**TO:** PLA Board of Directors

**RE:** Data Initiatives

**DATE:** June 3, 2019

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

Report

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:**

Emily Plagman, Manager, Impact and Advocacy, and Larra Clark, PLA Deputy Director

**DRAFT OF MOTION:**

N/A

**Project Outcome update**

In April, the Project Outcome Health Topic was added and launched on the site, in thanks to funding from three regional medical libraries within the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine. Over 200 responses have been collected under the survey topic since its launch. Project Outcome for Academics has over 800 responses collected in the system since it was released in April at the ACRL Conference. Upcoming work planned includes building out an international data collection component, scheduled for release ahead of the IFLA conference in August 2019.

**Public Library Data Service Survey**

The Measurement, Evaluation and Assessment Committee (MEAC) will meet at Annual on Monday, June 24, to begin the revision process of the PLDS. The MEAC approved a one year “pause” of the PLDS for FY19 data collection so that PLA can implement a new and/or updated product that will better serve the library field’s data needs. The meeting will be the first step in the revision process where a first draft of a data framework will be developed. Proceeding from the meeting will be a series of town hall “discussions” facilitated by committee members to gauge feedback from the field on the draft data framework.

**Impact Survey**

PLA has taken over management of University of Washington’s Impact Survey. At this time, the survey can be accessed via the PLA site: <http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/impactsurvey>. Over time, however, PLA will work to build a tool that allows for online administration of the survey. Timeline for planning and implementation of the survey tool are still TBD.

**Measures that Matter update**

A cooperative agreement between the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) continued and formed a Measures that Matter (MtM) Implementation Group to continue work on some of the ideas presented in the April 2018 MtM [Action Plan](https://measuresthatmatter.net/actionplanlive/). The group included representation from PLA, ALA, ULC, ARSL, COSLA, IMLS, individual public library staff, and the National Information Standards Organization (NISO).

One of the major pieces of work for the group was to explore how a field-wide entity might be constituted to ensure continued attention on public library data matters. The Implementation Group has produced draft documentation for how a proposed Public Library Data Alliance (“PLDA”) might be constituted and function.  PLA is recommended as a standing member of the proposed PLDA, and we are discussing how this might move forward as early as fall 2019.

Smaller working groups and consultants also reviewed data elements added by state library agencies to IMLS’s Public Libraries Survey; explored baseline considerations for building library capacity to use public library data; developed use cases to demonstrate how data can be used for diverse purposes; and discussed methods and approaches for linking library contributions to community outcomes. Updates and reports from all of these efforts will be shared at an Annual Conference [program](https://www.eventscribe.com/2019/ALA-Annual/fsPopup.asp?Mode=presInfo&PresentationID=545848) Sunday, June 23, at 10:30 a.m. and online via both the [MtM website](https://measuresthatmatter.net/) and the [Library Research Service website](https://www.lrs.org/).