



## **San Juan County Library System**

### **2025-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN**

#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the San Juan County Library System is to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, encourage dialogue and strengthen our communities.

#### **Vision Statement**

We endeavor to enrich the communities of San Juan County by empowering all residents to access a wide range of resources, services and programs to support lifelong learning and curiosity. We strive to be the welcoming heart of our Communities within the county. We bring people together for shared experiences and connections in a safe space.

#### **Values**

- **Service** – San Juan County Libraries are an essential part of our communities encouraging patrons to utilize our facilities as community hubs.
- **Connection** – San Juan County Libraries strive to engage with community partners and individuals to enrich the county as a whole.
- **Open Hearted** – San Juan County Libraries welcome all, encourage dialogue and sharing life experiences through creating safe spaces.
- **Lifelong Learning** – San Juan County Libraries promote and encourage personal growth throughout life and regardless of age.
- **Sustainability** – San Juan County Libraries are committed to maintaining our 5 branches and using fiscally sound practices with future needs in mind and the hope of expanding to other areas of our vast geographic county.

#### **Value -Aligned Goals and Projects**

1. **Service** - San Juan County Libraries are an essential part of our communities encouraging patrons to utilize our facilities as community hubs and valuable resource.

**Goal 1.1:** Increase accessibility and quality of services at San Juan County Libraries

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue to seek ways to improve internet services and update equipment by consulting IT professionals, keeping accurate records of type and age of IT equipment, software, and use.
- b) Keep existing services in working order, such as faxing and printing.
- c) Continue providing Wi-Fi access after hours of operations, including weekends
- d) Return to the 2 main branches being open 4 hours on Saturday within the next 2-3 years beginning with the Blanding branch
- e) Continue project of updating collections and series in the cataloging records so as to make catalogue searches more productive and shelving more efficient
- f) Stay cognizant of the automatic front doors staying in working order, sidewalk accessibility especially during winter hours, and updating ADA parking, equipment and signage as needed.

**Goal 1.2:** Increase public awareness of all services at San Juan County Libraries

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue updating and improving our website to keep information current including the highlighting of events and available services
- b) Create, promote, update and hand out bookmarks that include Library Branch contact information, hours of operation, and various services
- c) Utilize the "Library Corner" in local newspaper to inform patrons of past and upcoming Library events
- d) Advertise on social media, website, and outdoor signs about Free Wi-Fi

**Goal 1.3:** Update and "freshen" the circulating collections to meet the needs and interests of patrons

**Strategies:**

- a) Weed and update our circulating physical collections throughout the year
- b) Continue increasing the Overdrive purchasing budget as much as fiscally possible to reflect the increased patron interest and use of digital materials
- c) Encourage patron input for collection development through survey's and open and anonymous requests
- d) Create regular statistics of what items are checking out and services being utilized
- e) Conduct Inventory every other year at each library location

2. **Connection** – San Juan County Libraries strive to engage with community partners and individuals to enrich the county as a whole.

**Goal 2.1:** Create new and nurture ongoing partnerships between San Juan County Libraries and government, local organizations and businesses

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue to foster partnerships with organizations such as “Grow with Me” and local businesses such as UNHS through story hours, Teddy Bear Clinic, community events, etc
- b) Publicly acknowledge private and public partnerships through website, social media, and the “Library Corner” in local newspaper

**Goal 2.2:** Create new and nurture ongoing partnerships with local patrons and residents

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue to coordinate with current individual volunteers for programming
- b) Publicly acknowledge individuals who volunteer through website, social media, and the “Library Corner” in local newspaper
- c) Seek out new volunteers and event presenters who can to assist with events and ongoing programming by being more cognizant of individuals who may be participating in other community events

3. **Open Hearted** – San Juan County Libraries welcome all and encourage dialogue and sharing life experiences through creating safe spaces.

**Goal 3.1:** Continue making San Juan County Libraries safe spaces for patrons

**Strategies:**

- a) Staff training on Customer Service on a regular basis to continue serving and creating a welcoming environment to all
- b) Staff training on Safety on a regular basis

**Goal 3.2:**

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue creating unique displays that reflect a wide variety of interests that align with each library branch’s unique community
- b) Continue to grow collections to reflect a diverse community but also meet the needs and interests of the majority population

4. Lifelong Learning – San Juan County Libraries promote and encourage personal growth throughout life and regardless of age.

**Goal 4.1:** Provide access to varied resources promoting curiosity, understanding various world views, cultures, and paradigms.

**Strategies:**

- a) Grow our STEAM collections for in-house use and checkouts
- b) Utilize spaces for updating and adding more STEAM self-directed activities such as manipulative and creative play like a magnetic “wall”
- c) Freshen the “Face-outs” or book displays to feature a variety of topics
- d) Continue offering space and resource for educational events
- e) Update and freshen our STEAM non-fiction on a regular basis

**Goal 4.2:** Encourage life-long learning for all ages

**Strategies:**

- a) Continue offering regular programming for all ages such as story hour, gardening club, Anime’ club, craft club, Summer Reading program and challenges for all ages and evaluate existing programs to see if they are meeting the needs of the community
- b) Continue serving patrons at the La Sal Senior Center by taking the library service to them and look into expanding to other County Senior Centers.
- c) Update and refresh our Collections to meet the needs and current interests of all ages
- d) Find ways to connect generations through activities that interest all ages such as offering Community spelling and geography bee competitions

5. Sustainability - San Juan County Libraries are committed to maintaining our 5 branches and using fiscally sound practices with future needs in mind and the hope of expanding services to other areas of our vast geographic county.

**Goal 5.1:** Maintain San Juan County Libraries facilities through scheduled maintenance and schedule replacement of fixtures, equipment, furniture, and grounds

**Strategies:**

- a) Coordinate and communicate on a regular basis with the maintenance department for ongoing needs and upkeep
- b) Conduct an annual building inspection of each library facility with a Library board member and follow-up on any concerns with the Maintenance department

**Goal 5.2:** Maintain and implement sound fiscal practices and utilizing available human resources

**Strategies:**

- a) Focus on growing PTIF (Library Fund/Savings) for future capital projects and renovations and to be self-sufficient.
- b) Continue implementing programming and services that are sustainable and realistic
- c) Continue utilizing volunteers to help sustain programming
- d) Continue seeking out and applying for grants to supplement programming, technology, and collection development