

Building a Sustainable Statewide Preservation Program

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Background Information

- What did other states do?

Background Information

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- Massachusetts
- New York
- Delaware
- Ohio
- Iowa
- California
- New Mexico
- North Carolina

Background Information

- In depth look at:

- North Carolina
- Iowa
- New Mexico
- California

General Findings

- State funding for preservation is possible but it is hard to achieve.
- Without committed people, statewide efforts do not have sustainability.
- People can be:
 - Funded staff
 - One or more key volunteers (with institutional support)
 - An active volunteer board or committee

People are Key



- Most states, even many of those with a state funded operation, rely on one or two key individuals to keep preservation efforts alive and moving forward.
- Most states have concerns about sustaining preservation activities if/when the key individual leaves the stage.
- Statewide efforts have suffered when staff moved on. ↘



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Some go Independent



- Independent organizations with dues paying membership can be successful in statewide efforts:
 - Iowa
 - North Carolina
- Workshops on preservation topics are a very popular activity.
- Disaster preparedness and response seems to be the most popular workshop. ↘



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Last Findings



- Preplanned disaster response groups are very valuable.
- Remember WESTPAS and find out what they are doing.
- Effort needs to be made to be sure organizational activities are not just library oriented. ↘



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Recommendations:



- Lobby the State Library to include preservation as an LSTA funding priority.
- Lobby the state legislature for dedicated funding.
- But the reality is that substantial funds are not likely in the current budget situation. ↘



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Create an Organization



- Consider creating an independent dues paying organization.
- Use a voluntary dues structure
- Have the entry level fee low enough to encourage small organizations to join
- Have enough categories that the big guys can pay much more (if they want to) ↘



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What to do First



- Start with workshops on disaster prevention, preparation, and response.
 - Coordinate with WESTPAS.
- Disaster training first because:
 - This is applicable to all institutions.
 - Preparing for disasters (both small & large) is probably the most important thing that an institution can do. ↘



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More Disasters Things 

- Other possible early activities:
 - Compile list of appropriate supplies and suppliers (local and national).
 - Investigate having pre-negotiated blanket agreements with commercial firms in case of disasters (cold storage, disaster response firms, etc.)
- As a longer term effort, consider how some disaster response groups could be organized.

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Involving Others 

- Investigate connections/cooperation with Oregon and Idaho.
- Engage in outreach activities promoting the importance of preservation awareness and support.
- Connect with as many groups as possible:

Historical societies	Library groups
Museums	Archives
Indian tribes	Public agencies
Professional associations	

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What do you think? 

Comments?
Questions?
Concerns?



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