I. State Activities

Goal 1: Alaska libraries will support lifelong learning opportunities for all Alaskans.

Objective: Alaska libraries will target lifelong learning services and programs that include individuals of all ages, of diverse geographic, cultural, or socioeconomic backgrounds, with special needs, and other underserved populations.

Activity 1.1: Assist libraries in determining and meeting the needs of people of all ages, who are disabled, or who have special needs.

Activity 1.2: Support improved library service and accessibility to cultural and historical programs for and about Alaska Natives and Alaska Native culture.

Activity 1.3: Assist libraries in determining and meeting the needs of people from various cultures and non-English speaking groups in their communities.

Objective: Alaska libraries will support literacy, learning and life skills programs for people of all ages.

Activity 1.4: Support reading motivation programs, including statewide or individual summer reading programs for people of all ages.

Activity 1.5: Develop and publicize the early childhood resource center and train library staff and other service providers who work with children from birth through pre-K in appropriate techniques.

Activity 1.6: Support author visits and cultural programming and learning opportunities for people all ages.

Activity 1.7: Provide library users with training in digital and information literacy, basic computer skills, research, electronic resources, and media creation.

Activity 1.8: Support library users of all ages in their pursuit of formal education.

Activity 1.9: Support financial literacy programs for people of all ages.

Activity 1.10: Support health and wellness programs for people of all ages.

Objective: Alaskans in unserved rural communities will receive library services.

Activity 1.11: Support reference service through the existing 800# reference and ILL backup service and by exploring new technological means of provide reference.

Activity 1.12: Offer Books-by-Mail or appropriate alternatives to Alaskans living in areas without public libraries.

Activity 1.13: Formulate strategies to determine whether local library service is desired and feasible in communities that do not have public libraries.

Activity 1.14: Work with school and tribal libraries to design and support library service for the public in communities without public libraries.

Objective: Alaska librarians will pursue the knowledge and skills necessary to better serve the diverse ////and dispersed population of Alaska.

Activity 1.15: Offer training and consulting services for library staff in new technologies, traditional library skills, and specialized service or topics.

Activity 1.16: Award scholarships for professional certification or advanced degrees.

Activity 1.17: Provide continuing education grants to library staff to attend state, regional, and national conferences and other training events.

Activity 1.18: Support state, regional, and national leadership development programs for library staff working in all types of libraries.

Goal 2: Alaska libraries will provide access to content and materials in various formats for all Alaskans.

Objective: Libraries will select and provide access to physical and electronic materials to meet the information needs of their communities.

Activity 2.1: Assist libraries in providing content and cataloging access to materials in formats and languages appropriate to their individual communities.

Activity 2.2: Provide consultation and assistance to libraries in assessing and evaluating local collections for inclusion in OCLC and other databases and catalogs.

Activity 2.3: Support SLED, the Statewide Library Electronic Doorway.

Activity 2.4: Help libraries pilot e-content, including e-books, e-magazines, downloadable audio and video, statewide databases, and other emerging options for delivering content.

Activity 2.5: Collaborate with statewide consortia and groups to expand access to Alaska's online electronic resources and services.

Objective: Alaskan libraries will preserve and provide access to the unique resources of Alaska.

Activity 2.6: Assist libraries with local efforts to provide materials in Alaska Native languages.

Activity 2.7: Support creation or digitization of resources that document Alaska's history and its peoples in a culturally responsive manner.

Activity 2.8: Assist libraries in local efforts to evaluate and preserve unique library materials about Alaska.

Activity 2.9: Fund library pilot projects that support Alaskans in publishing and preserving their original creative works.

Objective: Libraries will offer hardware, software, educational tools, and other materials to the public.

Activity 2.10: Acquire hardware and software to support access to electronic resources.

Activity 2.11: Support library pilot projects that create unique collections, such as tools, sporting goods, household items and other materials, for public use.

Activity 2.12: Support projects that introduce the public to STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics) content and activities.

Objective: All Alaskans will have access to low-cost, high-speed telecommunications in libraries and communities.

Activity 2.13: Assist libraries and communities in developing strategies to obtain affordable bandwidth that meets local needs.

Activity 2.14 Work with telecommunication providers and other agencies to expand low-cost high-speed access to libraries and communities.

Goal 3: Alaska libraries will explore evolving roles as anchor institutions that benefit their communities.

Objective: Alaskan libraries will support economic development in their communities.

Activity 3.1: Become idea incubators for local businesses and entrepreneurs by providing business information, services, and classes on how to start a business, e-commerce, funding sources, marketing, and management.

Activity 3.2: Become centers for workforce development by providing assistance with employment searches, vocational education, certification, job hunting, and career management.

Objective: Alaskan libraries will facilitate participation in e-government and civic engagement.

    Activity 3.3: Become centers for access to government information by providing assistance with electronic forms and online services offered by local, state, and federal government.

    Activity 3.4: Promote civic engagement and engaged citizenship by offering programs and venues to discuss issues of public concern.

Objective: Alaskan libraries will seek partners to transform themselves into local idea laboratories and multi-use spaces for their communities.

    Activity 3.5: Support planning for the creation and equipping of flexible learning and meeting spaces and as venues for a broad range of cultural and community activities.

    Activity 3.6: Provide computers, software and peripheral equipment for collaborative spaces to create and use digital and emerging media.

    Activity 3.7: Help libraries collaborate with local and state entities to become disaster response centers with equipment, supplies and training.

Objective: Alaska libraries will actively participate in networks, partnerships, and   collaborative activities to improve library service on the local, regional, and statewide level.

    Activity 3.8: Support the Alaska Library Network and other entities as they strengthen Alaska's libraries through effective coordination of cooperative services and programs.

    Activity 3.9: Foster partnerships with community, regional and statewide organizations to meet community needs and improve library services.

    Activity 3.10: Assist libraries with strategic planning or developing alternative governance or financing structures or in developing regional, borough or statewide services.

II. Federal Priorities

- Expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats, in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such literacy skills;

- Establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improve coordination among and between libraries and entities for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services;

- 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 enhance efforts to recruit future professionals to the field of library and information services;

- Develop public and private partnerships with other agencies and community-based organizations;

- 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; 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.

- Develop library services that provide all users access to information through local, state, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks