Community Engagement Plan 2016–2018

VISION A community that learns, works, creates, and thrives together.

MISSION We build community by connecting people to educational, economic, and recreational opportunities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Welcome all members of the community and provide excellent customer service
- Provide free and open access to ideas and information to facilitate learning and the pursuit of knowledge
- Respect the integrity and confidentiality of all library members
- Establish strong local partnerships in pursuit of shared community aspirations
- Reflect the needs and interests of the community in our programs, services, and materials
- Value civil discourse and interaction
- Champion literacy and the importance of reading
- Respond to opportunities and challenges with collaboration, creativity, and adaptability
- Be good stewards of public resources and the public trust

A DEDICATED AND WELL-TRAINED STAFF PROVIDE THESE CORE SERVICES

- Books, movies, and music in a variety of physical and digital formats that meet community interests and information needs
- Spaces where the community can connect, learn, work, and create
- Programs, resources, and tools that support learning at all ages and stages of life
- Technologies that encourage interaction, productivity, learning, and creativity

THE 2016–2018 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN OUTLINES SPOKANE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS. THE AREAS OF FOCUS—SERVICE PRIORITIES—ARE THE RESULT OF EXAMINING THREE INFORMATION SOURCES

- Aspirations and key issues identified by the public in community conversations facilitated by the District as part of the Libraries Transforming Communities initiative
- Direct experiential knowledge gained by the District in the course of executing the 2013–2015 Community Impact Plan
- Expert knowledge of community partners and other trusted resources

These service priorities represent an alignment of the community needs and aspirations heard from the public with the services the library is best-positioned to provide.



DIGITAL INTERACTION AND SHARING

Goal 1: People looking to engage with their communities will find events and opportunities to connect via online content.

Goal 2: Regional experts will share their knowledge with the community through an interactive digital platform.

Goal 3: Local creators will share their work and be discovered by community members.

Goal 4: Area historical societies will share their community's story through online digital presentations.

Goal 5: Community members interested in technology will find local experts that will help them learn the skills they need.



BUSINESS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Goal 1: Teens and adults focused on post-secondary education opportunities will have the resources needed to succeed.

Goal 2: Career-oriented teens and adults will have the resources they need to attain employment.

Goal 3: Local businesses and non-profits will have the information they need to develop and maintain successful enterprises.

Goal 4: Community members will have the resources to develop financial security.



EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT

Goal 1: School age youth will have access to fun and free extended learning activities that promote literacy, STEM skills, and the arts.

Goal 2: People interested in lifelong learning experiences will have opportunities through enrichment programs that leverage cultural and community partnerships

Goal 3: Community members interested in learning how to make and create will have spaces and opportunities to do so.



EARLY LEARNING

Goal 1: Parents, teachers, caregivers, and other early learning professionals will have programs and services designed to help them prepare children to start kindergarten and succeed in school in the early elementary years (K–3).

Goal 2: Children, birth through age eight, will have the services and programs needed to develop skills for kindergarten readiness and school success.

Goal 3: Children, parents, caregivers, teachers, and other early learning professionals will have access to outreach programs for early learning and K-3 to support school readiness and success.