

Marion Public Library
Strategic Plan, FY 2013-FY2016
Part 1
(Adopted June 10, 2013)

Vision, Mission, Primary Service Roles Statement

Vision

The Marion Public Library is a leader in building and sustaining Marion as a creative city that attracts and nurtures talented people, mobilizes ideas, stimulates innovation, and encourages diversity. The library is a center of cultural vitality and participation that enhances the quality of life for all Marion residents.

Mission

The Marion Public Library promotes cultural engagement, lifelong learning, and personal development for audiences of all backgrounds and ages by providing collections and services that educate, inform, enrich, and entertain. The Library supports community engagement and serves as a public commons where Marion's residents connect and share ideas. It is dedicated to the principles of professional service, equal opportunity, and intellectual freedom.

Primary Service Roles

The primary service roles of the Marion Public Library identify goals and strategies that are essential to its mission and define its four enduring and fundamental purposes. Taken together they describe the routine work of the library. The roles are not age specific. They describe ends to be achieved for users of all ages.

1. Access to Popular Culture (Fiction and Non-Fiction)
 - Expose users to diverse and new material in all media that represents and explores issues of contemporary life.
 - Satisfy user expectations and demand for best-selling fiction and non-fiction in all media.
 - Provide opportunities and programming that inform, educate, entertain and enrich.
2. Access to Useful Information
 - Maintain a collection—print and digital—that helps people address everyday practical needs.
 - Provide access to material and programs relevant to the specific needs, demands, problems and history of Marion residents.
 - Provide introductory educational material to a wide variety of fields of knowledge.
3. Cognitive, Cultural, and Social Development
 - Develop literacy skills, and encourage and develop reading as means of personal development and enrichment.

- Develop an appreciation of the richness and diversity of American culture.
- Provide digital and information literacy instruction as skills necessary for people to become self-aware consumers and users of information.

4. Community Information Commons

- Provide a safe and welcoming place for people to gather, connect, interact, and share their knowledge and experience.
- Provide a quiet space for reading, contemplation and study.
- Provide shared community resources and technology that empowers creative expression.