



MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors
FROM: Leslie Bednar
DATE: August 20, 2016
RE: IHLS Advocacy

Our July training with Pat Wagner, and discussion at the board meeting that followed, has generated enthusiasm for and interest in an advocacy campaign for Illinois Heartland Library System. I propose the creation of a small board/staff work group to develop an advocacy project for our organization to better secure the future of the services we provide to our 525 member libraries. The work group will be appointed by the Board President, and Ms. Wagner will serve as consultant.

With lessons learned from FY2016, the project will have the following components:

- Focus on relationship-building and statesmanship
- Outreach to community organizations, elected officials, and funding sources
- Scalable design to share with member libraries

The group would determine how best to meet with the consultant. Her fees begin at \$500 for a single online workshop. In-person meetings are dependent upon travel expenses, as Ms. Wagner will try to schedule other training in the area to reduce the fee. For example, her total fees (training and travel) for training at IHLS in July were approximately \$1,800 as she scheduled training at a nearby library for a consecutive day.

Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you for your consideration.