



Community Engagement Policy

Purpose: To outline the practices of cooperative partnerships with Library Center of the Ozarks.

The Library may cooperate with other agencies, institutions, and businesses to better serve the public by providing broader access to Library materials and services to citizens, extending the influence of Library marketing initiatives, and forging connections between Library patrons and their community. Through cooperation and partnership with other organizations, the Library may:

- Consider staff training, group purchasing, and other endeavors of mutual benefit;
- Assign Library staff to participate in community meetings and organizations when the Library has goals in common with the organization, or serves the same population that the organization serves;
- Encourage civic participation by citizens through partnerships with local government agencies and other non-partisan civic engagement groups and initiatives;
- Seek partnerships in which the goal is to further workforce and business development;
- Seek partnerships with organizations whose goal is to connect district residents with social services for which they are eligible;
- Conduct a public relations and public information program in accordance with board policies, using community partnerships to help marketing efforts reach a wider audience;
- Cooperate with schools within the district to supplement the schools' own Library services and work toward common goals through delivery of materials, cooperative programming, and encouraging access to the Library's electronic resources. The Library cannot, however, supply textbooks for classroom use. Schools shall be financially responsible for Library materials in their possession.

All partnerships and cooperative initiatives, including new options which become available, will be subject to periodic review.

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