





# Advocacy for health libraries

ALIA Health Libraries Australia PD Day 19 July 2019

- 1. About ALIA and special libraries
- 2. Education and advocacy
- 3. Why health libraries
- 4. What we can't do
- 5. What we can do

# About ALIA and special libraries

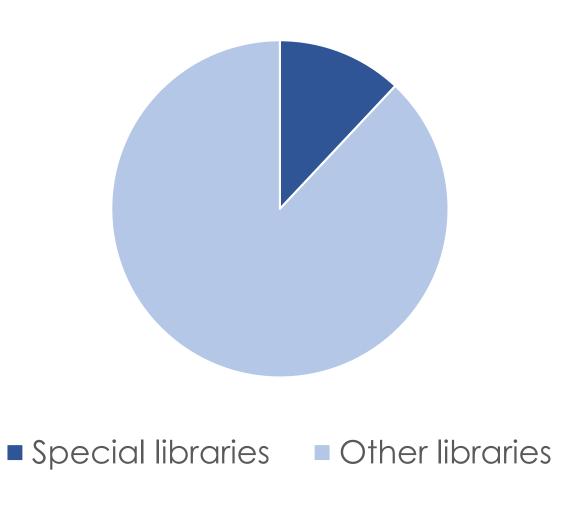


ALIA House, Parliamentary Zone, Canberra



7 minutes to Parliament House

### Specials are 12% of ALIA's 5000 members

















Highly active ALIA Special Library Groups

## Education

### ALIA PD Scheme based on reflective practice



### ALIA PD Specialisations for specials









# Advocacy







# AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS









# Why health libraries

# Accurate, current, comprehensive information for evidence-based decision-making

### The community returns generated by Australian industry libraries



Final report September 2013



Independent study for ALIA indicated over \$9 return for every \$1 invested in health libraries – the true value may be even higher



GREAT NEW RESOURCES







FIND OUT MORE...





### 10 WAYS THAT LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES POWER THE HEALTH SECTOR

#### **AUSTRALIAN HEALTH LIBRARIES**

It is estimated there are between 350 and 400 health libraries in Australia, including hospital, community health, government department and university medical libraries. There are some 1,250 people employed in these libraries. Health librarians comprise an important part of the health information workforce, alongside health information managers and health informatios specialists.













#### PATIENT CARE

Clinicians rely on health librarians for qualify information to improve the health outcomes of their patients. A national survey of library users in 2012 found that for 83% of respondents library and information services had helped improve health outcomes for patients, and for 76%, the information provided had changed their thinking and improved their diagnosis or treatment plan.



# An investment in **health libraries** is an investment in **better outcomes for patients**

Ask your candidates what they will do to support libraries





## Health libraries and My Health Record

# A digitally enabled society is cheaper and easier to govern





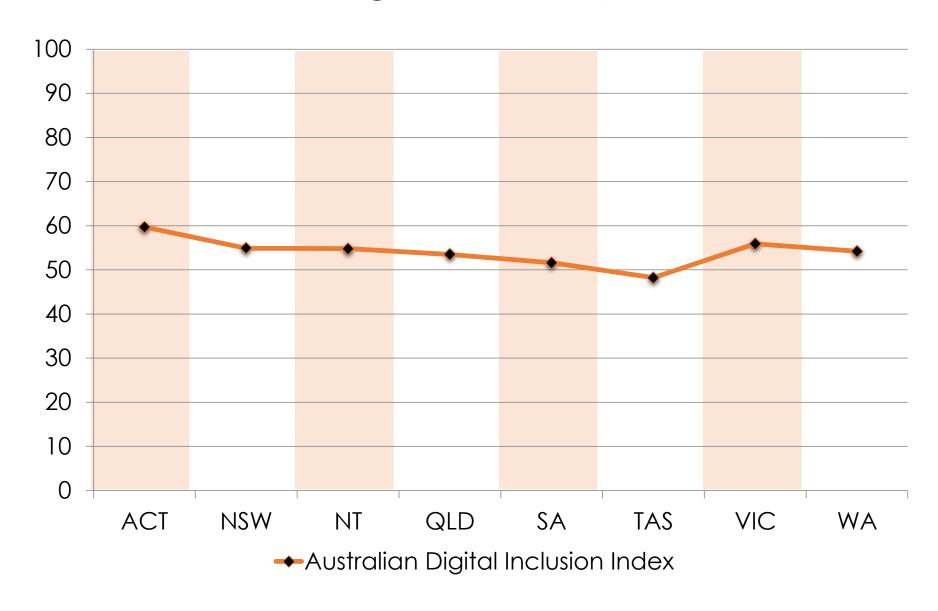


#### **Australian Government**

**Australian Taxation Office** 



### Digital literacy



Demographic	ADII score 2018
Household income <\$35K	41.3
Mobile only	42.7
65+	46.0
Left school early	47.4
Disability	49.2
Household income \$35-60K	51.3 (60.2)
Not in labour force	52.0
Indigenous Australians	54.4



#### **Australian Government**

### **Department of Social Services**









Be Connected

Every Australian online.

