



Demonstrating the Value of Federal Libraries

Military Libraries Training Workshop

December 11, 2019



Mission Statement: Federal Library Leadership WG

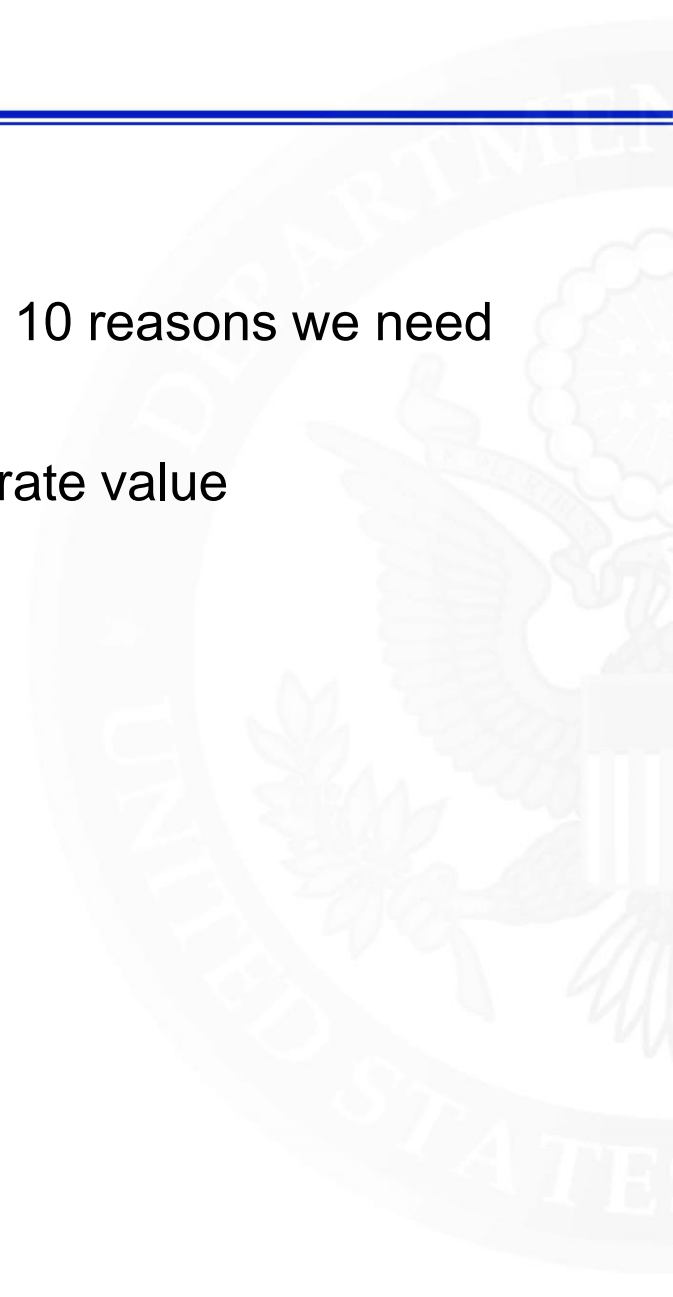
Leverage the power of federal libraries by providing a forum for leadership to share best practices and discuss creative solutions to common problems, establishing a consolidated voice that advocates for the interests of federal libraries, and building a strong and sustainable future for federal libraries through collaboration, advocacy, and innovation.

The group works in synergy with the FEDLINK Advisory Board and WGs to fulfill its mission of achieving optimum use of library resources, services, and facilities, and focuses on strengthening the federal library network and community.



