User Response

“This guide really empowered us to take the information from *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries* and translate it for our community and our library. After reading *Rising to the Challenge*, there was enthusiasm for how we could apply this locally, but the task seemed overwhelming. The Action Guide broke it down into smaller, manageable steps, leaving no excuse but to execute!”

— Gretchen Pruett, New Braunfels Public Library, New Braunfels, TX

Our web site provides access to tools, news and information, discussions and more.

LibraryVision.org
GETTING STARTED

The Dialogue on Public Libraries offers a series of action steps for getting started. These action steps are addressed to the community that includes the private sector, community partners, schools, foundations, and the public. They are recommendations for actions that offer a starting point for change.

Action Steps for Community

Collaborate on the development of a comprehensive strategic plan for the community’s information and knowledge ecosystem, including the library and other knowledge institutions in the community.

Develop strategic partnerships and alliances with public libraries around content or specific organizational or community needs.

Leverage the economic development potential of the public library as a community platform.

Bring resources, including financial resources and technical expertise, to partner with libraries where objectives align well.

Volunteer organizational and technical expertise to mentor and support learning that takes place in library spaces and on its platform, including in innovation labs (especially those aimed at youth), maker and hacker spaces and resource-rich co-working spaces.

Structure grant opportunities in ways that small and rural libraries can take advantage of them; for example, not always emphasizing cutting-edge technology.

Support the deployment of broadband, Wi-Fi and digital literacy skills throughout the community, especially to economically disadvantaged, underserved and other special needs populations.

Advocate on behalf of the long-term sustainability of public libraries.

Strategies for Success

1. Align library services in support of community goals.

2. Provide access to content in all formats.

3. Ensure long-term sustainability of public libraries.

4. Cultivate leadership.

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