

Sometimes it is nice to have a quick reference guide. Here are cards you can cut out and give to staff, and keep with you for those impromptu opportunities to speak with members of your community.

## 5 THINGS TO SAY ABOUT LIBRARIES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Public libraries supply knowledge, hope and opportunities.
2. Public libraries directly affect the economic well-being of the surrounding community. Small businesses, for example, are started at public libraries every day.
3. Public libraries take an active role in helping improve both child and adult literacy—a role that has been connected with less crime and delinquency, and improved unemployment.
4. The need for materials and support services to help people find jobs, reeducate themselves and rebuild their lives is at an all-time high. For many, the public library provides the only free and accessible alternative to help them get back to work.
5. Research indicates that public libraries are a wise investment. Some studies reveal that for every dollar spent on libraries, more than four times that amount—if not more—is returned to the community.

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