

Niobrara County Library

Long Range Plan – March 9, 2020

Mission Statement

The Niobrara County Library, as a vital and progressive organization, meets the community's information needs, works constantly to improve library service, and generates awareness of the library throughout the county.

Vision Statement

The Niobrara County Library will provide the best services and resources for learning and enjoyment.

The Niobrara County Library Board of Directors and staff understand the difficulty in projecting where we will be in five years; however, we also understand the value in having a plan. As Benjamin E. Mays, former president of Morehouse College in Atlanta once said: "The tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach." Our vision for the future is to maintain and elevate our level of commitment to the community; to provide adequate training for all of the staff; to be aware of changing needs of the community and be prepared to address those needs so that the community remains committed to the library. Simply put, we want to be better in five years than we are now.

In order to reach our goal and maintain our vision the library will need to continue to:

- Provide materials
- Provide access to technology in order to provide resources for information and entertainment (e.g., downloadable media as well as full- text resources)
- Provide cultural opportunities
- Provide community information
- Continue to offer programming and entertainment - from preschoolers to adults
- Provide institutional support (NHLC, WWC, Schools)
- Employ quality staff and provide them training
- Maintain financial stability by utilizing whatever sources may be available
- Use volunteers as appropriate
- Seek opportunities to partner with other libraries to provide access to E technologies, such as E-books, to expand our services to our patrons and to a wider library community than just Niobrara County.

We also recognize that there are some areas that need improvement:

- Limited space
- Outdated furnishings and stacks
- Building security

The Niobrara County Library will continue to foster partnerships with other factions of the community such as government and civic organizations. We realize that public funding may not be stable or

consistent so we must constantly be looking for alternate sources to supplement our budget. Technology has advanced quickly and our staff must keep pace with the ever-changing opportunities that may be presented. Continuing to develop a good working relationship with our elected county officials is vital for our future. An equipment replacement plan and a capital projects fund are issues that need to be revisited on an annual basis.

Adopted and approved by the Niobrara County Library Board of Trustees 05/14/2012

Document Review Dates

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