

Advocacy Resources

Advocacy resources help support public libraries with advocacy efforts. These resource links will provide tools, training and information to promote public libraries, secure funding and insure sustainability and relevance.

American Library Association (ALA)

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy>

Tools, research, talking points, and legislative action resources from the ALA Office for Library Advocacy.

Illinois Library Association (ILA)

<https://www.ila.org/advocacy/ready-set-advocate>

Tools, research, training videos, and current Illinois legislative updates.

EveryLibrary

<https://www.everylibrary.org>

The only national political action committee for libraries; provides campaign support, advocacy coaching, and fundraising tools.

EveryLibrary Institute

<https://www.everylibraryinstitute.org/>

As a 501c3 non-profit companion organization to EveryLibrary (a 501c4), The EveryLibrary Institute is dedicated to ensuring continued public and political support for library funding.

Public Library Association (PLA)

<https://www.ala.org/pla/advocacy>

Resources focused on community engagement, awareness campaigns, and outcome measurement.

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

<https://www.ifla.org/units/advocacy/>

Global advocacy tools including the Library Map of the World and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)-aligned messaging.

Libraries Transform

<https://www.librariestransform.org>

Public awareness campaign with free posters, social media tools, and messaging templates.

VoteLibraries

<https://www.votelibraries.org/>

The VoteLibraries initiative from the EveryLibrary Institute is designed to assist libraries in their mission to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are registered, informed, and empowered to access the ballot.

Censorship & Intellectual Freedom

ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)

<https://www.ala.org/oif>

Reports on book bans, challenges, and guidance for protecting intellectual freedom in libraries.

Fight for the First

<https://www.fightforthefirst.org/>

Join the fight for the First Amendment and help fight against book bans or start your own first amendment campaign.

Freedom to Read Foundation

<https://www.ftf.org/>

Legal defense and public education foundation protecting access to information.

Unite Against Book Bans

<https://uniteagainstbookbans.org>

National campaign to fight censorship and protect the freedom to read.

National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC)

<https://ncac.org/issues/libraries>

Advocacy tools and legal resources to fight censorship in library collections.

For Trustees, Friends, and Foundations

United for Libraries (ALA)

<https://www.ala.org/united>

Specialized training opportunities and resources for trustees, friends, and foundations.

iLEAD Library Trustee Training Portal

<https://www.ileadtrustee.org>

Grant-funded project by the Illinois State Library and the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) to support and empower trustees in the crucial work they do for the library and the community.

Bolder Advocacy by Alliance for Justice

https://www.bolderadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Election_Checklist_for_501c3_Public_Charities.pdf

Election Checklist for 501(c)(3) Public Charities

<https://afj.org/resource/comparison-of-501c3-and-501c4-permissible-activities/>

Comparison of 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) Permissible Activities

Additional training opportunities for trustees, friends, and foundations are available through the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) and the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS).