



**Help Save
the Voices of Vision
Talking Book Center!**

Here's what you can do:

1. Contact your state representative and state senator.

2. Share the message:

I am contacting you today to express my concern for the future of the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center service. The DuPage Library System (DLS) delivers this service to [*whom: me, my mother, our library users, etc.*].

Secretary of State Jesse White has successfully redistributed grant monies to do as little harm as possible to library grant programs. However, DLS has received less than 3% of the \$460,286 State of Illinois grant that funds this critically important program.

3. Tell your story. Examples of stories we have received are on the back.

4. Conclude with the following:

I know that Illinois has serious budget issues as do the residents of our great state. Please understand that the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center service is an **essential** service to [*whom: me, my mother, our library users, etc.*]. I'm counting on you to help make sure this service remains an indispensable resource for the residents of Illinois for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

5. You are done!

For more information about the Voices of Vision Talking Book Center, please contact Tom Sloan, Executive Director, DuPage Library System: tsloan@dupagels.lib.il.us or 630-232-8457 x201.

Some examples of stories shared with Voices of Vision staff:

- “My son uses these services and it has helped him tremendously in school.”
- “When my eyes were more cooperative, I kept a book by my chair, one in my purse and one in the car. Now, thanks to **great** people like you, I am enjoying books that come in a green box...”
- “The Talking Books **saved my sanity!**”
- “Your talking book service...is a Godsend to the blind and physically handicapped population...I think it was about 1938 or thereabouts, when [Helen Keller] made a plea to the Congressmen not to reduce or cut appropriations for the talking books for the blind. Little did I know that I would be one of the beneficiaries of her successful plea...”
- "Thank you! Without these tapes for the last 30 years I don't know what my life would have been like."
- "Thank you for all the wonderful books you send me. They are my lifeline."
- “Thank you for allowing my uncle to enjoy your products and services during the period of blindness he experienced in the last years of his life. My uncle was a great reader throughout his life and being unable to read was a heavy cross for him to bear. Your agency’s assistance allowed him at least some of the pleasure he used to enjoy before losing his sight.”
- "This is the greatest program that the government has. The best thing I've gotten for my tax money."



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