



Dear Ohio Public Library Director:

As you may be aware, the State Library of Ohio, the Ohio Public Library Information Network and the Ohio Library Council have been working with Connect Ohio to prepare a statewide application to obtain federal **stimulus funding that would benefit every Ohio public library**. Connect Ohio is a public-private, not-for-profit partnership that works with technology-minded businesses, government entities, universities, libraries and other organizations to accelerate the use of technology in the state to help close the digital divide. There is **no cost** to your library to participate in this process, other than a few minutes of your time. If you would like to help in this effort to bring federal stimulus funding to Ohio libraries, **Connect Ohio is asking for your assistance**. Here's how you can help:

- 1) Fill out a short, online branch technology survey **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JANUARY 29**. This survey is designed to collect supplemental data to information that you may have already provided in other recent library technology surveys. **It is extremely important that you or your staff member(s) complete one online survey for each physical branch location**. Here is the Ohio public library survey URL: [www.connectohio.org/public\\_library\\_survey](http://www.connectohio.org/public_library_survey)
- 2) Help encourage **patrons** at your branch(es) to fill out a short, online survey about how and why they use the Internet at your public library. Connect Ohio is holding a sweepstakes to give away 12 Wi-Fi enabled netbook computers to encourage library patrons to complete the online patron survey. Any patron who completes the online survey **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14** is eligible to win one of the computers. **Here is the URL for the Ohio Library Patron Survey:** [www.connectohio.org/survey](http://www.connectohio.org/survey)
- 3) Connect Ohio will be mailing some small, temporary computer monitor placards to each Ohio public library location to help promote the patron survey. Please place these on some of your public computer monitors to help encourage patrons to take the online survey. The mailing will also include a flyer that you can post in public computing areas. We are also attaching electronic copies of these materials, if your branch(es) would like to produce additional copies.

If you have any questions about either of the online surveys, or the broadband stimulus funding process in general, I encourage you to contact me directly. You can reach us via e-mail at [info@connectohio.org](mailto:info@connectohio.org) or by phone at 866-881-9424.

Thank you for your assistance in helping Connect Ohio gather this important data that will hopefully bring additional technology funding to Ohio's public libraries and benefit every Ohioan.

Sincerely,

Tom Fritz  
Executive Director