Agenda for Today

- Share the Leadership Working Group's top 10 reasons we need federal libraries
- Begin a dialogue on how libraries demonstrate value
- Identify next steps





The Top 10 List

1. Libraries are stewards of institutional knowledge for the agency they serve
2. Libraries promote equity by providing employees with information resources they need to succeed
3. Libraries achieve economies of scale
4. Libraries provide access to collections
5. Libraries provide discovery at point of need
6. Libraries are trusted hubs that make connections
7. Libraries help agencies respect intellectual property rights
8. Libraries facilitate life-long learning and professional development
9. Libraries provide research services
10. Libraries contribute to institutional effectiveness & mission success

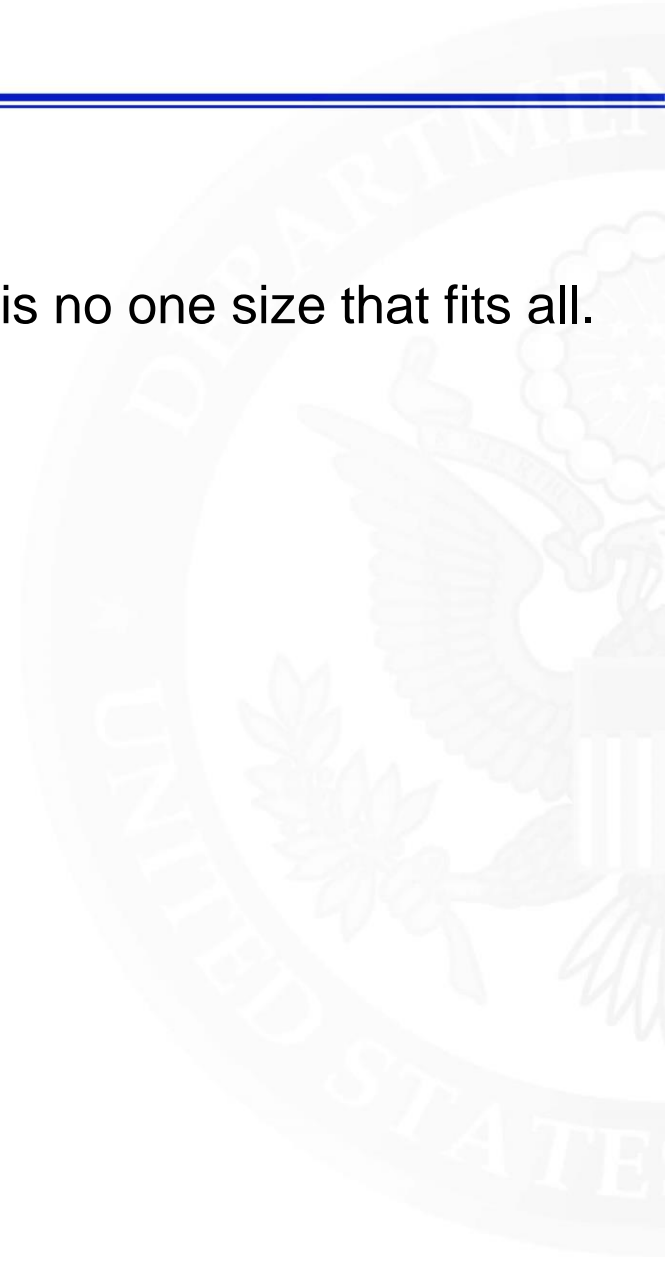


How do Libraries demonstrate their value?





