

LIBRARY ADVOCACY CONVERSATION

Do They Know Your Worth? Showcasing Your Value in the Library and How AJL Can Help *Sean Boyle*

Description: Learn how to ensure your organization understands the worth of having a qualified librarian in its library, and how to gain community advocates to support your initiatives. This session will be directed to school, synagogue and center libraries, but can also be applied to other settings. We will start by exploring the AJL Advocacy Toolkit, as well as those from other library associations. Examples of successful collaborations between libraries and Jewish organizations will be discussed and participants can share their own inspiring stories. We will then explore different ways to gain advocates in the larger community, and explore ways that AJL can both advocate for current members and for Jewish organizations to reestablish libraries.

Sean Patrick Boyle is the librarian at the Jewish Day School of the Lehigh Valley, in Allentown PA, and received his MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh. He is the Chair of the Advocacy Committee for AJL, and a member of the Leadership Institute for School Librarians for the Pennsylvania School Librarian Association. He is a retired U.S. Naval Officer with over 23 years of service. He also has a certificate of completion from the Turkish Naval War College, an MA in teaching and learning with technology, and a BS in political science from the United States Naval Academy.