



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# Board of Library Trustees

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**TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

**DATE: AUGUST 26, 2019**

**FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**SUBJECT: ARTICLE ON NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO TITLED "YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY MAY HAVE A NEW OFFERING IN STOCK: A RESIDENT SOCIAL WORKER"**

**ISSUE:**

Receive and file this update on an article on National Public Radio titled "Your Local Library May Have a New Offering in Stock: A Resident Social Worker".

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Library Trustees receive and file this update on an article on National Public Radio titled "Your Local Library May Have a New Offering in Stock: A Resident Social Worker".

**BACKGROUND:**

An article on National Public Radio (npr.org) dated July 17, 2019 titled "Your Local Library May Have a New Offering in Stock: A Resident Social Worker" written by Colin Dwyer and heard on "All Things Considered" is attached for your review.

**DISCUSSION:**

The attached article discusses how the Long Branch Free Public Library in eastern New Jersey has hired a full time permanent social worker to assist library customers' onsite at the library. Long Branch is not the only library jurisdiction with a social worker on staff, San Francisco Public Library hired one in 2009 and about three dozen other public libraries across the United States have as well. Librarians and library staff are often not formally trained to provide social work and having social workers on site allows them to provide these services directly to the customers.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director

Certified as to

availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer

Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager

Attachment: Article