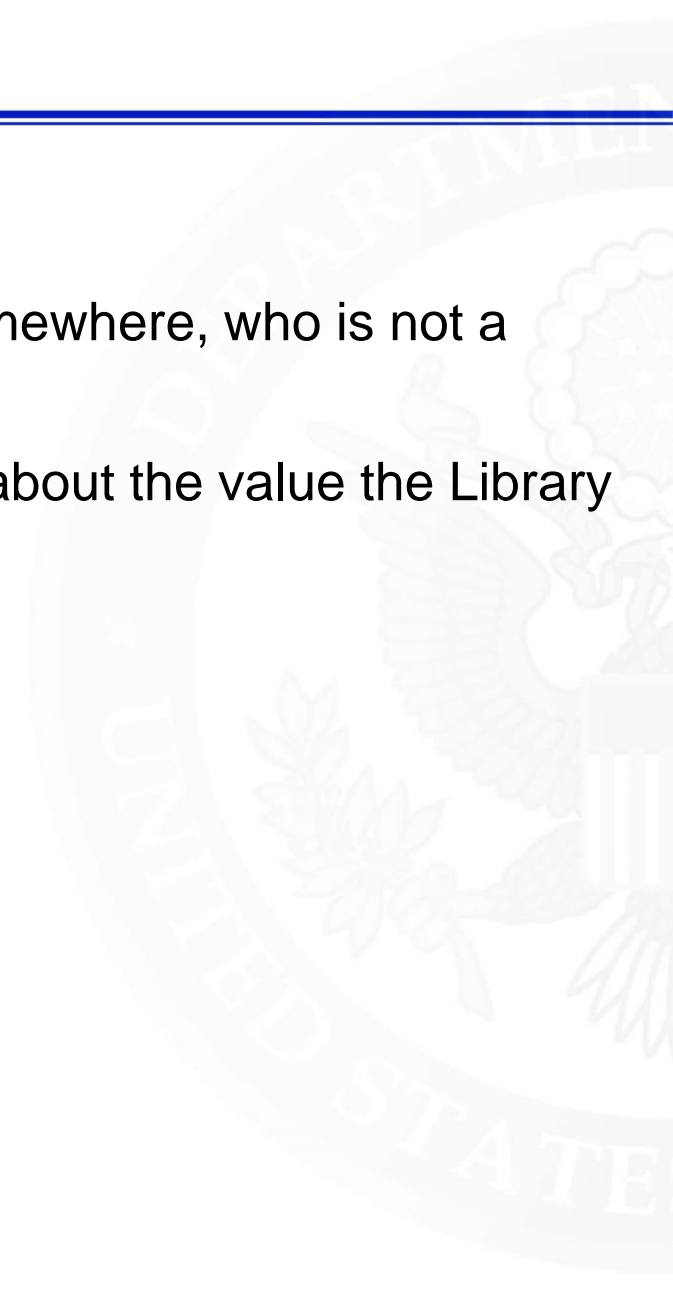
Federal Libraries are not all the same – there is no one size that fits all.





We all share some things in common:

- We all report up the chain to someone, somewhere, who is not a librarian
- We all must make a compelling argument about the value the Library brings to the agency we serve





How do we demonstrate value?

