

September 24, 2002

Richard Petersen, Chief Executive Officer
Maine Medical Center
22 Bramhall St.
Portland ME 04102

Dear Mr. Petersen:

The Health Science Libraries and Information Consortium (HSLIC), Maine's organization of 45 health science, academic and biomedical research libraries, fully supports Maine Medical Center in this application to the National Library of Medicine's Information System Grant Program. HSLIC pledges our active involvement in the Maine Ariel Project and an in-kind contribution to the project totaling \$25,732.

HSLIC identified the need for this state-wide project and worked to find a solution for our member libraries. The Maine Ariel Project will greatly enhance our interlibrary loan system and is based on a proven model, the Maine Electronic Document Delivery Project, funded by the Regional Library of Medicine.

We are pleased that Maine Medical Center, a nationally respected institution, will direct this project and that Janet L. Cowen, MSLS AHIP, Director of Library Services, will be Principal Investigator.

HSLIC offers the human and technological resources of our organization to the Maine Ariel Project. Eight HSLIC members, including our Board Chair, will comprise the project's Steering Committee, providing general oversight. We estimate this in-kind contribution to the Steering Committee at 50 hours in Year 1; 50 hours in Year 2; and 40 hours in Year 3. (An estimated in-kind value of \$2,240).

HSLIC also pledges to this project the time of our members, as individuals and as institutions. HSLIC members will provide staff time for the installation of the technologies. We estimate this in-kind contribution at 270 hours in Year 1; 270 hours in Year 2; and 60 hours in Year 3. (An estimated in-kind value of \$9,600).

The staff and volunteers of our member libraries will also participate in training the staff and volunteers of other libraries on the use of the technologies, Ariel software, and interlibrary loan policies, and project evaluation procedures, and outreach methods. We estimate this in-kind contribution at 270 hours in Year 1; 270 hours in Year 2; and 60 hours in Year 3. (An estimated in-kind value of \$9,600).

Our members who are experienced Ariel users will be available to their peers—staff and volunteers—for one-to-one mentoring. HSLIC expects that some libraries will need this additional, more intensive assistance and will need to visit sites where Ariel is in use. We estimate this in-kind contribution at 54 hours of mentoring in Year 1; 54 hours in Year 2; and 54 hours in Year 3. (An estimated in-kind value of \$2,592).

HSLIC members will conduct 10 forums for the staff and volunteers of public libraries and secondary school libraries on the availability and benefits of using up-to-date biomedical and scientific information. (An estimated in-kind value of \$480).

During the funding period, HSLIC members will make at least five public speaking engagements at community-based organizations concerned with health issues, such as Rotary and Chambers of Commerce. Our in-kind contribution to this effort will be a total of 45 hours. (An estimated in-kind value of \$720).

HSLIC will make our web site available to the project for posting project information, schedules of activities, and downloadable electronic outreach materials. (An estimated in-kind value of \$500). Our members will also share information about the Maine Ariel Project at regional and national conferences and meetings of their peers.

We look forward to working with Maine Medical Center and your Library Department for a project that will have significant, long-term benefits to health care, public health, and education throughout Maine.

Yours truly,

Deborah A. Clark, Chair

Health Science Libraries and Information Consortium