



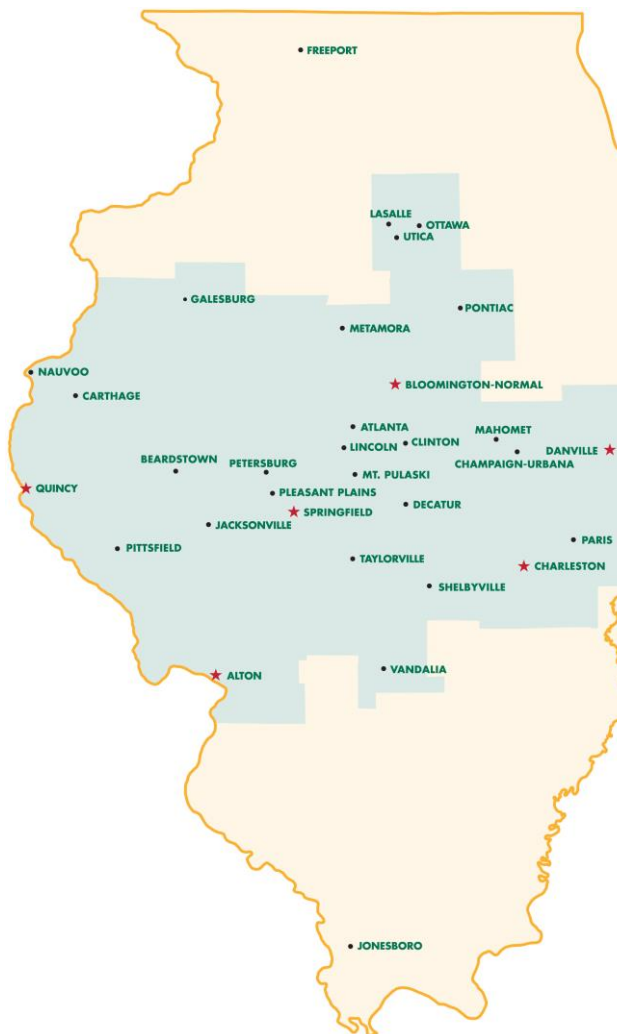
What We Collectively Accomplished in 2019



FY2019 Snapshot of Looking for Lincoln Communities*

There are currently twenty-eight, Looking for Lincoln (LFL) communities in the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area (ALNHA). Looking for Lincoln communities include:

- Alton
- Atlanta
- Beardstown
- Champaign County (Mahomet)
- Coles County (Charleston)
- Decatur
- DeWitt County (Clinton)
- Edgar County (Paris)
- Freeport
- Galesburg
- Hancock County (Nauvoo, Carthage)
- Jacksonville
- Jonesboro
- LaSalle County (LaSalle, Ottawa, Utica)
- Lincoln
- McLean County (Bloomington-Normal)
- Metamora
- Mt. Pulaski
- Petersburg
- Pleasant Plains
- Pike County (Pittsfield)
- Pontiac
- Quincy
- Shelby County (Shelbyville)
- Springfield
- Taylorville
- Vandalia
- Vermillion County (Danville)



Of the twenty-eight Looking for Lincoln communities, eighteen of the communities have active LFL working groups. During FY2019, Looking for Lincoln staff spoke with several communities about the designation process to become a Looking for Lincoln Community. The community of Macomb was designated a Looking for Lincoln Emerging Community and is working towards community designation. Looking for Lincoln staff continues working to re-engage existing LFL communities and establish LFL working groups.

*Community denotes an individual community or a county that works collectively.

FY2019 Snapshot of In-kind Match

Looking for Lincoln In-kind Match: \$689,307.03

(The above in-kind match was collected from ALNHA Steering Council Meetings, ad hoc committee meetings, grants, workshops, the Google Ads grant and other heritage area wide projects.)

