



SUFFOLK COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Colleagues and friends,

It is with great concern that we share important news affecting the future of library services across New York State and right here in Suffolk County.

Last night, we received word that the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grants to States Program has been **cancelled**.

We cannot sugarcoat it - this decision results in the withdrawal of **85% of federally appropriated aid** to the New York State Library and Division of Library Development (DLD). The loss of this critical funding will undoubtedly have a **significant impact** on the operations, programs, and services in Suffolk County libraries and all of NYS.

In the meantime, we strongly encourage you and those in your networks to reach out to state and federal representatives to express the vital importance of public library services. Encourage your colleagues to amplify all our voices and **join professional associations** like SCLA and NYLA. Remind every politician, policy maker, and staffer that you contact the important roles libraries play in our respective communities and how integral we are to the quality of the life of our patrons. Remind them that you, your friends and family vote and that **libraries are not luxuries - they are lifelines**.

Call, write, and email our congressmen:

Andrew Garbarino 31 Oak Street Suite 20 Patchogue, NY 11772 Phone: (631) 541-4225 https://garbarino.house.gov/contact	Nicholas LaLota 515 Hauppauge Road Suite 3B Hauppauge, NY 11788 Phone: (631) 289-1097 https://lalota.house.gov/contact
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If you have not done so, please consider [becoming a library advocate](#), and learn about our [upcoming SCLA events](#)

Your voice matters, and collective advocacy is more important now than ever.

The Suffolk County Library Association is committed to aiding its members and the institutions they work for. We will continue to do what we can to support, educate, and advocate for you all.

Thank you for your time and attention.

On behalf of the Suffolk County Library Association Board,

Anthony Giansante
President
Suffolk County Library Association