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Press Release

Supporters of North Carolina Public Libraries sponsor Library Legislative Day 2009

Join Librarians and library supporters from around the state from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the 1100 Court, Legislative Building in Raleigh, NC

Raleigh, NC, February 25, 2009: Library supporters will work in Raleigh on February 25th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to focus attention on public libraries, the vital role that libraries play in North Carolina communities and the need to sustain funding for these vital institutions. Every day across the state, libraries are meeting the needs of their communities by providing a broad range of services for people of all ages and backgrounds. The library plays an even more important role as Americans face tough economic times.

Come! Meet!! NC citizens as they tell their powerful stories of how public libraries are helping them find jobs and get through these tough economic times –

- More than three fourths of public libraries offer information technology training for customers.
- Libraries provide customers with training on resume preparation, techniques for interviewing, and assistance with scholarships.

View! Displays by libraries around the state that demonstrate how the services offered by the library are a vital solution for North Carolinians in need: for people who need help getting a job, those continuing their education, military families staying in touch with their loved ones.

- Everyday libraries across North Carolina are providing free public access to computers and the Internet.
- An average of 230 people a day line up to use the library's 27 computers in Randolph County, NC.

Libraries need sustained funding to continue these critical services. Libraries have seen budget reductions at the state and local level, just as use is skyrocketing. In 2008, North Carolina public libraries had 37 million visitors. That's an increase of 10 million visitors since 2000. Sustained funding will ensure that libraries are able to continue current activities and meet the critical needs of their communities as we achieve economic recovery. See you at Library Legislative Day!

Library Legislative Day is sponsored by the North Carolina Public Library Directors Association and the **Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries**.

For Immediate Release