

Pulaski County Library System Strategic Plan Youth Services Department

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT

“The mission of Pulaski County Library System is to provide information and library materials for ALL citizens of Pulaski County. The Library System takes pride in providing excellence in its provision of services and programs.

The vision of Pulaski County Library System is to continuously provide free, friendly service and access to timely materials that educate, inspire and entertain the entire community.”

INTRODUCTION

It is clear that libraries will be changing in fundamental ways in the coming years as technology changes and improves the way in which we access information, but reading will continue to be essential to the way that people come to understand complex ideas and will always be an important means to educate, inspire and entertain. Publicly owned and accessible collections of print, audio and electronic materials will continue to enrich the life of the community.

The more complex the Internet and computers become the more users will benefit from the assistance of a professional to help them find the information they need. Providing access to electronic resources as well as training and help in their use will be a part of the library’s future. Encouraging information literacy among our youth in order for them to be able to recognize the need for information and then be able to find, retrieve, evaluate and use the information will continue to be a major part of the library’s future.

Many people ask nothing more of the library than to provide good books for recreational reading. The library needs to promote itself as a family library and to encourage adults to read to children and to encourage children to become independent recreational readers.

The ultimate aim of the Pulaski County Library System’s Youth Services is the creation of lifelong readers – the creation of citizens who can meet their recreational, informational and educational needs through reading. Therefore, promoting reading and library use to the community become of paramount importance.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL 1: FACILITIES: To provide accessible and highly functional facilities that are well-maintained and inviting to children, teens and families.

Objective 1: To evaluate current space and usage in the Teen Area and Children's Areas to make them more efficient, inviting and user friendly by Fall 2006.

Objective 2: To create spaces in the libraries that are family oriented by Fall 2007.

GOAL 2: COLLECTION: To provide a materials collection in various media/formats to meet the informational, educational and recreational needs of the youth of Pulaski County.

Objective 1: To inventory the Young Adult and Juvenile Collections every 3 years beginning in 2005.

Objective 2: To market the library collection through the use of displays, bibliographies, and book lists to increase awareness of the availability of the library resources by Spring 2006 to increase circulation by 10%.

Objective 3: To survey teens, teachers, parents and children to determine needs, interests and special requests ongoing from 2005 to 2007.

Objective 4: To maintain a current, accurate collection through a continuing maintenance program of selection and deselection ongoing from 2005 to 2007.

Objective 5: To support the public, private and home-schooled youth in providing materials that enhance their educational experience and address the Virginia Standards of Learning and the No Child Left Behind initiatives in an ongoing manner from 2005 – 2007.

GOAL 3: SERVICES: To encourage the youth of Pulaski County to use the Library System and avail themselves of all library services while ensuring high-quality public services to all juveniles as they seek information, resources or assistance. To encourage a life-long appreciation of reading and a desire to learn that will enable the young people of Pulaski County to be informed and satisfied citizens through the provision of varied library services.

Objective 1: To offer services and programs that are responsive to community needs and interests throughout the year. To continuously evaluate all in-library and outreach programs and broaden or change those where necessary to meet the needs and interests of the community starting Fall 2005.

Objective 2: To increase community awareness of and to promote library services to youth through a variety of formats starting Fall 2005 and ongoing.

Objective 3: To improve the service to teens and children of Pulaski County in their educational, recreational and developmental needs through print and audio material, technology and library

programming by Spring of 2006.

Objective 4: To provide services and programs to parents in their role as their children's first teachers beginning in Fall 2005.

Objective 5: To explore the need for a Parent Resource Center by Spring 2006.

Objective 6: To continuously make customer service our focus when working with all patrons regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or economic background starting in 2005.

GOAL 4: TECHNOLOGY: To continue to adopt new technologies and to upgrade current technologies to assist the youth with their information needs.

Objective 1: To promote information literacy – the set of skills needed to recognize the need for information and to then be able to find, retrieve, evaluate and use the information beginning in school year 2005-2006 and ongoing.

Objective 2: To continue to plan, offer and implement technology training and services to youth as an ongoing effort 2005 to 2007.

GOAL 5: MARKETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS: To ensure that the community is informed about services and opportunities at the Pulaski County Library System.

Objective 1: To increase the promotion of library services, programs and resources by consistently using all available media resources starting in the Fall of 2005.

**2005 – 2007 TARGET DATES
FOR
COMPLETION OF ACTIVITIES**

YEAR 2005:

- To inventory the Young Adult and Juvenile Collections every 3 years.
- To offer services and programs that are responsive to community needs and interests throughout the year. To continuously evaluate all in-library and outreach programs and broaden or change those where necessary to meet the needs and interests of the community.
- To provide services and programs to parents in their role as their children's first teachers.
- To increase the promotion of library services, programs and resources by consistently using all available media resources.

Year 2006:

- To evaluate current space and usage in the Teen Area and Children's Areas to make them more efficient, inviting and user friendly.
- To market the library collection through the use of displays, bibliographies, and book lists to increase awareness of the availability of the library resources and to increase circulation by 10%.
- To improve the service to teens and children of Pulaski County in their educational, recreational and developmental needs through print and audio material, technology and library programming.
- To explore the need for a Parent Resource Center.

Year 2007:

- To create spaces in the libraries that are family oriented.

**Ongoing Activities
2005 -2007**

- To survey teens, teachers, parents and children to determine needs, interests and special requests.
- To maintain a current, accurate collection through a continuing maintenance program of selection and deselection.
- To support the public, private and home-schooled youth in providing materials that enhance their educational experience and address the Virginia Standards of Learning and the No Child Left Behind initiatives.
- To increase community awareness of and to promote library services to youth through a variety of formats.
- To continuously make customer service our focus when working with all patrons regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or economic background.

- To promote information literacy – the set of skills needed to recognize the need for information and to then be able to find, retrieve, evaluate and use the information.
- To continue to plan, offer and implement technology training and services to youth.