

YOUR VOICE COUNTS

Anyone can speak up for your libraries—your voice counts! People who are passionate about providing access to information, literature, and lifelong learning have always been at the heart of the American library movement. This is true now more than ever, and citizens must use their voices to ensure our library legacy remains viable and fully funded. Library advocacy doesn't have to be complex; it can be as simple as telling others—at the grocery store, student union, bank, post office, or parties—why you value your library.

Make and Distribute Handouts

Important information about the library, its services, and needs can be distributed in writing for people to read later or pass on to others. If you have desktop publishing skills, or know someone who does, work to build written materials that can be passed along to others. These can include the library's hours and services, a wish list of things the library needs, information about upcoming events, or any other pertinent library information.

These ideas should be posted on your library's bulletin board for all to see. ALA provides a wealth of materials to help you get started through @ your library, the Campaign for America's Libraries. Visit www.ala.org/@yourlibrary and click on PR Tools & Resources.