

**FLORIDIANS VALUE
THEIR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

- Floridians visit public libraries more than 72 million times each year, checking out more than 100 million books.
- Florida libraries provide an exceptional rate of return and one of the most cost-effective investments of tax dollars.
- Library users overwhelmingly say libraries use public monies well.
- The majority of library users are willing to pay more to support their libraries.

**LIBRARIES HELP FOSTER
THE LOVE OF READING BY
AND THE LITERACY
OF FLORIDA'S CHILDREN**

Almost all of Florida's public libraries provide year-round youth programming.

Libraries reach very young children and their caregivers through Born to Read programs.

Summer library reading programs foster the love of reading and develop new library users.

Children who participate in summer reading programs increase both their vocabulary and reading comprehension scores.

Way beyond books: Florida's public libraries efficiently provide services that are vital to the quality of life in every community.

**LIBRARIES PROVIDE VITAL INTERNET
AND E-GOVERNMENT ACCESS**

- Libraries provide Internet and e-government access to millions of Floridians.
- Libraries have become agents of e-government services, some of which are available *only* online.
- Libraries' connectivity is a necessity for people without a computer or Internet access at home.
- Libraries have proven crucial to hurricane recovery as communication

**FLORIDA'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES
FACE A CHALLENGING FUTURE**

- Florida's libraries are already experiencing shorter hours of operation, staff layoffs, hiring freezes and reduced materials.
- Library users and government agencies expect libraries to provide easy access to government services, despite a lack of additional funding or training.
- Any future funding cuts will only further jeopardize the ability of public libraries to serve the needs of Floridians.