In-kind Match from Looking for Lincoln Communities: \$128,397.23

(LFL working group meetings, volunteer time and donated goods & materials for projects and programs that fit within the goals of the ALNHA)

Total FY2019 In-kind Match for the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area: \$817,704.26

FY2019 Projects that Benefitted the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area as a Whole

- **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Boundary Expansion.** The Land Use Bill signed into law on March 12, 2019, S47, included legislation introduced by U.S. Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) and U.S. Congressman Adam Kinzinger (R-IL-16) to honor the legacy of the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, by expanding the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area in Illinois to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County. The parts of Illinois added to the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area under this legislation are of special significance to President Lincoln's personal and professional life. These areas are where Lincoln developed his legal career within the Eighth Judicial District. They are also home to the sites of the historic Lincoln-Douglas debates. The boundary expansion will increase economic opportunities for Illinoisans working to preserve the historic sites and create new recreation, tourism and educational projects.
- **Wendy Allen Award for Institutional Excellence.** On November 17, 2019 the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition received the Wendy Allen Award for Institutional Excellence at The Lincoln Forum in Gettysburg. Each year, The Lincoln Forum presents at its annual symposium a special award to a Lincoln or Civil War institution or organization that has achieved widespread recognition for bringing learning, scholarship, and enlightenment to a wide public. Chairman of The Lincoln Forum Harold Holzer said; "In honoring this group, we do honor to ourselves. 'Looking for Lincoln' has taken hallowed ground and made it accessible to more and more visitors. As one who has often enjoyed the thrill of walking alongside Lincoln's Illinois pathways, I cannot overemphasize the importance of 'place' to history, and the importance of 'Looking for Lincoln' in leading the way to these places for all Americans." The Lincoln Forum is an assembly of people who share a deep interest in the life and times of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War era. Through a roster of activities and projects including symposia, tours, student essay competitions, teacher scholarships, a newsletter, Lincoln studies, the Forum endeavors to enhance the understanding and preserve the memory of Abraham Lincoln.
- **Sacred Places Grant.** Looking for Lincoln received a grant from the Alliance of National Heritage Areas to work with Sacred Places (a nonprofit organization) and First Presbyterian Church (historic house of worship) to help First Presbyterian

determine how best to work with the community to partner and share unused church space in this historic structure. The end result was a day of brainstorming that led to a number of potential new partnerships for First Presbyterian as well as among the organizations represented. There were more than 40 leaders present representing a variety of social service, arts, and community organizations.

- **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Marketing Initiative.** In 2019, Looking for Lincoln used a Marketing Partnership Grant from the Office of Tourism to develop History In Your Backyard, a social media campaign, and Flat Lincoln.

History In Your Backyard

Is that Lincoln on a lawn mower in your backyard? In the summer of 2019, Looking for Lincoln initiated a social media ad campaign directed to the 6 Heritage Area Gateway Communities to encourage local residents to discover historic sites in their own region. The campaign titled “History In Your Backyard” used photography of Lincoln doing mundane activities in a backyard setting: mowing, grilling, playing croquet, relaxing, and many more. The juxtaposition of this revered figure in a modern relaxed setting grabbed the viewers’ attention, and directed them to find the history in their own backyards or communities. The successful campaign had approximately 2 million views across the state, with thousands of likes and shares. The campaign elements were also made available to local partners to use for local promotion.

Flat Lincoln

What is small but mighty? How about a cartoon Abe Lincoln? This tiny titan, dubbed ‘Flat Lincoln,’ was made available to download from LookingForLincoln.com to be printed and photographed at Heritage Area historic sites, or any historic sites around the country. Participants took Flat Lincoln around the state, and as far as Gettysburg to photograph him with the people and places connected with the Lincoln Presidency, then posted him on social media with the hashtag #FlatLincoln. Winners were chosen during initial launch of the campaign. The promotion was developed to trigger interest in historic sites for younger travelers, and to build online awareness of Looking for Lincoln historic sites, as well as the larger idea of heritage tourism.

Visitor Guide

Looking for Lincoln developed a new visitor’s guide for the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area which was distributed to Tourist Information Centers, historic sites, and Looking for Lincoln Communities for distribution. The brochure featured the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area *Passport to Your National Parks* program and highlighted the Gateways to the National Heritage Area, Looking for Lincoln Signature Events, tourism offices in the ALNHA and how to stay connected with Looking for Lincoln via social media and websites.

