LIBRARY RECOVERY FUNDING PROPOSAL

Library leaders and workers across the U.S., must make our voices heard to our members of Congress in support of our nation's libraries. Congress is moving extremely quickly on consideration of economic relief and recovery packages in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact. Now is the time to contact your legislators to let them know what the library field is facing and urge them to provide critical support in the following areas.

RECOVERY CENTERS IN LIBRARIES: $300 MILLION

Libraries are well-positioned to serve as recovery centers for community members, to help individuals with employment search and skills development, and to connect constituents with government aid and services.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL CONTENT: $175 MILLION

There is a short-term need for digital materials because of library closures and sheltering-in-place.

HOT SPOTS FOR LENDING: $160 MILLION

Hot spots may be loaned by individuals in the community as well as used by the public library for outreach—for example a bookmobile/tech mobile could locate in a parking lot and additional hot spots could be spread out in the parking lot.

DEEP CLEANING: $79 MILLION

Before return to full public service, public, academic, and school libraries will need and want a deep cleaning, both for health reasons as well as to instill confidence in their respective user communities.

LIBRARY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS: $20 MILLION

The several national library associations as well as the state library associations, regional library associations, library consortia, and other cooperative bodies will experience multiple effects of dislocation.

FUNDING TO PROTECT CORE SERVICES: $582 MILLION

With the downturn in the overall U.S. economy, state and local government revenues will decline. As a result, most public libraries will be facing budget cuts.

IMLS ADMINISTRATION: $20 MILLION

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will need additional funding to oversee and administer these new programs as well as conduct outreach and communications to the library community.

ALA American Library Association