



# Helping Public Libraries Meet Community Health Needs

## NNLM AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) works with public libraries to ensure they are prepared to meet the health information needs of their communities by providing resources, educational opportunities, and funding for health-related programming and outreach, all at no cost to our members.

### MEMBERSHIP

Public libraries are invited to the National Network of Libraries of Medicine as members! Membership is free and provides benefits, such as:

- Free educational materials for order and download
- Professional development webinars and online courses
- Funding for professional certifications from the Medical Library Association (MLA)
- NNLM membership certificate to display commitment to providing access to health information

### FUNDING

Programming and Outreach:

- Public libraries are encouraged to apply for funding for programs and projects promoting health information, particularly National Library of Medicine resources.
- The funding period cycle is from May 1 through April 30, calls for applications are made every spring.

Consumer Health Information Specialization (CHIS) from MLA

- NNLM sponsors the application fee for both levels of the specialization, as well as renewals
- Certification requires renewal every three years
- All NNLM classes for the specialization are available online for free.

Funding is awarded regionally, locate your regional office <https://nnlm.gov/regions>

### TRAINING

NNLM offers free training for public libraries interested in health information topics and resources from the National Library of Medicine. Our goal is to equip public libraries with knowledge and skills for providing health information to their communities. You can see a complete schedule of upcoming training opportunities at <https://nnlm.gov/training>

### HEALTH INFORMATION RESOURCES

#### GENERAL HEALTH

**MedlinePlus** Your go-to resource for information about diseases, conditions, and wellness issues in language you can understand. <https://medlineplus.gov/>

**Household Products Database** Enables consumers to research products based on chemical ingredients <http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/index.htm>

**HealthFinder** Easy-to-read, actionable, and evidence-based health information <https://healthfinder.gov/>

#### DRUG AND SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION

**MedlinePlus Drugs, Herbs, and Supplements** Learn about prescription drugs and over-the-counter medicines. Includes side effects, dosage, special precautions, and more. <https://medlineplus.gov/druginformation.html>

**National Center for Complementary and Integrative Medicine (NCCIH)** at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds and conducts research to help answer important scientific and public health questions about complementary health approaches. NCCIH works to determine what is promising, what helps and why, what doesn't work, and what is safe. <https://nccih.nih.gov/>



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## DRUG AND SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

**NLM Drug Information Portal** A gateway to selected drug information from NLM and other key U.S. Government agencies. Enables searches using a drug's trade name or generic name.

<http://druginfo.nlm.nih.gov/drugportal/drugportal.jsp>

**Pillbox** Enables rapid identification of unknown solid-dosage medications (tablets/capsules) based on physical characteristics and high-resolution images.

<http://pillbox.nlm.nih.gov/>

## AUDIENCE SPECIFIC RESOURCES

**American Indian and Alaska Native Health** A central source for information about the health and well-being of Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

<https://americanindianhealth.nlm.nih.gov/>

**National Institute on Aging** – NIA leads a broad scientific effort to understand the nature of aging and to extend the healthy, active years of life. NIA is the primary Federal agency supporting and conducting Alzheimer's disease research

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health>

**Center for Young Women's Health** A collaboration between the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine and the Division of Gynecology at Boston Children's Hospital.

Provides teen girls and young women with carefully researched health information, health education programs, and conferences. <https://youngwomenshealth.org/>

**girlshealth.gov** Offers girls reliable, useful information on health and well-being. Covers hundreds of topics, from getting your period to stopping bullies, and from getting fit to preventing sexually transmitted infections. <https://www.girlshealth.gov/>

**KidsHealth.org** - Information you can trust about kids and teens that's free of "doctor speak". <http://kidshealth.org/>

**healthychildren.org** The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and its member pediatricians dedicate their efforts and resources to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/Pages/default.aspx>

## AUDIENCE SPECIFIC RESOURCES (Continued)

**Womenshealth.gov** The Office on Women's Health (OWH) coordinates women's health efforts across HHS and addresses critical women's health issues by informing and advancing policies, educating health care professionals and consumers, and supporting model programs.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/>

**Young Men's Health** Produced by the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital. The purpose of the website is to provide carefully researched health information to teenage boys and young men. <http://youngmenshealthsite.org/>

## MULTILINGUAL AND MULTICULTURAL RESOURCES

**HealthReach** A national collaborative partnership that has created a resource of quality multilingual, multicultural public health information. <https://healthreach.nlm.nih.gov/>

**NIH Spanish Health Information Portal** The Spanish language port to resources from the National Institutes of Health. <https://salud.nih.gov/>

**NLM Multi-Cultural Resources for health Information** The Outreach and Special Populations Branch (OSPB) works to improve access to accurate, quality health information by underserved and special populations.

<https://sis.nlm.nih.gov/outreach/multicultural.html>

**EthnoMed** Harborview Medical Center's ethnic medicine website containing medical and cultural information about immigrant and refugee groups. <https://ethnomed.org/>