Website

Looking for Lincoln maintained and made minor updates to its website for the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. Looking for Lincoln actively engaged stakeholders and potential visitors with social media via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. At the end of FY2019, Looking for Lincoln had 83,082 page views on the Looking for Lincoln website. Our social media sites had 6,066 likes on Facebook,

415 followers on Twitter and 479 followers on Instagram. We also have 4,844 contacts in our email database.

- **Lincoln the Great Communicator.** In FY2019, Looking for Lincoln hosted Lincoln the Great Communicator events in our six LFL Gateway Communities through a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. The six programs were attended by 459 people and resulted in \$5,659.60 in community match. Looking for Lincoln received a second grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency allowing us to offer this program to eleven more Looking for Lincoln Communities in FY2020 including: Anna-Jonesboro, Carthage, Decatur, Freeport, Jacksonville, Lincoln, Mahomet, Ottawa, Paris, Pontiac and Vandalia.

Lincoln, the Great Communicator combines live period music with conversation and narrative by President Lincoln (using Lincoln's own words) to explore Lincoln's use of communication as a personal and political tool. Lincoln, the Great Communicator used performance as a way to share and expand on the Lincoln story. This is a collaborative project involving Looking for Lincoln, Chris Vallillo, George Buss, and key partners in Looking for Lincoln Communities. The purpose of hosting these performances is to provide an educational experience free and open to the public. It will also be an opportunity to generate awareness of Looking for Lincoln and the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area to a broader audience.

- **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area *Passport to Your National Parks* Program.** In FY2019, Looking for Lincoln added five new *Passport to Your National Parks* stamps to the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area passport program. New stamps were added in: Freeport, Jonesboro, Petersburg (2), and Pontiac bringing the total to 40 passport stamp locations.

Looking for Lincoln promoted the passport program on the website, in the visitor guide, Facebook, and Instagram. The purpose behind increasing the number of stamp locations is to promote visitation to Looking for Lincoln Communities. The passport stamps are located in Looking for Lincoln Communities in visitor centers and sites connected to Abraham Lincoln life and times. Twenty-five of our twenty-eight communities are currently participating in the program.

- **Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Signage.** Looking for Lincoln has twelve interstate signs located near the borders of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. This year, Looking for Lincoln added community signs to the signage opportunities. The signs were designed to be placed at the entrances to designated Looking for Lincoln Communities identifying the communities with the Looking for Lincoln brand. Two versions of the sign were created to denote Looking for Lincoln Communities and Looking for Lincoln Gateway Communities. The following communities currently have Looking for Lincoln Community signs installed: Atlanta, Danville, Jacksonville, Lincoln, Pittsfield, Taylorville and Quincy. Several Looking for Lincoln Communities are working to get signs fabricated and installed.
- **Looking for Lincoln Wayside Exhibits.** Looking for Lincoln has over 200 wayside exhibits throughout the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. This year Looking for Lincoln staff worked with Looking for Lincoln Communities to replace wayside exhibits that were still under warranty. The warranty has now expired on all the

Looking for Lincoln wayside exhibits. In addition, Looking for Lincoln staff worked with the City of Springfield and Ace Sign Company to get two of the waysides on the Old State Capitol Plaza moved and relocated. Funding for the relocation was provided by the Sangamon County Bar Association.

- **Bring a Lincoln to Your Community program.** This program provided funds for ten Looking for Lincoln Communities to bring a Lincoln actor to their community to enhance existing or special community events or programs. Collectively, Looking for Lincoln invested a total of \$5,950 and the communities leveraged \$291,820.07 reaching 9,679 visitors. The Lincoln actors were used for both formal and informal educational programs in the communities including: Civil War reenactments, reenactments of speeches, special programs, and informal conversations with visitors.
- **LEAD Academy: Lincoln's Path to Leadership.** LEAD Academy is a robust, one-of-a-kind youth leadership program that utilizes immersive experiences to empower emerging leaders to develop leadership qualities. We specifically select students who have the potential to be leaders, but may not see it in themselves. Participants spend a full week exploring the qualities that made Abraham Lincoln such a great leader in his day. They learn why those same qualities are so important in our leaders today, and how, as individuals, they can apply those qualities as they develop their own leadership skills for the future.

