



Illinois Library Association

ILA Committee and Forum Reports

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will meet on the following dates in 2019-20: 11/21/19, 1/30/20, 4/30/20, and 6/11/20. Reports should be submitted **two weeks before each board meeting** to the board and staff liaison (liaisons are listed on rosters at <http://www.ila.org/about/committees> or <http://www.ila.org/forums>) and the ILA office (email: dfoote@ila.org).

Committee or Forum: **Advocacy**

Report completed by: **Jim Deiters & Alex Todd**

Date: **November 7, 2019**

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

Last spring, the ILA Executive Board accepted the Committee's suggested improvements to our written charge. In July, Advocacy Members met in East Peoria for the ILA committees & forums kick-off meeting. A 2019-2020 plan was put in place to align with the advocacy initiatives found in the new ILA strategic plan. Three programs (Advocacy Boot Camp, Local Election Toolkit, Talking to Legislators) submitted for the annual Conference in Tinley Park were accepted and were successful in their presentation. Another program from Advocacy was submitted to the upcoming Parks & Recreation Conference in Chicago—and it was also accepted. Committee members are now working on the eight legislative meet-ups across the State that typically happen in February and March. We are also revising an annual advocacy calendar for Illinois that the Ohio Library Council put together. Lastly, Committee members are creating a modular advocacy boot camp program for ILA based on ALA's successful workshop.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

For the next few months, the Advocacy Committee will focus on the success of the coming meet-ups. We will be working with coordinators to design events that match the wants of local staff, trustees, and legislators. Advocacy Committee members were asked to assist with the meet-ups and help gather stories from patrons whose lives have been positively impacted by their library. These stories will be included in a prepared handout at meet-ups and, hopefully, shared in-person at those local events.

Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

Legislators hearing first-hand accounts of the important work of librarians and libraries.

Anticipated timeline(s) and completion date(s) for each project:

The eight meet-ups will take place across Illinois in February and March of 2020.

Activities should be designed to advance the ILA Strategic Plan. Which strategic goal areas are best addressed by the activities above? Check all that apply and describe briefly how the activities will advance the goal(s). View the full plan at <http://www.ila.org/about/strategic-plan>.

Goal area: Advocacy—Legislative Advocacy

Goal area: Advocacy—Community Advocacy

Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession

Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association

Goal area: Delivery of Member Value

Goal area: Leadership

Legislative Advocacy: Governmental decision-makers increase support for libraries based on the impact of patron success stories.

Community Advocacy: The communities and people served are vocal advocates for libraries and are willing to “show-up” when called upon.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Executive Board (**please discuss with your board or staff liaison first. Board liaisons can help with strategic, programmatic, policy-related and content-related questions; staff liaisons can help with procedural or business-related questions**):

None at this time. Thanks.

THANK YOU for your service to ILA and Illinois librarianship!