

## MEMO

**To:** State Library Commission  
**From:** Karen Strege  
**Re:** Advisory Council Report – Report from Committee on Institutions  
**Date:** January 21, 2000

Enclosed you will find two documents. The first is a report written by Darlene, Sue, and me to the Committee on Institutions outlining the issue in detail. The second attachment is a draft letter to the community interested in institution library service.

At your last meeting, the Commission charged a committee to review and study the issue of library services to state institutions. You discussed a further study of this issue. To carry out your directives, the committee members, Peggy Bloom and Lois Fitzpatrick from the Library Services Advisory Council, and Mary Doggett met on February 19 in Helena with Sue, Darlene, and me. After discussing the enclosed memo in detail, the committee made the following recommendation to the Commission:

We recommend that the Commission approve the following:

- ◆ Continue the LSTA contracts with four public libraries in federal fiscal year 2000 (October 1, 1999 to September 30, 2000). Continue the payment to the patient's library at the Montana State Hospital for the state fiscal year 2000 and 2001 (ending June 30, 2001).
- ◆ Cease both contracts and payment after the time specified above.

As you will see when you review the enclosed draft letter, the committee and MSL staff do not believe that this recommendation means the end of MSL's work to provide services to citizens in state institutions. We believe that this action ends a chapter in our services and will begin other initiatives.