In 2019, thirty-nine students from thirty-seven communities in the state of Illinois participated in LEAD: Lincoln's Path to Leadership. The residential program was held on the campus of Illinois College in Jacksonville, IL from June 9-14, 2019.

The program was developed and implemented by Looking for Lincoln in partnership with: Illinois College, 4H University of Illinois Extension, Lincoln Home National Historic Site/National Park Service, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Abraham Lincoln Association, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Niemann Foods, with major support from Union Pacific.

- **Spirit of Lincoln Youth Leadership Academy.** The Spirit of Lincoln Youth Leadership Academy was created to provide youth (5th to 12th grade) with meaningful and inspirational connections with our nation's heritage.

In 2019, Lincoln Home National Historic Site and Looking for Lincoln worked with partners on youth programs, including LEAD Academy: Lincoln's Path to Leadership and the U.S. Colored Troop Youth Employment Program. Consultants will be engaged to review, analyze and provide a gap analysis on the youth programs in order to provide NPS and NHA's with a fully developed and piloted series of programs and activities to engage youth, through the universal icon of Abraham Lincoln.

- **Looking for Lincoln in Illinois Book Series.** The Looking for Lincoln in collaboration with Southern Illinois University Press is publishing a book series entitled *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois*. The purpose of the *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois* Book Series is to tell the story of the distinctive role the region known as the

Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area played in shaping the man who became the 16th President of the United States.

In FY2019, a total of 578 books in the *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois* series were sold. Looking for Lincoln promoted the first four books in the series, *Lincoln's Springfield*, *Lincoln and Mormon Country* and *A Guide to Lincoln's Eighth Judicial Circuit*. The stories in the first two books are drawn from more than two hundred illustrated wayside exhibits across fifty-two communities in Illinois. *Lincoln's Springfield* contains fifty stories about Abraham Lincoln and his hometown of Springfield, Illinois. *Lincoln and Mormon Country* tells more than thirty fascinating and surprising stories that show how the lives of Lincoln and the Mormons intersected. *A Guide to Lincoln's Eighth Judicial Circuit* is a guidebook to the 8th judicial circuit. Author Guy Fraker guides travelers through the prairies to the towns Lincoln visited regularly as he practiced law in east central Illinois. *Historic Houses in Lincoln's Illinois*, features 22 historic buildings in the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area that are open to the public to visit. Each site links today's visitors with a place Lincoln loved, a home of a Lincoln friend or colleague, or a spot that illuminates Lincoln's era and legacy in central Illinois.

- **Looking for Lincoln Pollinator Project.** The Abraham Lincoln National Heritage worked with its twenty-eight Looking for Lincoln Communities to identify organizations that are preserving and creating pollinator habitat within the forty-three area national heritage area. In FY2019, five Looking for Lincoln Communities signed the LFL Working Group Pollinator Pledge and four community organizations signed the pollinator pledge identifying projects that enhanced or created pollinator habitat. Thus far a total of fourteen Looking for Lincoln communities and nine organizations have signed the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Pollinator Pledge.
- **Looking for Lincoln Community Capacity Building Training.** Looking for Lincoln held two different training workshops during FY2019: *Tips for Fundraising and Grant Writing* and *Resources for Your Looking for Lincoln Community*. Thirty-seven individuals from twenty six organizations participated in training workshops that were held in Springfield.
- **Looking for Lincoln Community Designation Program.** In FY2019, the community of Ottawa was designated a Looking for Lincoln Community. The community of Macomb, IL was designated a Looking for Lincoln emerging community. Local leaders and stakeholders are working towards Macomb's designation as a Looking for Lincoln Community. In addition, the communities of Freeport, Jonesboro, and Pontiac were grandfathered in as Looking for Lincoln Communities when the expansion legislation passed Congress.
- **Looking for Lincoln Signature Events.** The purpose of the LFL Signature Event program is to promote heritage tourism within the ALNHA by recognizing outstanding events that are representative of the Looking for Lincoln brand. The primary focus of these events is to promote the education and interpretation of the life and times of Abraham Lincoln while providing a high level of visitor services.

