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Monday Morning Eye-Opener May 11, 2020

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



May 11, 2020

Enrich Iowa Agreements

Submit Online By June 1



This reminder comes from State Library consultant Scott Dermont. First of all, the **Enrich Iowa Agreements** are due by June 1; the deadline was extended to allow directors more time to respond since so many libraries remain closed for normal business hours.

Submitting an **Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement** is required before receiving Open Access reimbursement, ILL lending reimbursement, or Direct State Aid---funding for meeting standards.

Scott sent all Iowa library directors a memo in early April, with instructions for filling out the online form. But he feels this point needs a stronger emphasis: we are not accepting **EI Agreements** vis fax or U.S. mail.

Scott explains “*...All forms must be filled out using the new online system. This includes your signature, which will now be an electronic signature. The online form is very easy and the e-signature feature is very cool. I’m working from home these days, not currently in the Des Moines office, so I’m not there to pick up faxes or mailed-in forms. The online submission has such advantages: no copying, scanning, or mailing. It’s quick and easy and here’s another bonus: once you’ve completed the form, the software sends you back an email with the completed form attached. You can save that copy for your records if you like, just to double-check that you submitted it. If you’ve already submitted your form, thank you! ...*”

Send any questions about the online Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement to Toni Blair, send any questions about the Enrich Iowa Program itself to Scott Dermont. Thanks for seeing to this in the next few weeks.

Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement

ILL Borrowing and Lending

Variation on a Theme

District Consultants have been comparing notes about questions that have surfaced in our respective office hours. Regarding quarantining returned books, a recent variation on that theme regards SILO-ILL: should quarantining apply to ILL items too? If so, on which end of the line—the



borrowing library or the lending library? Our answer to the first question is yes—quarantining should apply. As to whether the borrowing or lending library handles that routine is a matter of preference. But good communication will ease the process.

Misty Gray with Southwest District relayed this story: as the **borrowing library** in the ILL equation, the staff at Carroll Public Library have decided to quarantine items when returned by their patrons. Before packaging items to be returned to the lending library, Carroll Library staff insert a note inside the borrowed books; the note reads: ***“Thank you for lending us your book. Please Note: This book was returned by our patron on Thursday, April 30, 2020. We have disinfected it and set it aside for 3 days (per the Carroll County Public Health recommendation) before returning it to you. Mailed Monday May 5, 2020”*** Thanks to this thoughtful communication, the lending library would not have to disinfect the books again.

Now you can as readily envision this happening in the reverse. For example: when the **borrowing library** receives an ILL book, staff would likely wipe it, call their patron to pick it up, wipe again when the patron returns it, and package for return. The logic in this scenario is that the **lending library** would do the quarantining, just like they do with all other returned items, whether returned by local patrons or returned via ILL. Once back in their ownership, the "home library" staff does the quarantining.

Regardless of which library in the equation handles the cleaning, this is a good concept and sure to be appreciated. Sending back a friendly note tucked inside the books is a thoughtful gesture. Thanks to the staff at Carroll PL for this example of helpful communication!

May is Older Americans Month

2020 Theme "Make Your Mark"

Since 1963, May has been designated as **Older Americans Month**. Originally titled "Senior Citizens Month" by President Kennedy, it was President Carter's administration that re-named it **Older Americans Month** in 1980.



The 2020 theme is "**Make Your Mark**," a theme selected to celebrate the countless contributions that older adults make to American communities. Their time, experience, and expertise benefit families, young people, and neighbors every day. This year's theme highlights the difference everyone can make in the lives of older adults, in support of caregivers, and in strengthening communities.

Every President since JFK has issued a formal proclamation in May asking that the entire nation pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. Making **Older Americans Month** a perfect occasion for libraries to acknowledge this vital age group.

The Administration on Aging, along with the Administration for Community Living, are major sponsors of **Older Americans Month**. The Administration for Community Living was created around the principle that older adults and people of all ages with disabilities should be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in community life. By funding services provided by networks of community-based organizations, and with investments in research, education, and innovation, ACL helps make this principle a reality for millions of Americans.

On these agency websites, find logos and posters to help with local promotions, along with activities and resources to use as libraries begin to re-open.

[Learn more about Older Americans Month](#)

This Week ...

Director Roundtables Continue

Director Roundtables continue this week and throughout most of May. Conducted online this year, **Director Roundtables** will follow our overall education theme for 2020—Project Management. Which is not just about overseeing big things like a new building or extensive remodeling—or managing library service during a



pandemic! Project management is also about staying on top of smaller tasks, those seemingly endless to-do lists. From working with teams to using collaboration software, we'll demonstrate ways to stay on top of projects large and small. And we hope you'll share "staying organized" tips that work best for you.

[C.E. Catalog](#)

Crisis Response Conversations

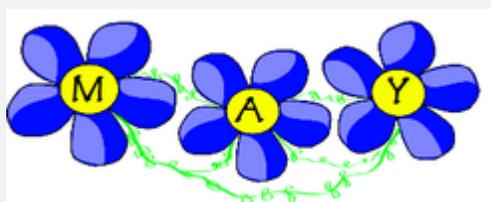
Another meeting in our series "***Crisis Response Conversations***" happens this **Wednesday May 13**. This week's topic is Iowa Immigrants in the time of COVID. Joa LaVille of Marshalltown, a youth services librarian and activist in the area of immigrant advocacy, will lead this discussion about the issues that Iowa's immigrants are dealing with during the COVID pandemic and what role the libraries can play now and in the future. There will be an opportunity for others to talk about the ways they are serving their immigrant communities and learn more about resources specific to this population. Still time to register

[C.E. Catalog](#)

District Office Hours

Finally, District Office Hours continue this week. These are informal, casual conversations, in hopes of helping all of us feel a bit more connected. Days and times vary, so simply contact your District Office for date-time-ZOOM room link

[Contact Us](#)



Monday Morning Eye-Opener

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