Sustainable Libraries Initiative partners with the Iowa Library Association
The Sustainable Libraries Initiative partners with the Iowa Library Association
to cultivate library leadership for community resilience

New York – November 21, 2023 – The Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI) and the Iowa Library Association (ILA) are pleased to announce a new partnership to provide resources and tools to all ILA members that will enliven work in libraries to build communities that will forge ahead in the face of the challenges of climate change.

Through this partnership, ILA members will join a nationwide community of practice who are using tools created or compiled by the SLI and its members to uncover ways that their libraries and communities will understand, lessen, and adapt to the effects of climate change. These include a custom CO2 calculator to help them estimate their current institutional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions so they can measure progress in reducing GHG emissions; a vendor list to source more environmentally-friendly products and services; policy examples; a webinar archive and the Road Map to Sustainability resource to help with planning. ILA members will also receive a 20% discount on the award-winning Sustainable Library Certification Program.

“The Executive Board of the Iowa Library Association is pleased to be the sustainability leader in the Midwest. We know Iowa libraries are trusted for so many things that are related to the principles of sustainability,” said Julie Finch, President Elect of the Iowa Library Association, “Financial stewardship of public funds, accessibility to materials, programs and ideas, as well as making choices that support the environment where we all live and thrive. We are pleased to partner with SLI to offer better, focused actions and a path to help all Iowa Libraries lead their communities in new and better ways.”

“We applaud the Iowa Library Association for seeking this partnership to enable all of their members to accelerate their adoption of sustainable thinking,” said Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Board President of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, “Positioning Iowa’s library community as leaders in the conversation about climate change mitigation and adaptation is a strong move to ensure libraries contribute to their community’s resilience and remain relevant and responsive institutions.”
The Sustainable Libraries Initiative and the one-of-a-kind Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP) provide tools and resources for public and academic libraries, library systems and school librarians to shift their policies and practices to align with the principles of triple-bottom-line sustainability: environmentally sound decisions, advancing social equity, and considering the economic feasibility of all choices. The certification program is designed to guide participants to look to their communities to identify needs and potential partners, adjust their current practices to align with the triple-bottom-line definition of sustainability, and reflect on how these actions are having a real impact in their organization and community.

ILA members will receive a message directly from the ILA regarding how to access SLI resources.

**Sustainable Libraries Initiative**

The Sustainable Libraries Initiative is a member-driven organization that empowers library professionals to be leaders in triple-bottom-line sustainability (environmental stewardship, social equity, and economic feasibility) both within their organizations and in their communities. The Sustainable Library Certification Program is now enrolling public and academic libraries, and library systems nationwide, as well as school librarians.

**Iowa Library Association**

The Iowa Library Association was established in 1890 and is the second oldest state library association in the country. ILA has approximately 1300 members. Membership is comprised of librarians, library workers, trustees, students, and friends. The Iowa Library Association fosters a community of innovation and advocacy, supporting and strengthening their members to promote libraries as an essential resource for all Iowans.

For more information, see the Sustainable Libraries Initiative website [https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org](https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org) or contact:
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