Four events were designated LFL Signature Events: Lincoln's Festival in Bloomington, History Comes Alive – Springfield, Lincoln Days Civil War

Reenactment - Pike County and Lincoln in the District – Quincy. Collectively, LFL invested \$8,250 the communities leveraged \$412,059 in cash and in-kind goods and services, and a total of 122,777 visitors were reached.

Lincoln's Festival on Route 66 was held on July 20-21, 2019 in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. The Lincoln's Festival on Route 66 is an annual event that celebrates Abraham Lincoln's connection to Bloomington-Normal and its surrounding communities. Through Civil War reenactments, tours of historic sites, lectures, and theatrical, cultural, and musical presentations, the Festival's mission is to entertain and engage audiences as well as to promote historic downtown Bloomington as a destination. This event is a collaborative effort between various local entities to tell the local Lincoln story. The event received \$2,750 in funding from Looking for Lincoln and matched this with \$115,563.67 in donated materials and volunteer time reaching 2,750 visitors.

History Comes Alive was held from June 1-August 10, 2019 in Springfield, Illinois. History Comes Alive is a daily living history program offered free-of-charge to visitors at the key Lincoln sites in Springfield and throughout the downtown area. In addition to driving visitors to the various Lincoln sites, the program was also designed to bring the HCA program into the downtown shops and restaurants as a business-driver within the historic downtown area. The event received no funding from Looking for Lincoln and matched this with \$175,000 in donated materials and volunteer time reaching 116,877 visitors.

Lincoln Days Civil War Reenactment was held on June 1-2, 2019 at Lake Pittsfield in Pike County. This living history event promotes the life and times of Abraham Lincoln through a Civil War encampment and battle, demonstrations, period music, and interpretive programming. The event received \$2,750 in funding from Looking for Lincoln and matched this with \$103,613.61 in donated materials and volunteer time reaching 1,500 visitors.

Lincoln in the District was held on Saturday, May 5, 2019 at Washington Park in Quincy, Illinois. This living history event brings Quincy's downtown square to life with living history performances including excerpts for the Lincoln Douglas debate, period music and demonstrators. The event received \$2,750 in funding from Looking for Lincoln and matched this with \$17,881.85 in donated materials and volunteer time reaching 1,500 visitors.

- **Looking for Lincoln at the 2019 IL State Fair.** Looking for Lincoln brought history to life at the Illinois State Fair from Friday, August 9th to Sunday, August 18th, 2019 in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum & Library, Lincoln Home National Historic Site the McLean County Museum of History, the Lincoln Heritage Museum, the Vermilion County Museum, the Museum of the Grand Prairie, the Jacksonville CVB, the Friends of the Lincoln Trail Homestead State Park and Memorial, Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway, reenacting groups, and Looking for Lincoln Communities. Twenty organizations/groups and 170 volunteers participated with twelve different Looking for Lincoln communities represented from throughout the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area during the ten day event.

Visitors to the area had an opportunity to interact with an Abraham Lincoln reenactor, participate in period games, visit with Civil War and living history re-enactors, build with Lincoln Logs, watch period demonstrations, hear period music and learn about all the sites and activities in the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area to visit. Together, we created awareness of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area at the Illinois State Fair.

- **Annual International Route 66 Mother Road Festival & Car Show:** Looking for Lincoln participated in the 16th Annual International Route 66 Mother Road Festival & Car Show in Springfield, IL on Friday, September 27 and Saturday, September 28, 2019 to promote the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. An Abraham Lincoln reenactor was the parade marshal for the parade on Friday evening. Visitors had an opportunity to talk to and take photos with Abraham Lincoln and learn about the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area.
- **George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures:** Every year, on the morning of Lincoln's birthday, February 12th, Lincoln Home National Historic Site partners with the Looking for Lincoln, in presenting the George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures. The goal of the lecture program is to provide information on the rich Lincoln heritage that can be found within the communities throughout the 43 county Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. Together, Lincoln Home NHS and Looking for Lincoln present stories that focus on the central Illinois communities that Lincoln impacted or that impacted Lincoln. The lecture series is part of a day-long program of events in Springfield, IL celebrating Lincoln's life and legacy in coordination with the Abraham Lincoln Association.

