Annual Library Service Plan – FY2022-2023

Helix Public Library

Library Vision for the Future:

The vision of the Helix Public Library is to provide a welcoming environment for the community dedicated to assisting patrons of all ages with their literary and informational needs. We also strive to provide a place to learn together through programs and services offered including access to computers, wifi and internet, adult and children's programs, inter-library loan assistance and outreach to the school and homebound.

1. **Goal: Technology: Focused on significatly increasing web presence and technology resources to provide rural community access to the internet, jobs and skill learning.**

What community needs are you addressing:

Current computers for patrons use are old and do not always function properly. Newer technology in a remote community is needed to give patrons quick access to the internet and also for online studies in the wake of Covid regulations. Also, updating our web page is a goal and will help patrons know what services we provide.

Priority(ies):

FY2022-2023 – Year 1 activities
Find funds for computers by writing a Wildhorse grant for four new computers, monitors and headphones. Research Hot Spots to see if this is an option for Helix and if there is a need in our community.

FY2023-2024 – Year 2

Continue to research grants or ways to find funds for new public computers, monitors and headphones. Work on our web page to update and add information for the public.

FY2024-2025 – Year 3 and beyond activities
Find assistance to help with web page and look for other ways to obtain new computers for the library.

2. <u>Goal: Community Relations: Focused on establishing the library as a vital presence in the community.</u>

What community needs are you addressing:

In small communities, places to meet are of vital importance. The library provides a community gathering place, a place for information and helps fulfill the needs of a rural population by offering programs, events and free services. A "Library of Things" will meet the needs of our community by providing items that can be checked out instead of traveling to purchase. In a remote community we borrow from each other. This will be another way to have access to things we can borrow but from the library. A "Little Free Library" will also be established to provide free books for our community. With limited library hours, free books can fill the need for access to books outside of the library when it is closed.

Priority(ies):

<u>FY2022-2023</u> – Year 1 activities
Receive permission from the City Council to place a "Little Free Library" in our community. Ask a Senior student to create a "Little Free Library" as their community service project. Start collecting items for the "Library of Things", establish an area to display them and signage indicating what we have. If there are bigger items, ask City Council if some items can be stored in the basement of City Hall.

FY2023-2024 – Year 2

Create a space to house the "Library of Things". Tag and code each item and create agreements/waivers for items. Research what may be popular to have available for check out. Market what we have after all steps are complete.

FY2024-2025 – Year 3 and beyond activities
Create a space highlighting local authors and makers. This area can prompt new programs of interest connecting former students or residents with the community again. Those that have created something or authored a book will have a place to showcase locally their work.

3. Goal: Early Childhood Programs: Focused on early childhood literacy that gets children ready to learn.

What community needs are you addressing:

A renewed, consistent preschool reading program and a focus again on early readers will be beneficial to the community. After the instability of the Preschool Program due to Covid closures and also children aging out of the program it is time to find families that can benefit from early literacy activities and find new ways to engage them.

Priority(ies):

FY2022-2023 – Year 1 activities

Create "Brainy Baby Backpacks" for families to check out if they are still not comfortable coming to the library. Offer weekly programs and promote them in new ways to encourage attendance.

FY2023-2024 – Year 2

FY2024-2025 – Year 3 and beyond activities