## Welcome to the Implementation Guide

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A library ecosystem is the interconnected network of all types of libraries, library workers, volunteers, trustees, friends, foundations, and associations that provide and facilitate library services—for communities; K-20learners; college and university communities; local, state and federal legislatures and government offices; businesses; nonprofits; and other organizations with specific information needs.

A patron of one library is the potential patron of any other library at a different time of life or in a different location. No library exists independent of the library ecosystem and, when we stand together in mutual support using common messaging themes that demonstrate this interconnectedness, every library is stronger.

The ecosystem toolkit is created to assist state associations in strengthening the library ecosystem within localities and states. At its most effective, the strong I to build a climate of support so that all libraries are best positioned to

communities.

Four strands serve as the pillars of a healthy ecosystem:

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