

Office of Library & Information Services

Framework for 2023-2027 Comprehensive Strategic Plan

Vision

Rhode Island libraries inspire and transform lives.

Mission

The Office of Library and Information Services strengthens, connects and empowers libraries to advance knowledge, connect communities and enrich the lives of all Rhode Islanders.

Goals

- I. Access. Facilitate access to library materials and information resources in physical and digital formats for all Rhode Islanders.
- II. Learning. Support the continuing education of librarians, library staff and trustees and the development of statewide programming for the public.
- III. Engagement. Empower libraries to be incubators for economic, educational and cultural development, civic discourse, and healthy communities.

Projects & Activities

- I. *Access. Facilitate access to library materials and information resources in physical and digital formats for all Rhode Islanders.*
 - a. Resource Sharing – delivery, interlibrary loan, AskRI (Library of RI)
 - b. Talking Books Library – library services for people with visual/physical disabilities
 - c. Digitization & Preservation– RI DPLA hub and related projects, disaster preparedness
 - d. **Public Library Construction* – facility improvement/development**

- II. Learning. *Support the continuing education of librarians, library staff and trustees and the development of statewide programming for the public.*
 - a. Continuing Education - programs, learning cohorts, communities of practice, library management; includes multiple pathways for learning (remote, in-person)
 - b. Reading and Literacy – early and childhood literacy, formal and informal reading programs for children, teens, adults. (SRP, KRARI, RARI, RICBA)
 - c. Statewide Programs – programs on digital, information, media, financial, health, and other literacies, plus topics of statewide interest

- III. Engagement. *Empower libraries to be incubators for economic, educational and cultural development, civic discourse, and healthy communities.*
 - a. Equity, Diversity & Inclusion – support library staff in developing programming and resources that are accessible to and serve all community members (marginalized populations, veterans, people who are incarcerated, have disabilities, are new English language speakers, lack access to technology, etc.)
 - b. Community Connectors – establish partnerships to support adult education, workforce development, small businesses, health, well-being, and cultural programming
 - c. Local Library Development – build individual library capacity (grants, consultant services) while developing a collaborative environment to strengthen statewide library services (data collection and analysis, strategic vision, leadership)
 - d. [State Aid to Libraries*](#) – funding and standards for service

[*State projects only.](#)