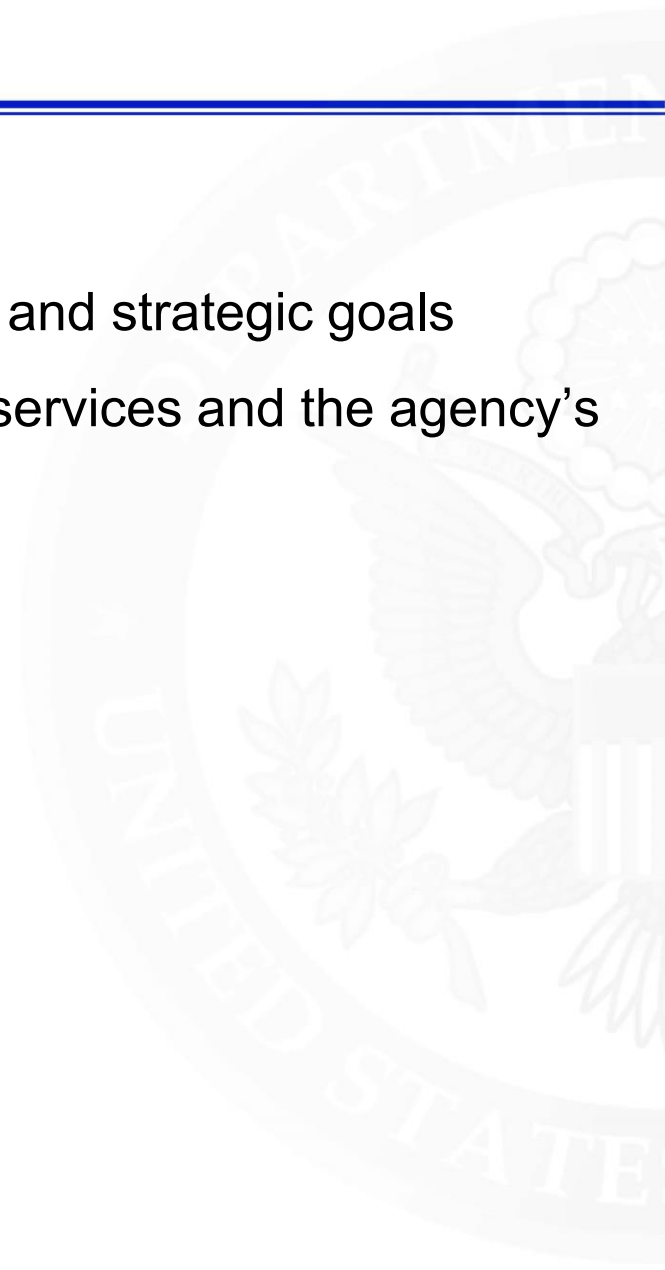
- Think strategically
- Communicate effectively





Think strategically:

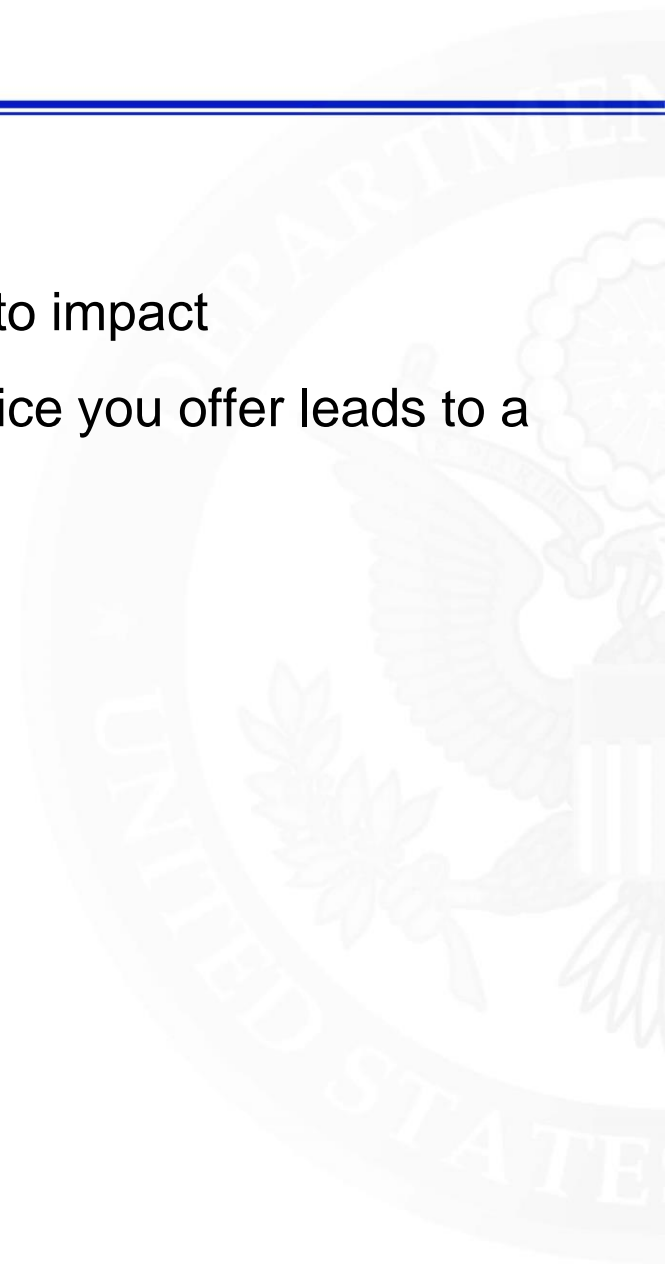
1. Link your library to your agency's mission and strategic goals
2. Make a clear connection between library services and the agency's success in achieving its goals
3. Select your metrics carefully





