

Appendix G

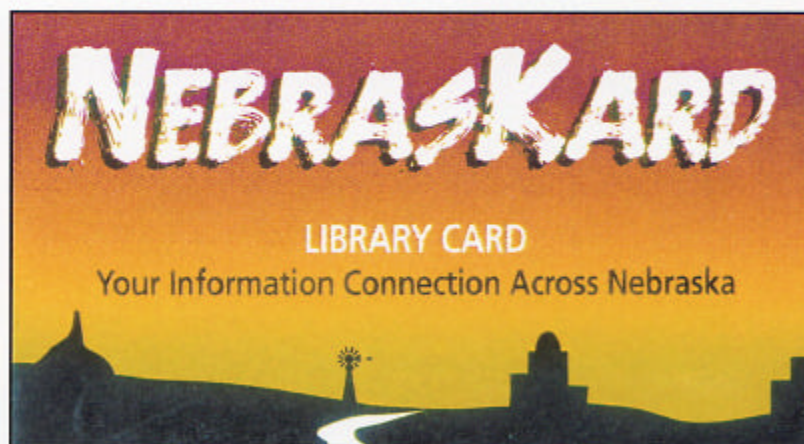
NLA Legislative Day Promotional Materials

Just the Facts:

NebrasKard is a reciprocal borrowing arrangement among Nebraska libraries. Libraries share resources for mutual benefit and to meet the needs and interests of citizens across the state. The program is an extension of the cooperative efforts of Nebraska libraries. Forty-five public and academic libraries are participating thus far.

Nebraska libraries are now working toward ensuring that electronic library and information service is available to all Nebraskans from any place, at any time, through the development of Nebraska eLibrary. For more information on library issues and happenings in Nebraska, go to the Nebraska Library Commission webpage at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us>

Making a Difference @your library™



Just the Facts:

Libraries strengthen communities in many ways. In addition to providing materials to help with early childhood development and literacy, libraries foster a sense of lifelong learning that will stand children and communities in good stead. Libraries provide resources for those who want to improve their parenting skills, often to at-risk families who are not able to get such help elsewhere.

The photo at right shows the Grand Island Public Library, which is using the national Family Place model to deliver core services to children and parents.

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**Just the Facts:**

Nebraska libraries face building issues such as handicapped accessibility, building decay, air quality issues, space for technology and collections, and the need for welcoming areas for public use. In the last five years, 26 communities have built new or added to existing library buildings. Some communities are able to find one generous donor to cover the cost of a new building or addition. Others undergo the long process of fundraising. At least 12 Nebraska communities are actively fund-raising for an improved library building and another fifty-six are talking about the need. Whatever the approach, communities agree that libraries will continue to be valued, and will provide enhancement of the local quality of life for years to come.

This photo shows the new library building in Stromsburg.

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Just the Facts:

According to Public Library Statistical data collected from 227 libraries, 148 libraries report having some volunteer personnel as part of their library resources. Statewide, libraries report that more than 2,900 people volunteered in public libraries in Nebraska during 1999/2000. This is more than double the number of paid staff working in Nebraska public libraries.

In the photo, Waterloo Public Library supporters, including board members and staff, meet with representatives of the Nebraska Library Commission.

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**Just the Facts:**

During fiscal year 1999/2000, more than 13,000 programs for children were held in Nebraska's public libraries, with an average attendance of 25. Nebraskans of all ages checked out 10.5 million library materials, for an average of 8 per capita.

At Crete Public Library, kids shared the book *Sunflower House* by Eve Bunting, then planted flower seeds in styrofoam cups. Four-year-old Emily Klima had great success with her sunflowers!

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Just the Facts:

When asked to evaluate community characteristics that affect employee recruitment, 86 manufacturers in 11 counties in northeast Nebraska identified medical/health care, the cost of living, and libraries as the top three characteristics having the most positive effect on their ability to recruit new employees. Listed below those three characteristics were access to post-secondary education, lifelong learning opportunities, recreation and fitness, and housing costs.

Libraries across the state, such as this one in Orleans, add to the quality of life in their communities.

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**Just the Facts:**

Nebraska is experiencing growing linguistic and ethnic diversity. Since the 1990 census, the state's white-only, non-Hispanic population grew by just 2.4 percent (34,399) compared with an 83.3 percent growth (98,479) in minority population.

Libraries serve these newest immigrants in many ways, including hosting English Language Learners classes, providing reading material in Spanish, Vietnamese and other languages, and providing Internet access for emailing family around the world and keeping up on current events, as seen in this photo from the Schuyler Public Library.

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