

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2023

INTRODUCTION

Thanks to the fiscal responsibility of previous boards our library is in a strong financial position, with adequate reserves and adequate funding for continuing operations. That being said, however, our library will continue to be aggressive in seeking supplemental funding through grant opportunities. This additional funding will be used to enhance library operations and programs.

As our major infrastructure improvements wind down, we'll begin to focus on modernizing our public spaces.

“Librarians are committed to promoting lifelong learning in order to create a community of well-informed individuals. Librarians are catalysts to enlightenment for their communities.” —Louise Capizzo

Westchester Public Library Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Our Vision

Westchester Public Library—Connecting People, Ideas and Cultures

Our Mission

The Westchester Public Library serves the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of all people by providing access to a professional staff, quality materials, programs, and services. We bring people together to stimulate the free exchange of ideas and a sense of community.

Our Values

The Westchester Public Library provides a welcoming environment to all people seeking to pursue interests, expand ideas, learn new skills, and enrich their lives.

The Westchester Public Library is dedicated to remaining current with our changing demographics in order to provide the most desired and necessary materials, resources, and programs in a professional, respectful manner.

The Westchester Public Library will continue to provide excellent library services and experiences, which encourage the interests, needs and aspirations of our patrons, take them beyond their everyday horizons, and help them meet the challenges of the future.

Goal 1. All residents of Westchester have access to a broad-based, up-to-date collection of both educational and popular materials, representing the best in genres and formats.

- The library will continue to participate in statewide resource sharing to ensure our residents have access to the broadest collection possible.
- The library will continuously communicate with our residents to identify their preferred materials and formats.
- The library will allocate resources to most effectively fulfill these needs.

Goal 2. All residents of Westchester are welcomed to an engaging environment where a wide variety of resources, programs, and activities instill a love of reading and learning and foster increased use of the public library by all age and demographic groups.

- In order to meet the demands of a demographically changing community, the library's collection will change in order to meet those needs.
- Library staff will use social media tools to communicate with our patrons, to market our programs and services, and to receive feedback and suggestions from our patrons.
- The Library will offer innovative, original, and inclusive programs designed to engage people of all ages, backgrounds and opinions.
- The library will provide access not only to materials but to experiences.

Goal 3. All residents of Westchester experience a welcoming, accessible, safe, modern, and clean environment in which to explore their community and their world.

- Consolidate the Adult non-fiction collection into the upper level's east-west floor area and repurpose the resulting empty space for a project yet to be determined.
- Remodel the staff break room.
- Remodel the Youth story time room.

Goal 4. All residents of Westchester will be greeted by a courteous, professional, diverse, knowledgeable and open-minded staff.

- All staff members will be encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions with the Admin team and with the Director.
- Admin team members will be encouraged to attend professional conferences.
- All staff members will be encouraged to take advantage of continuing education opportunities through RAILS, LACONI, ATLAS and other library organizations.

- The library admin team will create an environment where collaboration, trust, participation, communication, development and teamwork are valued and encouraged.
- Staff development with succession planning in mind will be a priority. Every admin team member will be expected to develop the skills of every member of their department through training, delegation of responsibilities and mentoring.

“There is a hunger in this digital age to hear authors together, to participate in programs, to just be in a place, a community space.” —Carla Hayden