Now, more than ever, your constituents are using library services.

Can you ensure that New Yorkers have what it takes to compete and succeed in today's economy?

What Does the LSTA Program Mean for New York?

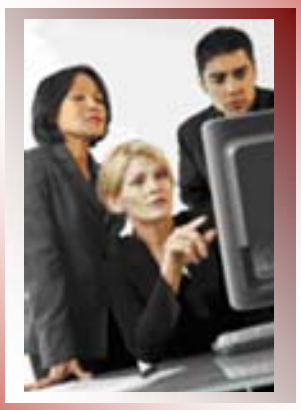
The Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program provides federal funds that help support local libraries throughout New York State. Through statewide services and grants from the New York State Library, the program encourages the blending of local, state, and federal resources to build and enhance library services for all New Yorkers.

Give Your Constituents Their Fair Share of Federal Funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Program.

Support increased funding for LSTA

- **Library use in New York is up dramatically.**
- **New Yorkers benefited from $9 million in federal funding to libraries through the LSTA program in 2008.**
- **Family reading programs, employment information services, and access to high-quality electronic resources are among the vital library services these funds support.**
- **Although Federal funds represent less than one percent of library expenditures in New York State, their impact is great, as they leverage state and local funds and fuel innovation.**

New York State Library
The State Education Department



The LSTA program helps provide these services to New York's library users in their communities:

- Job and consumer health information.
- Access to timely, accurate online information that is not available free on the Internet.
- Access from home, school, or office to full-text electronic information updated and maintained by librarians.
- Training in new computer technology.
- Literacy programs for adults and families.
- Marketing, demographic, and other information crucial to small businesses.

The New York State Library distributes LSTA funds through grants and statewide services that support library programs to New York's 7,000 libraries, 73 library systems, and the New York State Library:

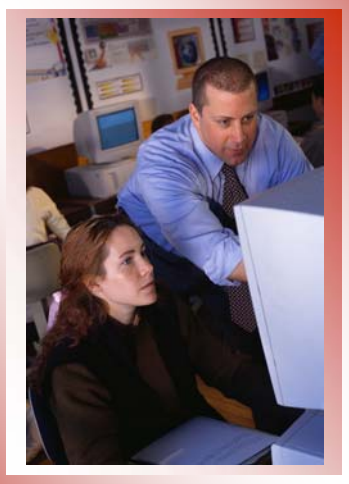
- Programs that enable libraries to provide high-quality computer and Internet services to their communities.
- Projects that provide equitable access to technology by supporting cooperative efforts among New York's 7,000 libraries, 73 library systems, and the New York State Library.
- Projects that provide special services that contribute to better access to information for all community residents, such as adult and family literacy programs.

LSTA funds help New Yorkers in densely populated urban centers, sparsely populated rural regions, and ethnically and economically diverse communities through these services:

- Counseling and job information for individuals moving from welfare to work.
- Programs to help at-risk preschoolers develop literacy skills.
- Promotion of literacy in family environments.
- Training for entrepreneurs in the skills needed to research and develop their plans for small businesses.

The LSTA program supports the Statewide Summer Reading Program that helps children develop a love for reading and maintain reading skills learned during the school year:

- Research shows that library summer reading programs impact student achievement and test scores and help prevent learning losses over the summer.
- More than <u>any</u> other public institution, including schools, public libraries contribute to the intellectual growth of children from diverse backgrounds during the summer.
- More than 1.5 million children and teens from throughout New York State participated in the 2008 Statewide Summer Reading Program.



NOVELNY New York Online Virtual Electronic Library **, the pilot project for New York's first *Statewide Internet Library*, helps bridge the digital divide and supports New York's continued leadership in the information economy:**

- Statewide access to online information: major collections of commercial databases such as ProQuest, Business & Company Resource Center, InfoTrac Custom Newspapers (full text of over 150 newspapers, including New York State newspapers such as *The New York Times),* and age-appropriate electronic resources for K-12 students, including the Grolier Encyclopedia.
- Provision of $35 in resources for every $1 of LSTA funding through statewide purchasing of electronic information now freely available through more than 5,000 libraries.

For more information on LSTA funding and New York State, visit these websites:

New York State Library at
http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/

LSTA funding at
http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/lsta/

Or contact:

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Support for this publication was provided by the Friends of the New York State Library.

LSTA Funds at Work in New York

- *School Librarians as 21st Century Leaders* established an innovative collaborative train the trainer project among all 41 School Library Systems statewide. As lead agency, Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES School Library System contracted with the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) to offer twenty-seven licensed institutes over 6 months to approximately 2,000 school library media specialists from multiple school districts. This will offer a cost effective way to provide training and professional development to elementary and high school librarians, teachers, reading specialists, library systems, and school administrators across the State.
- As an outgrowth of the award-winning Hudson River Valley Heritage website <www.hrvh.org>, the Southeastern New York Library Resources Council (SENYLRC) received LSTA funding for the Historic Newspapers demonstration project to digitize historic newspapers from the region. The *HRVH-Historic Newspapers* project will establish standards, workflows, and a technology infrastructure for creating a long term newspaper digitization project. The project produced a well-designed, user-friendly test site at http://news.hrvh.org. In the future, students, genealogists, and historians will be able to access these primary source materials easily from any location.
- To fill a gap in free assistive technology services, access, and training in Onondaga County, the Onondaga Public Library System formulated the *Starburst Accessibility Program*. Focused on seniors not eligible for educational or job-training assistive technology, the Starburst Accessibility Program will expand the Central Library's already existing STAR (Special Technologies and Adaptive Resources) Program to at least seven member libraries. Adaptive technologies for individuals with vision and/or hearing deficits will be provided to the libraries along with training for staff and patrons.
- The Upper Hudson Library System LSTA project *"Explore Your Shore: Discovering Community History @ Your Library"* used the theme of "Hudson 400" as a springboard to improve family literacy efforts by thirty-four member libraries. The project also helped develop model partnerships and collaborations between libraries, schools, and local community organizations. "Hudson 400" is the Hudson Valley quadricentennial celebration commemorating the 400th anniversary of European exploration of the Hudson River. Library staff developed family literacy programs involving parents and families in their children's education. The interactive and intergenerational programs included subjects on Native American culture, Hudson River history, family or local history, and ecology.