Network Partner



Digital literacy and consumer health literacy are core business for libraries

What we can't do

## There is no silver bullet



# Don't wait for time, permission or money

What we can do







### 2009 - 2011

- Health specialisation
- Microcredential with QUT
- Data workshops
- Health Information Summit
- Advanced expert searching workshops

### 2012 - 2015

- ROI research
- Health library census

### 2016 - 2019

- HeLiNS research
- Live expert search strategies
- Australian Commission on Quality and Safety recognition
- Consumer health literacy partnership

### 3. Learn from others

### Set standards

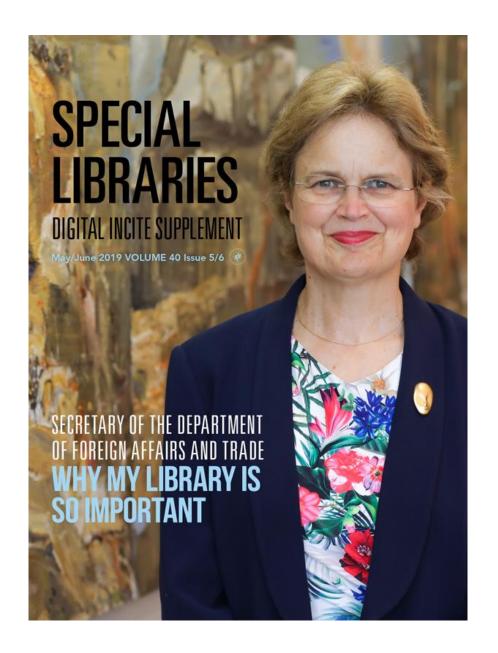
### Reviewed and updated 2018-2019

- ALIA Guidelines for Australian Special Libraries
- Principles of Access to Public Sector Information

### New for 2019

- ALIA Guidance for special libraries undergoing a review
- ALIA Guidelines for undertaking a library review

### 4. Promote what we do



### Two advertorials booked for October 2019



### 5. Build our evidence

### ALIA commissioned research

- 2014 Return on Investment of special libraries
- The unique role and value of LIS professionals in special libraries

### New for 2019

 Cost of closing an existing library, running a library service without a library and reinstating a library

#### **Health Information Workforce Summit 2016 summary and outline of agreed actions**

As Peak Organisations for Health Information Workforce (HIW), our **GOAL** is to work with employers and education providers to deliver rewarding career paths for HIW employees who are recognised as valued professionals

#### Who we are

#### Strategy A

We need a census of the health information workforce and regular collection of data

Engage employers with the University of Tasmania and University of Melbourne HIW research project

### 6. Collaborate

#### What we do

#### Strategy B

We need a national capability framework to detail the competencies we bring to our roles

- Develop the framework with employers and education providers; assist with implementation through competency matrices, certification, template position descriptions, role briefs, and embedding in the workplace
- Develop a framework for HIW to be recognised as accredited health professions

#### A sustainable future for health information workforce

#### **Strategy C**

We need education and PD opportunities, career marketing, reward and recognition programs to ensure HIW recruitment and retention

- Develop materials and promote HIW careers, face-to-face and online, with employers and education providers
- Establish a network of emerging HIW leaders, mentoring programs, graduate programs and funded traineeships
- Work with education providers to ensure course content remains cutting edge and able to support professional certification as well as specialisation credentialing
- Identify with employers ways of supporting recruitment and retention of HIW in rural locations, and on-the-job PD for career development for all
- Return to work programs for employees following extended leave of absence











### 7. Update our skills



# 3 ways to improve your digital dexterity overnight – for free

### 1. Subscribe

The Verge Tech News World Tech Watch Telstra Exchange

### 2. Follow

Jane Cowell
Marshall Breeding
Mashable
Wired

@janecowell8

@mbreeding

@mashable

@wired

### 3. Join the ALIA PD Scheme

- 30 hours a year
- Reflective practice
- Become a Certified Professional







## thank you

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### Workshop

- 1. Your advocacy issue
- 2. Reframing the conversation, context, vocabulary, value
- 3. Sharing your (new) story