The 2019 program featured **Erika Holst**, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Illinois State Museum discussing her book *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois: Historic Houses of Lincoln's Illinois*. **Chris Vallillo**, singer/songwriter and roots musician shared his musical presentation, *From Civil War to Civil Rights*. The program was attended by 60 people.

- **Lincoln Legacy Lectures.** Looking for Lincoln co-sponsored the annual Lincoln Legacy Lectures at the University of Illinois Springfield campus held on October 18, 2018. The lecture is sponsored by the Center for State Policy and Leadership, in cooperation with the Chancellor Naomi Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies. The 2018 Lincoln Legacy Lectures, "Lincoln vs. Douglas: Slavery and Race in Illinois History" program featured speakers Dr. Graham Peck, professor of history at Saint Xavier University and Dr. Rogers Bridges, former head of the Lincoln Legal Papers. Dr. Michael Burlingame, Chancellor Naomi Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies, offered opening remarks and moderated the discussion. The program featured 150 attendees and the program was recorded and posted for public viewing.

FY2019 Looking for Lincoln Community Accomplishments

- Hosted, Lincoln, The Great Communicator public performance. (Alton)
- Launched Benjamin Godfrey Legacy Trail which explores the life and legacy of Benjamin Godfrey (1794-1862). This trail and our Lincoln & Civil War Legacy trail enhance the experience for Lincoln era history visitors. (Alton)
- Living History Tours conducted for visiting groups and cruise ships. (Alton)
- Opened Logan County Visitor's Center in Atlanta. (Atlanta)

- Began working relationship with local grade school. (Atlanta)
- Published quarterly newsletter containing articles about museum acquisitions, activities, Lincoln's Beardstown connections, and the history of the courthouse. (Beardstown)
- Participated in community functions: Christmas Night Lighted parade, Family Fridays sponsored by Main Street, and Fall Fun Festival, and hosted activities for a number of groups with Lincoln connections. (Beardstown)
- Established pollinator garden in the City Park across the street from the Old Lincoln Courtroom and Museum, partnering with Girl Scout Troop 6774. (Beardstown)
- 12th Annual Lincoln series hosted by the Museum of the Grand Prairie. This year's series included Richard Hart speaking on Diversity in Lincoln's Springfield Neighborhood; The Lincoln's At Home with collector Kent Tucker; Thomas Lincoln and the Lincoln Log Cabin with site supervisor Matthew Mittelstaedt and Historic Homes of the Lincoln Era, with Erika Holst. (Champaign County)
- Complete replacement of the Champaign City looking for Lincoln waysides occurred this year. Other waysides which were in progress to be replaced were finally completed including the Urbana Courthouse wayside, the Fort Clark Road wayside (Homer Lake) and the Kelley's Tavern wayside (rural St. Joseph). (Champaign County)
- Around 400 schoolchildren were served this year through a tour of the Lincoln exhibit in the Champaign County Courthouse. Tours include lessons in civic responsibility and how the courts work as well as learning about Abraham Lincoln. (Champaign County)
- Bringing awareness to the public about the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area through promotional materials available at our sites with cross promotion on our sites and steering visitors to our other local sites. (Coles County)
- 2019 Civil War Weekend in and Harvest Frolic in September at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site (Coles County)
- Commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the death of Sarah Bush Lincoln; April 27 and 28, 2019. A weekend of activities and programs about this remarkable woman who played a formative role in the life of her stepson, Abraham Lincoln. (Coles County)
- Completed wayside exhibit survey. (Decatur)
- Replaced the remaining two wayside exhibits that were deteriorating. (Decatur)
- Co-sponsored Moore & Warner Building Tour & Program. The topic was "Col. V. Warner Tells DeWitt County Attorneys of Abraham Lincoln and the Early Days of the DeWitt County Bar." (DeWitt County)
- Lincoln Heritage Committee was instrumental in helping the C.H. Moore Homestead DeWitt County Museum secure a Mr. Lincoln portrayed by Kevin Wood, for both days of the Apple 'n Pork Festival through Looking for Lincoln grant and the Clinton Chamber of Commerce. (DeWitt County)
- Organized a Looking for Lincoln Working Group. (Freeport)
- Established and implemented *the Passport to Your National Parks Cancellation Stamp Program*. (Freeport)
- The LFL Working Group in Jacksonville partners with the Jacksonville Area CVB to provide annual cleaning of the wayside exhibits. (Jacksonville)
- Designated a Looking for Lincoln Community. (Jonesboro)
- Held an organizational meeting after designation. (Jonesboro)
- Visited by Heather Wickens and Sarah Watson for informational meeting. (Jonesboro)

