

Library Goals Statement

Policy #1

The role of the Jefferson County Library District is to serve the people as a community information center and as a lifelong learning center. In a process of continuous improvement, the Library will be a source of informational, educational, recreational, and cultural materials in various formats, organized in a useful manner, and conveyed through a variety of methods. The Library will make these materials readily available in ways most appropriate to the community.

The general library goals of the Jefferson County Library District shall be:

1. To link people to the information they seek, in a variety of formats conveyed through a variety of methods, in a process of continuous improvement.
2. To serve the community as a center of reliable information.
3. To provide a place where the community may encounter original, sometimes unorthodox, and critical ideas.
4. To support the educational, civic, and cultural activities of the community.
5. To provide opportunity and encouragement for people to educate themselves.
6. To continually identify community needs; to provide programs and services to meet such needs, and cooperate with other organizations, agencies, and institutions providing such programs or services.
7. To provide an opportunity for recreation through the use of library materials.

Library Use

The Library shall serve all residents of the community without discrimination. Persons residing outside of Jefferson County and outside service areas are required to pay a non-resident fee to obtain a library card. The use of the Library or its services shall be limited when excessive demands for staff time, available materials or work stations, or space would tend to curtail service to other individuals or groups.

The Jefferson County Library District has established rules of behavior to promote a safe, healthy, accessible environment. The use of the Library or its services may be denied for due cause. Such cause may be the failure to return library materials or pay penalties, destroy library property, disturbance of other library users, violations of the Rules of Behavior, or any other objectionable conduct on library premises. The Library may withdraw permission for a person to re-enter its facility if the person continues to violate the rules of behavior.

Library Services

The Library will select from the totality of available materials and information and organize for easy access those books, materials, and electronic information that best meet the community's needs and according to the Library Materials Selection Policy. The library staff will provide guidance and assistance for people to obtain the information they seek. The Library will initiate programs, exhibits, book lists, and other activities to stimulate the use of library materials for people of all ages. The Library will cooperate with other libraries, community agencies, and organizations within constraints of funding. The public Library will cooperate with but cannot perform the functions of school or other institutional libraries which are designed to meet curricular needs. Library services will be provided during the hours that best meet the community's needs within constraints of funding.

Cooperation with Other Libraries

The Board of Directors recognizes that no single library can meet all demands in the community. Libraries working together, sharing their services and resources, can better serve their users.