

Ohio County Public Library Long Range Plan 2022 – 2025



Dedicated to building knowledge and enriching lives.

Ohio County Public Library
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Areas of Focus

From our public surveys, as well as staff and board input, the Ohio County Public Library has decided to focus on the following areas for improvement.

1. Collection Development

The library will provide up-to-date resources in a variety of genres, formats, interest levels, and age levels.

2. Human Resources

The library will focus on training library staff to meet the Kentucky Public Library Standards requirements and provide the best possible service to all patrons.

3. Marketing

The library will explore new avenues of promoting library events, services, and programs to ensure the citizens of Ohio County stay informed of all the library has to offer.

4. Programs and Services

The library will continue to provide programming for all ages, while regularly expanding topics covered, accessibility options, and locations served.

5. Technology

The library will provide up-to-date technology resources for public and staff use.

Service Responses

1. Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National, and World Affairs

Residents will have the information they need to support and promote democracy; fulfill their civic responsibilities at the local, state, and national levels; and fully participate in community decision-making.

2. Create Young Readers: Early Literacy

Children from birth to age five will have programs and services designed to ensure that they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.

3. Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services

Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations.

4. Welcome to the United States

New immigrants will have information on citizenship, English Language Learning (ELL), employment, public schooling, health and safety, available social services, and any other topics they need to participate successfully in American life.

Be an Informed Citizen

Goal: To provide the citizens of Ohio County with resources on local, national and world affairs; which will allow them to fully participate in their community as informed citizens.

Objective 1: To collaborate with local, state, and national organizations to provide up-to-date, concise, and relevant information.

Objective 2: To ensure, through proper training, that staff are knowledgeable in local, state, and national government; issues of local concern; issues of public policy; issues of civic engagement; and advocacy groups.

Objective 3: To provide print, media, and electronic resources for patron use in local, state, and national areas of concern.

Suggested activities:

- Develop and maintain a web page with links to local, state, and federal information resources.
- Provide a public platform / meeting space for community members to discuss local, state, and federal issues.
- Collaborate with local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, City Council, AARP, Fiscal Court, etc.
- Present programs in partnership with local and national organizations that promote democracy and civic involvement.
- Provide paper and electronic copies of local information.
- Provide tax forms and volunteer tax advisers.
- Register voters and provide voter registration forms.

Create Young Readers

Goal: To provide early literacy programs and services to children ages newborn to five and caregivers, ensuring they are school ready.

Objective 1: To present regularly scheduled story programs divided by age of intended audience both inside the library and in off-site locations such as day care centers, parks, hospitals, and so on.

Objective 2: To develop resources for caregivers to utilize outside the library such as story packets, theme kits, and e-books.

Objective 3: To provide classes on early literacy for caregivers.

Suggested activities:

- Train staff to be knowledgeable in areas of early literacy such as the principles of sing, talk, read, write, and play.
- Train staff to be knowledgeable in materials and services available for preschool children.
- Create and maintain a web page dedicated to serving preschool children and caregivers.
- Collaborate with community organizations dedicated to preschool children such as hospitals, childcare providers, new parent groups, and pediatricians to provide services and programs in a variety of locations and formats.
- Maintain family friendly seating areas, child-friendly computers, online resources, and physical materials to promote early literacy.
- Develop and provide programs teaching early literacy principles to caregivers of preschool children.

Know Your Community

Goal: To provide citizens of Ohio County with local resources, services, and information from community agencies and organizations.

Objective 1: To maintain a collective of community information through print and online resources.

Objective 2: To collaborate with local agencies and organizations to provide citizens with up-to-date and accurate information.

Objective 3: To provide information in various formats for multiple age groups such as children, teens, adults, and seniors.

Suggested activities:

- Maintain an online community calendar and community events bulletin board.
- Distribute information and publications from community agencies and organizations.
- Develop and maintain a web page with links to local agencies and organizations.
- Make presentations in the community about library services.
- Participate on community task forces and committees.
- Maintain a wish list of items and volunteers needed for non-profit agencies and organizations.
- Collaborate with local agencies and organizations to assist them in providing information to the community.
- Develop and maintain an information packet for new community residents.

Welcome to the United States

Goal: To provide new immigrants and refugees with information on citizenship, English Language Learning, employment, public schooling, health and safety, social services, and topics they need to participate successfully in American life.

Objective 1: To develop and maintain print and digital information for new immigrants and refugees.

Objective 2: To provide services and programs for new immigrants and refugees of all ages.

Objective 3: To collaborate with local agencies to provide relevant information, services, and programs for new immigrants and refugees.

Suggested activities:

- Develop a comprehensive web site with links to resources for new immigrants and refugees.
- Distribute materials developed by community organizations for new immigrants and refugees.
- Provide self-guided programs to help adults and teens with limited English skills become proficient in English.
- Provide private space for tutors to work with English Language Learning students.
- Partner with community organizations such as churches, schools, ethnic groups, ethnic grocery stores, and social services agencies to provide relevant information and programs for immigrants and refugees.
- Provide library materials (print, digital, and marketing) in multiple languages at community locations.