining how libraries are going outside of their walls and into the community to reach and serve children and families in underserved communities who are not currently using the library. The white paper titled will be graphically designed with final production expected by the end of November 2019, followed by strategic promotion of the publication.

  In addition, the ALSC Board voted to support a three-year LB21 Research in Service to Practice grant from Project LOCAL research team to create an outcomes-based, social justice planning and assessment tool as part of Project VOICE. The grant was awarded and this tool will be...
developed as a result of the team’s research. The tool will support library staff in their work in underserved communities with children ages zero to eight and their families.

- **Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood - Grand Communications/Fred Rogers Productions** – Fred Rogers Productions, working through Grand Communications, sought a collaboration with ALSC to co-develop a series of materials to support in September 2019 a month-long theme of Family for the Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood television show and to promote library opt-in to access materials, proprietary PBS assets (graphics, logo files, etc.), and potential book giveaways. ALSC’s Early Childhood Programs & Services developed a set of family activities and Quicklists Consulting committee developed a booklist as supplemental resources. This partnership with Fred Rogers Productions highlighted ALSC’s commitment to supporting high quality early learning materials for young children.

Other activities in support of the Advocacy strategic action area:

- **Intellectual Freedom** - The previous committee co-chairs, acting as liaisons to the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, completed work on revisions to the Minors and Internet Activity, Diverse Collections, and Evaluating Library Collections interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights. Diverse Collections, in particular, was completely rewritten with a large amount of feedback by committee members. All were passed by ALA Council and implemented.

- **Public Awareness Committee - PAC** finished and submitted its advocacy inventory and subsequent advocacy evaluation report. The committee was tasked with analyzing the materials available to ALSC members across the ALA website and making a recommendation to the Board with a strategy to move forward that was inclusive of the future direction of the Everyday Advocacy Editor position.

**Diversity & Inclusion**

ALSC will become more diverse and inclusive, acting to promote these values in all aspects of library service to children.

1. Increase diversity in ALSC membership and reduce barriers to participation as measured against the Diversity in ALSC baseline survey by September 2019. *Transforming ALSC*

   - **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion within ALSC Implementation Task Force** – The task force continues to promote awareness of EDI across committees as steps toward a more diverse and inclusive association. The task force’s ongoing goal is to see EDI baked into the work of all the committees and on the minds of all ALSC members.

   - **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion within ALSC Implementation Task Force** - During and through ALA Annual, the task force has continued to support the six Equity Fellows through in-person meetings at the conferences, as well as ongoing mentoring in individual pairs. Following the Board’s decision at ALA Annual to approve additional funding for the Fellows, the task force has worked to determine guidelines/expectations around that funding.
2. Expand opportunities for existing members from underrepresented experiences to serve in ALSC activities, as measured by longitudinal studies and/or focus groups, by September 2020. *Transforming ALSC*

- **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion within ALSC Implementation Task Force** – the task force’s continued work with the Equity Fellows and the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee directly consider how ALSC recruits and develops future leaders in the profession and in the association.

3. Increase the practice of cultural humility among children’s library staff serving youth by developing an accessible online cultural humility training series by August 2020. *Transforming Children’s Librarianship*

- **Education Committee** - The committee submitted a proposal to the ALSC Board that supports cultural humility training. A task force is being assembled to vet the proposal and other options. The Education committee will work with the new task force on the cultural humility training updates, provide additional potential instructor names and help answer Board questions regarding the proposal.

- **Bystander Training** – ALSC and other ALA divisions participated in bringing bystander intervention training opportunities to their members. This collaborative effort provided an opportunity to maximize training opportunities across several divisions. ALSC provided this bystander intervention training to ALSC leadership including ALSC’s current and incoming board members, Priority Group Consultants and committee chairs. A train-the-trainer program with similar content is in the works and will result in a training opportunity that can be made available to a wider ALSC audience.

Other activities in support of the Diversity and Inclusion strategic action area:

- **Building Partnerships** - The Partner Organization Database has categories that support diversity and inclusion services. The committee will continue to encourage members to find organizations that fall into these categories.

- **Children & Technology** – The webinar, Inclusive Technology for Babies Through Teens in the Library was presented in June. The committee is in the process of developing a blog series highlighting assistive technologies available in libraries for patrons that will include information about the library’s role in the disability community and more information about available technologies.

