



64%*
of Delaware 4th graders
are **NOT** proficient
in reading

127,000**
Delaware working
adults do **NOT** earn a
livable wage

130,000***
Delaware adults **STRUGGLE**
with serious mental illness
or substance use disorder

An additional \$1.00 per resident for Delaware Libraries WILL HELP Delawareans get...

SCHOOL Ready!

- Delaware Libraries partner with **First Chance** and more to ensure that **every child obtains a library card and uses it often!**
- Increase library programs for children (and parents) that spark the joy of reading and learning, which is key to success in school & life
- Books for every child – at home, at school libraries, and at the public library

EMPLOYMENT Ready!

- Increase one-on-one assistance for Delawareans with resumes, online job applications, and workforce skills to master technology and achieve their next level job and career positions
- Increase library hours, partnerships, Job Fairs and Next Step programs

HEALTH Ready!

- A social worker available for every library by 2020!
- Increase partnerships to expand access to opioid support services, insurance assistance, and health screenings
- 200+ library staff trained in mental health responsiveness

PATRON STORIES

A patron of the Bridgeville Public Library credits the early literacy programs, featuring stories, rhymes and songs, for successfully preparing her granddaughter for preschool.

Two patrons of the Harrington Public Library walked 7 miles to obtain assistance to find jobs.

A patron of the Kirkwood Library requesting information on recovery services was so grateful for being treated with respect on her first step to recovery.

Delaware Libraries **NEED YOUR HELP** to do more to advance this vital work for all Delawareans.

FY2021 Department of State | Division of Libraries 200801 | General Fund Request
Library Standards for 33 public libraries increase by \$1 million to **\$5.4 million**