



April 3, 2020

## Checking In, Hope Everyone is Staying Safe

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings. We hope that you and your families are all doing well and staying safe. We wanted to reach out to you, to encourage you, and to let you know that we are here for you.

The emergent Covid-19 situation has disrupted our lives. We are equally anxious, confused, overwhelmed and uncertain about tomorrow. Yet we remain hopeful that the life we once knew will return quickly. We are resilient, individually and collectively and we will get through this.

LibraryLinkNJ will continue to share resources to assist you in navigating these uncharted waters. We encourage you to reach out to us, to share information on what we can do to help lighten the load on you.

This week, the MentorNJ Task Force rolled out an online engagement portal, designed to keep the New Jersey library community connected, rejuvenating and renewed. Please check out this resource at <https://librarylinknj.org/MentorNJ/meetup/online> and share with your colleagues. MentorNJ is co-sponsored by LLNJ and NJSL, in partnership with NJLA.

You may have heard that the State of New Jersey has shifted its fiscal year end from June to September. In addition, last week, a budget advisory was issued to LLNJ by the New Jersey State Library, informing us that our funding for FY20 will be significantly reduced due to a spending freeze enacted by the State.

There are still multiple unknowns in the information we currently have, but we are bracing for impact. The LLNJ Board is working actively behind the scenes, through its committees and Interim Executive Director to make adjustments. Our goal is to ensure that we are ready to serve you 100%, when things return to "normal." We will keep you informed and updated.

Our delivery services will remain suspended until current governmental restrictions are lifted and library agencies begin to reopen. In the interim, we are collating resources on the safe handling of library materials, and we will continue to share such information through our website.

Your safety, health and wellbeing are of utmost importance to us. We encourage you to continue to take safety precautions. Please be well. This too, shall pass.

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