Communicate effectively:

1. Don't present numbers alone. Link them to impact
2. Tell the story of how each product or service you offer leads to a favorable outcome





Next steps

What are the data points that should be collected to demonstrate the value of the Library?

Some options:

ALA's Library Value Calculator

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/library-value-calculator>

National Network of Libraries of Medicine Valuing Library Services

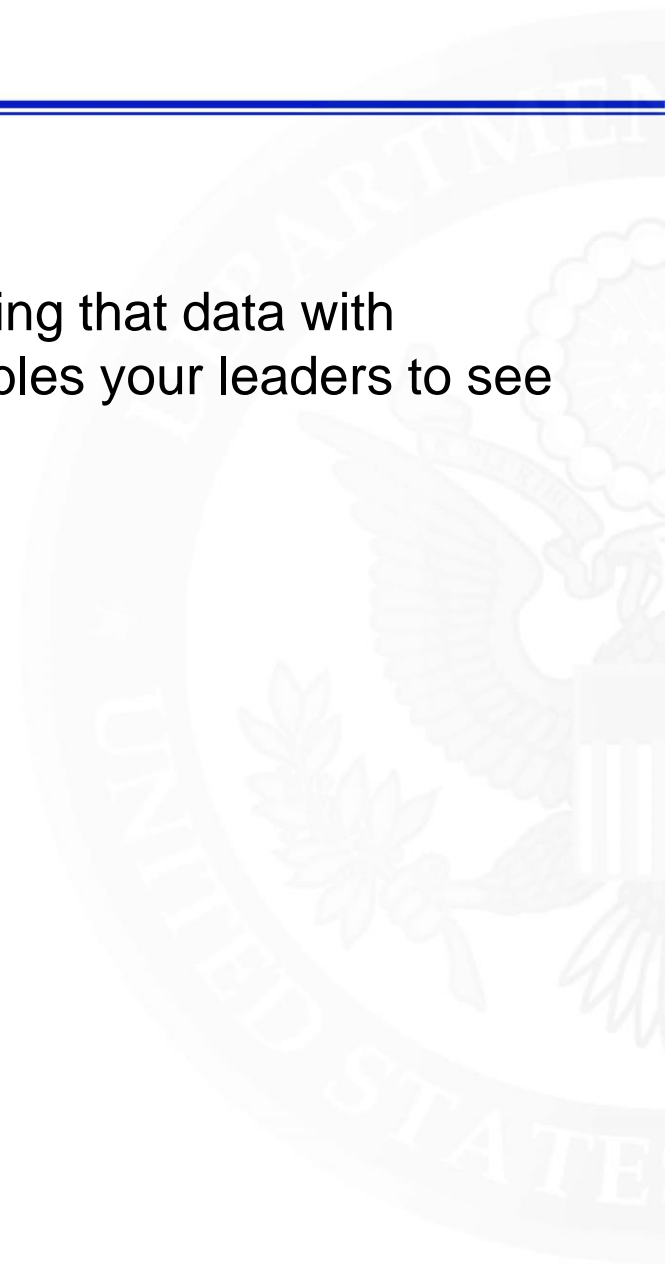
<https://nnlm.gov/mcr/training/program-evaluation/calculator>



Next steps

What are the most effective practices for sharing that data with management, so that you tell a story that enables your leaders to see the value you bring?

And hopefully become your advocate...





Questions?





Thank You!

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