The GOOD: Public libraries have turned inside out, to provide services and materials!

- Curbside service is being offered at 94% of public libraries.
- Locally created online/virtual programs and events are happening in 86%
- Inter-library loan is available through 86% of public libraries.
- Wi-Fi is accessible outside the building in 85% of public libraries.
- Grab and go kits are provided at 76% of public libraries.
- Printing, faxing, copy service are offered at 78%.
- Mobile hotspots are loaned out at 46% of public libraries and for most, at no charge.

The BAD: Public libraries have deteriorating financial resources to address difficult issues.

- Of the 12,393 staff employed, 63% of public library staff are part-time.
- 65% of public libraries operate with just 0-2 full-time staff.
- Staffing shortages result from the budgetary inability to provide benefits and competitive wages.
- Aging facilities need safety renovations, and the pandemic exacerbated issues.
- Municipal support for libraries has been reduced or is at-risk for many.
- Fund-raising for 25-65% of annual operating expenses has become common.
- The pandemic caused cancellations for over 73% of spring fundraisers in 2020.

The POSSIBLE: Restore financial support, to improve recovery efforts and community services.

With steps to restore financial support, public libraries can help with recovery efforts and rebuilding our communities. We ask that the state budget instead of being level-funded include increases as follows:

- **Public Library Subsidy**: Increase by $5 million
  - **$64.47 million**

- **Library services for visually impaired & disabled**: Increase by $128,000
  - **$2.695 million**

- **Library access**: Increase by $153,000
  - **$3.224 million**

Questions? Christi Buker, Executive Director, christi@palibraries.org, 717-766-7663.