



**Mansfield/Richland County
Public Library**

Strategic Plan 2026-2028



With the assistance of the State Library of Ohio, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library (MRCPL) completed an Appreciative Inquiry* study in 2025. This study included a community survey to evaluate the effectiveness and direction of the Library's services and priorities. With additional input from library staff and board members, it was affirmed that MRCPL is on solid ground with its initiatives, programming, and partnerships. The following roadmap represents the intention to "stay the course" while improving upon that infrastructure.

This strategic plan will guide the Library's decision-making and spending priorities through achievable and aspirational goals and actions for the next few years.

*Appreciative Inquiry uses questions and constructive dialogue to help participants uncover existing strengths, advantages, and opportunities within the organization and assumes that whatever you want more of already exists. It serves as a way of thinking, seeing, and acting for purposeful change to enhance these qualities.





Strategic Plan 2026-2028



Goal 1: Enhance Library Programming and Outreach

- Objective 1 – Identify and connect with underserved audiences.
- Objective 2 – Evaluate the library's presence in the community to responsively focus library resources.
- Objective 3 – Explore new opportunities for innovative programming.



Goal 2: Provide Further Development Opportunities to Library Staff

- Objective 1 – Identify and implement additional skill-building initiatives.
- Objective 2 – Grow staff training and education opportunities.
- Objective 3 – Connect employees with opportunities for professional growth at all levels.



Goal 3: Maintain & Update Library Spaces

- Objective 1 – Enhance the accessibility and safety of library spaces.
- Objective 2 – Create comfortable and informal gathering spaces.
- Objective 3 – Explore ways to repurpose existing library spaces.
- Objective 4 – Connect library customers and staff to the latest technology.