

## NHLA Advocacy & Legislative Committee Priorities, FY2021

11/9/2020

1. Continue to provide advocacy resources and training for all NH library personnel, trustees, and supporters.
  - a. [ALA Advocacy Academy](#) (revised Advocacy Bootcamp), particularly the stories piece
  - b. NH/US legislative overview – how does process work/timing and where do librarians/NHLA/Advocacy committee fit in on both state & fed level. Co-op and state-wide level webinars/presentations
  - c. Other advocacy-related virtual trainings
2. Collect specific stories from NH librarians, trustees, and library supporters to best illustrate library impact and value across NH communities in 2020, with focus of providing services in a different way, not fewer services, during pandemic. Use Engage as collection method.
3. Collaborations:
  - a. Create a statewide library ecosystem taskforce using best practices outlined in the [American Library Association State Ecosystem Initiative Toolkit](#). Specifically, start to build the relationships with other library organizations in the state/region to support sustained consistent communications and networks to enhance advocacy efforts. Cooperative effort to kick off between the NHLA Officers and the NHLA Advocacy & Legislative Committee.
  - b. Continue collaborating with NHSLMA and NHLTA on joint advocacy efforts (virtual meetings with congressional delegation; discussion about statewide advocacy efforts; disseminating social media posts; etc.)
4. Federal congressional interaction:
  - a. Maintain regular quarterly virtual contact with our NH Congressional delegation
  - b. Communicate with NHLA members about library federal funding issues (winter/spring 2021) using Engage to have members contact congressional delegation
  - c. Coordinate with a library for each congressional member to visit during the time home August 2021
  - d. National Library Legislative Day in May 2021?
5. State legislative interaction:
  - a. Monitor and communicate about potential NH bills that affect NH libraries
  - b. Build and maintain relationships with NH legislators
    1. Start annual documentation (spreadsheet) of librarian/trustee/supporter relationships with NH Legislators, after March town meetings (solicit for info in April each year); start with Senators & Executive Council in 2021; add NH Representatives in 2022.
    2. Set up virtual meetings with NH Senators for Spring 2021 to introduce NHLA and importance of libraries in NH communities...librarian from home town of Senator and someone from NHLA Advocacy Committee.
    3. Partner with individual libraries to request their NH Senator to record/do a live storytime or other program piece for a library in their district for Summer Reading 2021