

Date

Hospital Administrator  
Happy Hospital  
123 Library Way  
Etown, IL 54321

Dear Hospital Administrator:

In October as we celebrate National Medical Librarians' Month, we want to thank you for your continued investment in providing your care community with the latest health information resources. As a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), your library is part of a diverse network of information providers that assures timely access to the information you need for making sound decisions in crucial areas such as patient safety, quality care, and standards compliance.

Today's patients expect their physicians to have immediate access to quality medical information, and your library plays an essential role in meeting that expectation. Research studies, such as those noted below, indicate that professionally led library services have a positive impact on health outcomes for patients. For example, when librarian-mediated literature searches are conducted early in a hospitalization, hospital costs, charges and lengths of stay are significantly lower than when searches were conducted later. Information provided by librarians also decreases unnecessary diagnostic tests, affects treatment decisions, and helps clinicians manage their practices and provide quality care to their patients.

As a member of NN/LM, your library can also seek new sources of funding through our awards and subcontracts. Awards are available for exhibits, outreach programs, professional development and instruction, and technology improvement. Subcontracts are available for projects partnering with community organizations to provide outreach to health care consumers and public health workers and for health disparities projects to improve access to health information resources in disadvantaged communities. The Greater Midwest Region of NN/LM has funded 71 awards and subcontracts to hospital and clinical care libraries since 2001. These awards totaled more than \$473,000 and enabled librarians in ten states to extend and improve access to health information far beyond their physical walls.

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine would like to congratulate you on continuing to support your librarian and library. Please contact us if you have questions about your library's important role in the National Network.

Sincerely,

Kathryn H. Carpenter  
Director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Greater Midwest Region

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