

Joint Statement on Parameters for National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants (Submitted May 28, 2013)

The Society of American Archivists, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, and the Council of State Archivists strongly encourage the National Archives and Records Administration to focus the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) grants program on projects that meet certain criteria, suggested below, to ensure that the program provides maximum impact and produces demonstrable results. This is central to convincing the Congress, the President, and users and supporters of archives around the country that adequate funding for this program is essential.

Sharpening the results-oriented focus of the NHPRC grants program will:

- Help to ensure the highest impact for each federal dollar expended;
- Underscore the importance of NHPRC as a catalyst to developing and sustaining the care of and access to the American historical record as it exists in the states, regions, and communities of this country; and
- Demonstrate the National Archives' leadership in setting priorities and providing direction and guidance to the archival community in the United States.

NHPRC grant funds should be focused on initiatives that fulfill these criteria:

- ***Demonstrable outcomes:*** Projects must have tangible results that will be disseminated widely.
- ***Significant impact:*** Projects must lead to measurable improvement in the care of and access to the American historical record by organizations in states, regions, and communities around the country.
- ***Broad impact:*** Projects must have value to a broad range of constituents and users.
- ***Models for best practices:*** Projects must yield or incorporate models of archival practice that lead to changes and improvements benefiting constituents/user groups.