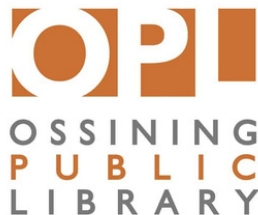


# IMPLEMENTING THE LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLAN

## April 2022 Update

For the library's detailed report, please visit  
[www.ossininglibrary.org/plan](http://www.ossininglibrary.org/plan)



# Shared Financial Accountability

**\$250,000** Grant awarded to the Ossining Library Foundation from the David Swope Fund.

On behalf of the Foundation, Karen LaRocca-Fels put through a request to the David Swope Fund for projects that will support lifelong learning initiatives at the library. The Fund graciously awarded the Foundation a **\$250,000 grant** to allow for the implementations of these programs, outreach initiatives, and services.. (*Goal 1.3, 2.1, 2.3*)

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Karen LaRocca-Fels and Allison Robbins completed the library's submission for eRate funding for fiscal year 2022/2023, which would allow for increased broadband and cabling. (*Goal 1.1, 5.1, 5.2*)

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Marie Pierre will be representing Hudson Valley Library Professionals of Color at NYLA's Spring on the Hill Conference, and will be learning concrete tools to use to create and foster relationships with our local legislative communities, and strategies for securing funding for DEI-related projects (*Goal 1.3, 3.2*)

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Kathy Beirne was instrumental in helping the library **finally secure the \$50,000 SAM grant** awarded to the library in 2015 with the advocacy of State Senator David Carlucci. This month, she filed the final paperwork to receive the funds. (*Goal 1.2*)

# Diversification of Collections, Programs, and Services

Marie Trapasso and Karen LaRocca-Fels advocated to the WLS ILS Committee and PLDA to change the "Foreign Language" classification in the catalog to the more inclusive "World Languages"; WLS agreed and the catalog now reflects this change (*Goal 2.2.1*)

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**Tech Tutoring** has resumed in-person appointments, allowing for more one-on-one instruction. In addition to conducting Tutoring sessions and assisting with technical projects throughout the building, tech pages John and Ritika have also started planning an interdepartmental virtual reality program with the Teen Services staff. (*Goal 2.3.3*)

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The Adult Services department expanded its ongoing programs, adding **Creative Journaling**, as part of its Mental Health Series, and a popular **Qijong** program. Children's and Teen services both offered **Women's History Month programming highlighting diverse women in art and science**. (2.1.3)

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James Trapasso has **completed the New York State Notary Public Course** and will take the exam in April. This will allow the library to offer a much-needed services to the community. (*Goal 2.3*).

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# Diversification of Collections, Programs, and Services

Diana Lennon and James Trapasso began an **assessment of adult programs**, beginning with concerts, and made plans to increase the diversity of performers and music genres (*Goal 2.1*)

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In the Children's Room, Joy Alter has been working on **weeding the DVD collection**, while Kevin Robinson has been building the **nonfiction collection**. In Adult Services, Marci Dressler conducted a **review of the Adult Biography Collection** and weeded outdated materials and made recommendations for new purchases. (*Goal 2.2*)

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Staff has continued to build new collections with a focus on DEI, including adding to the **Job Information Center** with new materials for ex-offender, recent graduates, and over-50 demographics, as well as adding extensively to its **Spanish collections** for teens and adults, in print and eBook formats. In addition, new books about **Ramadan** were purchased for the eBook collection (*Goal 2.2*)

# Diversification of Staff, Board, and Volunteers

The Library was successful in lobbying in the Westchester County Department of Human Resources to add a Librarian I (Spanish-Speaking) to its approved list of positions, which will allow the library to canvas this list as part of its search for a full-time librarian in Adult Services. (*Goal 3.1*)

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The library is moving ahead with **Staff Training**, with a program coming out of our Security and Safety Committee. There will be a new round of Library In Charge Person (LICP) training, with future plans for offering training in AED/CPR, and Narcan administration (*Goal 3.2*)

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Library staff continues to participate in continuous **professional development, with workshops and programs that have a DEI focus**. Diana Lennon attended CURE's Five Towns, One Book event, with author Heather McGhee, who discussed zero-sum thinking, the Solidarity Dividend, and Critical Race Theory. Diana also attended a METRO series on *Actively Anti-Racist Library Services*, looking at collection development, readers advisory, and anti-racist stewardship. Ignayra Lopez attended a webinar on *Summer Reading Resources for Young Readers with Print Disabilities*, which offered resources and assistance for providing services to an underrepresented group. Suzy Zavarella attended a webinar on *How to Talk to Children and Teens About Race*. (*Goal 3.2*)



# Create and Sustain Relationships with All Parts of Greater Ossining

**Community partnerships** allowed the library to broaden its program presenters and participants this month. The Teen Room welcomed **Tamara Bridgewater of Artinabox** for a Women's History Month program, and partnered with CTC on their Grown Ups Show Up campaign to provide teens with community service hours. In the Children's Room, Kemi Pogue's group **Rising Above Boundaries** attended Kevin's Women in STEAM program. (*Goal 4.3*)

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Suzy Zavarella spearheaded plans to represent the library at **Green Ossining's Earth Day Event** and is planning to offer creative and engaging crafts for all ages, as well as books from our collections. (*Goal 4.3*)

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The Library continued its efforts in reaching out to community partners to discuss how the library can work with partner organizations on expanding their combined services and shared goals. Ignayra Lopez, with Diana Lennon, met with **Neighbor's Link** to discuss how to support each other. Ignayra also worked with **The Ossining Basics Network**, to discuss how the library can best embed the Ossining Basics into its work, and **Family Service Society of Yonkers**, to bring back the popular **Summer Reading Buddies** program. Tricia Sabini reached out to the **Public Works Director** with the aim of offering collaborative programming, and Diana Lennon met with the Associate Director of Public Relations and Community Outreach to discuss potential program collaboration, particularly in the area of workforce development. (*Goal 4.1*)

# Create and Sustain Relationships with All Parts of Greater Ossining

The departments have prioritized **being a presence at community events**. The library participated in ENU Builds' First Friday Community Crawl, and is planning to be a presence at the Village Fair and Farmers' Market. The Children and Teen departments are actively involved in the OUFSD's Saturday Explore & Learn events. All of these events reach community members who may not otherwise visit the library and allow the library to display its outreach communications to a broad audience. (*Goal 4.3*)

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# Physical and Virtual Infrastructure Transformation

Karen LaRocca-Fels and Molly Robbins met with Lothrop & Associates on an initial walkthrough for building assessment, including visual structural assessment, mechanical assessment, space assessment, OSHA/PESH compliance and workflow assessment. An in-depth walkthrough and analysis is scheduled for early May. (*Goal 5.6*)

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Allison Robbins and Karen LaRocca-Fels have started meeting with **IT Service Providers** to see what companies are out there and what they offer. (*Goal 5.2*)

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# Brand & Image



As part of National Library Week, the library hosted a series of photo ops for government officials, community partners, and trustees. The photos were shared on library social media and in our eblast. We also created a selfie wall for patrons to take their photo with Library Week posters and post to social media as desired. (*Goal 6.4*)

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With the aim of providing patrons with a more user-friendly and easy to use online events calendar, Mallory Marinaro and Allison Robbins began researching new calendar platforms with a focus on user-experience, accessibility, and bilingual functionality (*Goal 6.2*)

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Mallory Marinaro met with two **graphic designers** to discuss a refresh of the library's logo and interior signage (*Goal 6.1*)

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In the Children's Room, Tricia Sabini worked on making **signage and wayfinding** more efficient and created bold new signage for the relocated New Books section.