- Designated as a Looking for Lincoln Community. (LaSalle County)
- Lincoln related story in LaSalle County Visitor Guide. (LaSalle County)
- Arranged for the production of Lincoln, The Great Communicator for March 2020. (LaSalle County)
- Heritage Corridor CVB and Ottawa advertised in the ALNHA visitor guide. (LaSalle County)
- Looking for Lincoln community signs made and donated. (Mount Pulaski)
- New Courthouse signs made for Route 54 via a grant. (Mount Pulaski)
- Painting of the Courthouse bathrooms via a grant. (Mount Pulaski)
- Established and implemented *the Passport to Your National Parks* Cancellation Stamp Program. (Pontiac)
- Hosted 18th Lincoln Days Civil War Re-enactment (Pike County)
- Began process of redesigning website and digitizing the Talking Houses Tours. Added new Talking Houses. (Pike County)
- Published *The Lincoln Connection: Pike County Illinois* (Pike County)
- Facilitated a Lincoln-related community event by serving as an umbrella group for the annual “Lincoln in the District” ALNHA Signature Event, changing the date to the first Saturday in May and collaborating with the Dogwood Festival, and grew it with a revised layout and additional participants. (Quincy)
- Planned and implemented “Quincy in the Lincoln Era,” an all-day interdisciplinary 7th grade program involving three teams and three days. 428 students and accompanying adults visited 6 Lincoln-related sites and completed activities while gathering data in learning activity packets. (Quincy)
- Celebrated with Friends of the Log Cabins Association the 11th Annual Frontier Settlement Day at the Lincoln-Era Log Cabin Village. The event featured living history reenactors, President Lincoln, and members of the Standing Bear Indian Council. Activities and exhibits included period decorations and displays, pioneer games and crafts, a tea party, a 1800s wedding, and presentations. (Quincy)
- Hosted Museum on Main Street Exhibition, “Change in Rural America and had a companion exhibit on Lincoln in Shelby County. (Shelby County)
- The Grande Levee was a two day event held at the Vandalia Statehouse State Historic Site and attracted 1,249 visitors. The event includes various period demonstrations illustrating how life was lived in the 1800s and features an Abraham Lincoln presenter. (Vandalia)
- Continue updates and renovations on local Lincoln sites maintained by the Vermilion County Museum. (Vermilion County)
- Expansion of Lincoln programs presented to local audience. (Vermilion County)
- Continuance of the Lincoln Birthday Card contest in February. (Vermilion County)
- Placement of the Looking for Lincoln signs at the entrances to Danville. (Vermilion County)

FY2019 Looking for Lincoln Community Challenges

The greatest challenges identified by Looking for Lincoln Communities in FY2019 were:

- Working to obtain visibility within the community for the Lincoln sites as well as other local historical sites, especially within the context of local government personnel, alderman, and representatives.
- Volunteer shortage
- Creating working group
- Funding
- Familiarizing the organization with Looking for Lincoln
- Promotion of Lincoln Sites

Training Opportunities Requested by Looking for Lincoln Communities

- Advanced Grant Writing
- Fundraising
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Educational Programming