**2016 ILEAD USA Team Community Need Summaries**

**Digital Information Literacy**

The community need that our team will address is development of information and digital literacy skills among students. We are focusing on specific areas from the American College and Research Libraries (ACRL) framework. These areas are authority and search strategies. These skills are increasingly necessary to succeed in school, obtain jobs, and function in general society; however, depending upon the backgrounds that they come from, students demonstrate great disparities in terms of their mastery of such skills. Those incongruences often come to a head when they enter college or join the workforce, as they find themselves among diverse peers of varying skill levels.

In 2010, Head and Eisenberg found that the majority of undergraduate students approach research assignments with techniques that they previously learned in high school. This emphasizes the need for early intervention to help address inconsistencies. Our team aims to provide some equalization by strengthening students' skill development along the educational continuum so that they can make a smoother transition through the various phases of their education. This equalization is of vital importance for academic, public, and school libraries, all of which are represented in our ILEAD team.

**Mirrors and Windows**

We have determined a need to empower youth services librarians, preschool, and elementary teachers with access to children’s resources and materials that tell stories of all people. Children need to see themselves reflected in books, but they also need books that provide a window into other life experiences. Providing diverse books to children gives them an opportunity to understand their connections with all of humanity.

**team #culturesquad** (services to immigrants and non-English speakers)  
We’re working on a project to improve services to immigrants and non­-English speakers. Through our research and engagement with our various communities, we have identified barriers that prevent these individuals from easily accessing and connecting with health care resources. Fortunately, we discovered that there are multiple, pre­existing resources; however, immigrants and non-­English speakers often are not aware they exist. Some of the barriers are cultural, but many simply don’t have access to the necessary information in their native language. Our goal is to connect these individuals with programs and resources to help them easily find and access care in a timely manner. As centers of our communities, libraries are particularly well­ situated to assist in achieving this goal.  
  
**Team Workforce Development**  
Team Workforce Development plans to address the issue of chronic unemployment and under-employment in our communities.  Research shows success in the workplace is supported by the development of soft skills, also known as Emotional Intelligence.  Our project seeks to elevate job seekers’ potential by improving inter-personal skills.  The Team strives to provide a gateway to soft skills resources through a variety of tangible and/or virtual means.

**#WhatsgoodPA**  
Problem: Teens in our local areas are not positively engaged in our community.  
#WhatsgoodPA is a community engagement project that will encourage teens to promote positive community happenings through social media. The team will create a social media presence with the #whatsgoodpa. The team will provide traveling photo stations and props to encouraged people to participate.