- **National Institute Task Force** – The 2020 Institute theme has been selected, *Dive In: Engage, Amplify, Activate*. The task force plans to work with ALA’s Office of Diversity & Literacy Outreach Services (ODLOS) and local Indigenous communities to plan a networking reception the night before the conference begins for participants to learn more about Indigenous communities and youth literature and have actionable ideas that they can implement in their communities. The task force plans to identify and work together with Indigenous partners. They have brainstormed speakers who would represent a range of communities and could speak on a variety of topics.
• **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Implementation Task Force** – The task force submitted two session proposals for ALSC Institute to help educate ALSC members about the work that is currently occurring throughout the organization in relation to EDI, to provide opportunities for ALSC members and other attendees to learn more about the role and impact of EDI in the association and the profession, as well as give attendees specific strategies to get started as they bring an equity lens to their own association or professional work and to build the network of future ALSC leaders who are invested in and prepared to pursue equity, diversity, and inclusion in the association and the profession.

• **Quicklists Consulting Committee** – The committee strives to ensure that all of their booklist choices are sensitive to diversity and inclusion. This quarter the committee completed the Celebrating Families Reading List for the ALSC collaboration with PBS's Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood. The committee is working on next year's Summer Reading List and future projects including an Early Literacy List, Dia Book List and a Graphic Novels update.

• **ALSC Statement on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion** - The ALSC Board approved the statement which was promoted through ALA and ALSC channels and is displayed on the ALSC website as part of a comprehensive landing page featuring EDI information and resources.

• **ALSC Awards Committees** – As a follow up to the New Chair Orientation presentation by Equity Diversity & Inclusion Implementation Task Force Chairs and task force member at 2019 Midwinter on considering EDI work while evaluating books and media, the task force members attended the 2019 Annual Conference Chair meeting to discuss any follow up questions and concerns. Since those meetings, most of the awards committee chairs have been sharing diversity resources with members, discussing how diverse member backgrounds can be respected throughout their work together and inviting guest speakers to further discuss EDI as it relates to review work and to ensure that every member feels valued and is treated with respect and consideration.

• **Welcoming Spaces National Forum - Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** - ALSC was awarded an IMLS National Leadership Grant in the area of Community Catalysts. ALSC, in collaboration with the Association of Children’s Museums (ACM) to convene a one-day National Forum attended by representatives from 12 children’s museums, 12 libraries and up to 24 of their partnering organizations to distill a set of best practices from their exemplary work serving immigrants and refugees, compile the best practices resulting from the forum into a white paper, and broadly disseminate the best practices document to elevate these practices and encourage their adoption by libraries and children’s museums to create more welcoming spaces for immigrants and refugees in their communities.

• **Charlemae Rollins President’s Program** – The 2020 Charlemae Rollins President’s Program will be: Telling Our Authentic Story: Connecting, Sharing and Bridging Divides Through Children’s Literature. The program will ask what it is about authentic stories, drawn from experience, culture, fears, and joys that draw us in and touch our hearts? Participants will explore the ways stories help young people preserve and learn from the past. The program includes a moderated discussion with three noted children’s
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authors/illustrators who will explore how stories help children prepare, celebrate and connect with our diverse world.

Learning & Development
ALSC will actively develop new generations of leaders.

1. Build a discernible pathway, along with opportunities for training and mentorship, to develop ALSC members as leaders in their libraries, the profession, and/or the association by September 2020.

Transforming ALSC

- Managing Children’s Services - The committee submitted a proposal (May 2019) for an online leadership development course for Youth Services library staff (based on their last 3-part webinar series). The committee also submits monthly blog posts focusing on topics of professional development and management skills. The committee would like to create a toolkit based on the resources developed by past ALSC MCS committee members. The toolkit would then be presented via webinar.

- Nominating & Leadership Development – The committee presented on the topic of leadership development at Leadership & ALSC session at 2019 Annual Conference.

- Membership Committee - The facilitation of ALSC 101 and promotion of ALSC education events and recent blog posts featuring education opportunities provides a pathway for members to access information to support their learning and development.

- Organization & Bylaws – The committee submitted a short-and-long range plan for the “What Does that ALSC Committee Do?” web page to the ALSC Executive Director and Executive Committee and it was approved. Regular updates will be made to the resource and the web page where it resides will receive a comprehensive revision every five years with details of the process to be determined. Additionally, the co-chair arrangement for most process committees will open up leadership opportunities.

2. Provide at least two educational opportunities in media mentorship and child development, ideally developed and/or presented with collaborative partners from other ALA units, by September 2018.

