

# NEWS

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## **Fund for Illinois Libraries Surpasses \$100,000**

The Fund for Illinois Libraries broke all previous records for donations during the first half of March, climbing the fund to over \$100,000 for Illinois libraries that will directly improve the level of service to the patrons of Illinois.

The Fund for Illinois Libraries, founded by the Illinois Library System Directors Organization (ILSDO)—a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization—was created to aid libraries in their fundraising efforts.

Many libraries have reported that they do not have the time or money necessary to establish and maintain 501(c)(3) status, thus having to forgo gifts from organizations and corporations only permitted to donate to tax-exempt organizations. By donating to the Fund for Illinois Libraries in the name of the receiving library, contributors will be able to comply with their gift guidelines, and libraries will benefit further as they are unencumbered by fund administration.

At this time, there is no cost associated with this service, either for the receiving library or the donor. Joe Harris, ILSDO Treasurer, says “This is an excellent opportunity for small libraries to accept donations that will directly improve the quality of service to their patrons by generating more funds. Rather than saying ‘We can’t do this or that’ to patron requests, they can now say ‘Yes we can!’ with confidence.”

For more information on the program or to obtain a contract to initiate the service for your library, visit [http://www.illinoislibrarysystems.info/on\\_fund.html](http://www.illinoislibrarysystems.info/on_fund.html), or contact Joe Harris, Executive Director, Shawnee Library System, 800-455-4374, 607 South Greenbriar Road, Carterville, IL 62918.