



south dakota
STATE LIBRARY

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September 13, 2019

Dear Librarian and Library Board:

Once again, the South Dakota State Library would like to thank your library for being a part of the 100% statewide participation in the FY2018 Public Library Survey. Other states marvel at our libraries' dedication and participation! We appreciate the time and effort it takes to understand the questions, collect the statistics, and complete the survey.

Your numbers make a difference! Every year your library's statistics are compiled with the statistics of 9,200 other public libraries in the U.S. to look at how libraries are meeting the needs of their communities. Funding for State Library services such as the Public Library Training Institute, summer reading efforts, statewide electronic resources for research and education, and interlibrary loan support are contingent on your participation in the Public Libraries Survey. Don't forget that you can also use this data to evaluate your library's services, prepare budget requests, and show the value your library adds to the community. We can create brochures and comparative charts to assist your advocacy efforts.

If you have any questions about the Public Library Survey or how to use your data to tell your library's story, contact Shawn Behrends, shawn.behrends@state.sd.us. For any questions about summer reading or youth programming, or early literacy, please contact Laura Kelly, laura.kelly@state.sd.us.

Enclosed are two free board books to say "thank you" for your participation in the federal/state public library survey. The statistics we collect help us advocate for you.

The State Library exists to encourage local libraries to remain strong, vibrant voices for literacy within their communities. Please share this letter with your staff, library board, mayor and local citizens. We thank you for your support as we endeavor to support you. We are always here to assist you!

Regards,

Daria Bossman
State Librarian

Shawn Behrends
State Data Coordinator

Laura Kelly
Children & Youth Services Coordinator