Transforming Children’s Librarianship

- Annual Conference Programming – The following were media mentorship programming at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference:
  o Ready To Learn: Public media and library partnerships for early science and literacy learning
  o Leadership & ALSC – part the program topic will include information from the Young Children, New Media & Libraries research team

3. Organize and promote ALSC activities to position the core competencies as central to library service to children, by May 2019. Transforming Children’s Librarianship

- Education Committee - Core Competencies revision project: The committee started critical review of ALSC’s core competences, worked on a timeline for updating them, and are in the
process of building a survey to send to membership to request feedback that will inform the updates.

• **Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers** – The committee is actively working on a survey for ALSC membership seeking feedback to inform a refresh of the toolkit for underserved populations to help librarians develop or enhance library services to special populations of children and families.

• **Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee** - The committee worked with Fred Rogers Productions and Grand Communications to develop activity ideas for librarians to support the theme of “Family” for new episodes of the PBS KIDS series Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood that premiered in September. The committee also collaborated with the Quicklists committee, who created a booklist for this project.

The committee is working on a webinar series on infant/baby programming and will finalize topics, assign roles and write a proposal for the Education Committee’s review.

• **Early Childhood Programs and Services Committee** – The committee hosted a Cookies & Conversation chat in the Uncommons at ALA Annual in Washington, D.C. about storytime with other attendees. It was a success with over 20 participants and the committee hopes to host chats at future conferences.

• **Intellectual Freedom** - The committee continues work on the ALSC Blog long-term project, creating resources for librarians to feature intellectual freedom and information literacy in core library service. The scope of the project was finalized at the ALA Annual 2019 meeting; members will write blog posts that focus on each of the two concepts in storytime, book clubs, outreach, and STEAM/craft programs. Planning continues on what the resulting deliverables will be, now that the committee has new members who will be in charge of carrying that part of the project forward.

• **Library Service to Underserved Children and Their Caregivers** – The committee is working on the refresh of their toolkit, which will potentially help the ALSC community and youth librarians serve a variety of populations they have not begun to serve. They have been able to highlight the work of the 2019 grant winner this summer and are very proud of how successful her program has been. One of the goals this year has been to share the work of the grant winners with the ALSC community and make this a standard part of the grant process.

• **School-age Programs & Services Committee** - This fall, the committee began to formulate ideas for an ALSC Webinar proposal (to take place in late Spring 2020) on the topic of school-age literacy, providing programming ideas for kids ages 5-10 who need extra support with their reading skills. We are exploring topics such as comprehension, fluency, making connections, the mechanics of reading and book pairings for the programming. We hope to submit our proposal around early December 2019.

• **Budget Committee** - At Annual the committee expressed interest in collaborating with the Grants Administration Committee on possible webinars or blog posts on successful budget development for grant writing. The chair is working to continue the discussion.
• **Children and Libraries Editorial Advisory Committee** - Our committee suggests relevant article topics for future issues of CAL. They are working to make the process of contributing to CAL more transparent and accessible, through revising documents, posting on the ALSC blog, and exploring the possibility of a writing workshop to enhance members’ learning and development.

• **Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship Committee** – The committee shares its experiences visiting special children's collections in ALA-host cities; in this case, the Library of Congress's Children's Literature Center. The committee submitted an article to CAL about their recent visit to Library of Congress' Children's Literature Center. Additionally, the committee reviews applications for the Bechtel Fellowship to support a continuing education/research opportunity for an ALSC member.

• **Children's Notable Recordings** - Committee members learn a unique set of evaluation skills pertinent to children's recordings, particularly audiobooks, that could be a great resource to share with ALSC members beyond the final created list. The chair and a past Notable Children's Recordings Chair submitted a proposal to the 2020 ALSC Institute on this topic. They may also consider proposing a webinar to the ALSC Education Committee on the value of audiobooks, how to evaluate them, and how to curate and market a successful library collection.

4. Develop a toolkit of research-based best practices for out-of-school time learning and disseminate the toolkit and practices to members by September 2019. *Transforming Communities through Libraries*

    No additional activity to report.

Other activities in support of the Learning and Development strategic action area:

    No additional activity to report

**Opportunities**

ALSC considers many opportunities for collaboration with ALA Divisions and other organizations. The ALSC 2017-2020 Strategic Plan serves as a primary guide for determining how ALSC will prioritize potential projects and activities. These potential opportunities are identified below:

• No additional activity to report