

**Joseph T. Simpson Public Library
Strategic Partnerships Policy
ADOPTED April 14, 2020**

The Joseph T. Simpson Public Library welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with private and public agencies and institutions when doing so extends the library's mission and benefits the community.

The library will participate in partnerships that meet the following criteria:

1. The partnership extends the library's mission in at least one of the following ways:
 - a. Removes barriers to library service for existing user groups.
 - b. Reaches underserved populations identified in the library's strategic plan or Board of Trustees endorsed service priorities.
 - c. Reaches new populations identified as priorities in the library's strategic plan or introduces users to new concepts of the role of the public library in serving the community's needs.
 - d. The partnership is designed to resolve a community problem or meet a community need, for example build literacy or further work force development, identified as a priority in the library's, the library system's, or the county's strategic plan.

2. The partnership has a written, clearly defined plan that addresses the above criteria and includes:
 - a. Roles and responsibilities of all parties
 - b. Assessment of resources required to achieve success
 - c. A timeline for implementation, marketing, documentation, and evaluation
 - d. Key contacts for all parties
 - e. Expected outcomes and deliverables
 - f. A termination plan

3. There is a reasonable balance of resource provision and responsibility between partners. The library's Operations Committee will evaluate strategic partnership requests at its regular meetings.

The mission and policies of potential partners must be compatible with the policies, vision, mission, and goals of the library. If deemed appropriate by the Operations Committee, and with approval by the Board of Trustees, a written agreement or contract will be entered into by the library and the partnering organization(s). The library may cancel a partnership agreement at any time if the partnership proves detrimental to the library's resources or if the partner uses the library's name without prior consent, or if the mission of the partnering organization changes substantially or in a manner that becomes inconsistent with the library's mission and image.

Partnerships undertaken by the library must respect the library's commitment to intellectual freedom. Partners cannot influence the selection of materials, programs, or

services, require explicit endorsement of products and services, or require access to confidential patron information.