

# Hanson Public Library - FY2025 Action Plan

Adopted by the Board of Library Trustees – November 28, 2023

## Priority: We Connect Our Community

The Library endeavors to be at the heart of the community by fostering social connections and offering opportunities for Hanson residents to come together through shared spaces, programs, resources, and events that inform, educate, and entertain.

Area of Focus	Actions
We actively pursue opportunities for creating new library spaces to support community-identified needs and wishes.	<p>Continue to work with Town officials and library supporters to develop a plan and seek funding to create a new library</p> <p>Establish a Library Building Committee to oversee the development of new library space</p>
We cultivate and strengthen community and town partnerships through shared community resources and spaces.	<p>Increase collaboration with the Senior Center and Veteran’s Agent to offer additional programs and services to older residents</p> <p>Continue visits to All American Assisted Living to bring Library resources out into the community</p> <p>Partner more with the Camp Kiwanee Commission on events that are otherwise beyond the Library’s budget</p> <p>Form or continue partnerships with various high school groups/clubs such as National Honor Society, GSA, Robotics, PROTECT, and SEAC</p>
We expand library marketing and promotion efforts to reach all residents.	<p>Participate in Hanson Day and Hanson Holiday Fest</p> <p>Continue welcome letters and brochure mailings to new homeowners</p> <p>Continue promoting Library programs and services through a variety of methods, including a yearly print newsletter mailing, email newsletters, social media posts, local newspaper articles, local cable access recordings, and fliers to schools</p> <p>Increase students’ awareness of Library programs through direct outreach to teachers</p>

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## Priority: We Enrich People’s Lives

The Library reaffirms its commitment to reading, learning, and culture for all, by supporting and celebrating literacy in all forms – print, digital, artistic – to promote personal growth, discovery, knowledge, and understanding.

Area of Focus	Actions
We provide residents of all ages with resources and programs to support informal and formal learning goals, to explore personal interests, and to continue to learn throughout their lives.	<p>Promote online learning resources for adults</p> <p>Provide regular STEAM programs for K-12 students</p>
We provide materials and programs encouraging intellectual pursuits, creativity, and enhanced leisure time activities.	<p>Expand the Library of Things collection, with a particular focus on home education activities, toys, and kits for all ages</p> <p>Explore alternatives to formats that are decreasing in popularity and availability</p> <p>Continue to offer families passive programming activities throughout the Library</p> <p>Create passive programming spaces for adults with puzzle tables, low mess/low instruction crafts, and crossword puzzles</p>
We provide high-quality, flexible spaces for people to learn, explore, create, and socialize.	<p>Work with the Library Building Committee to refine plans for new library space and ensure plans respond to priorities identified in the Library Building Program process</p> <p>Add flexible furniture to the Children’s Room</p> <p>Create a more comfortable seating area for adults and teens</p> <p>Continue to offer sensory/movement/motor break activities for youth</p>
We celebrate and promote reading in a variety of formats to nurture readers of all ages and backgrounds.	<p>Continue collaboration with the Foundation on the Adopt a Reading Buddy program</p> <p>Look for ways to enhance the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten early literacy program</p> <p>Expand the Wonderbook collection</p> <p>Expand the summer reading program to encourage more adults and teens to participate</p>

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<p>We actively engage in the preservation of and access to Hanson’s rich historical record.</p>	<p>Digitize commonly used materials in the Historical Room</p> <p>Identify items in need of conservation in preparation for submitting future grants</p> <p>Develop a community oral history project in collaboration with the Senior Center and schools</p> <p>Explore opportunities for a partnership with the Hanson Historical Society</p> <p>Work with the Hanson Historical Commission on the Historical Markers Project</p>
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**Priority: We Open Our Doors to All**

The Library is a place for everyone, providing a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community space. We actively seek out opportunities to engage all Hanson residents in the use of the Library’s informational and recreational resources.

Area of Focus	Actions
<p>We strive to continue as a trusted community resource, committed to supporting intellectual freedom for our residents.</p>	<p>Plan activities for Banned Books Week and collaborate on programming with the high school’s Banned Book Club</p> <p>Promote the Library as an information resource for all</p>
<p>We focus our collection resources on the community, and enhance our resources through extensive shared access to other library collections.</p>	<p>Promote the wider collection of resources available through the Commonwealth Catalog</p> <p>Promote the ability to suggest titles for purchase and access the digital collections of other library networks through Libby</p> <p>Expand the bilingual collection</p>
<p>We ensure that library services are delivered with sensitivity and care to people of all ages, educational levels, interests, and social and cultural backgrounds.</p>	<p>Explore opportunities for staff training on ways to better serve neurodivergent patrons</p> <p>Offer sensory-friendly programs for neurodivergent patrons</p>
<p>We seek opportunities to connect with underserved populations and identify ways to provide library services that respond to their particular needs and interests.</p>	<p>Connect with the schools and local churches to identify students and community members that could benefit from Library services</p> <p>Create resource guides for English language learners</p> <p>Partner with Greater Boston PFLAG to provide resources for transgender youth</p>

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<p>We look outward into the community to identify barriers encountered by those using the Library and seek ways to remove those barriers.</p>	<p>Have a nonverbal communication board available at the circulation desk</p> <p>Regularly offer evening and weekend programs for families unable to make morning or afternoon weekday visits</p> <p>Offer “Storytime to Go” kits for families unable to attend in-person storytimes</p> <p>Expand outreach to residents who are unable to visit the Library by promoting homebound delivery and offering a ‘pop-up library’ at local senior facilities, schools, and other off-site locations</p>
<p>We serve as a bridge to other libraries and communities through our access to libraries statewide and beyond.</p>	<p>Explore opportunities for partnering with other libraries on services and programming to benefit the broader community</p>

## Priority: We Are Focused on Hanson’s Future

The Library is committed to expanding and enhancing its ability to provide a wide range of evolving services to meet the changing needs of the community.

Area of Focus	Actions
<p>We incorporate community input as we work to improve library services and facilities, and seek out opportunities to improve the quality of life for all Hanson residents.</p>	<p>Gather feedback at programs, through opinion polls emailed to attendees after programs, and with periodic surveys to gain insight into community programming needs and topics of interest</p>
<p>We prioritize creating library spaces that are flexible and embrace evolving community service needs and interests.</p>	<p>Connect with colleagues and library professionals and review professional literature to stay informed about design trends in libraries</p>
<p>We recognize the importance of being poised to adopt and incorporate developing energy-saving practices and standards.</p>	<p>Incorporate opportunities for energy efficiencies in Library building planning</p> <p>Work with Town officials to participate in town-wide energy initiatives</p>
<p>We actively seek financial support from a variety of resources to ensure the Library is positioned to deliver services of key importance to the community.</p>	<p>Apply for Hanson Cultural Council grants to cover the cost of four museum passes and to provide additional programming</p> <p>Determine if any MBLC LSTA grants respond to community needs and apply as appropriate</p>

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<p>We recognize the rapidly evolving world of technology and seek ways to assist our community in understanding and successfully utilizing new technologies to share information and resources, and to communicate with our community.</p>	<p>Develop programs and resources for patrons on using AI for work</p> <p>Create staff guides to more efficiently troubleshoot common issues with library apps</p> <p>Increase technology learning resources for seniors</p> <p>Regularly offer drop-in hours for technology help</p>
<p>We pursue optimal staffing levels and recruit and retain staff that reflect our community and are service-oriented, skilled, and knowledgeable, ensuring high-quality library service.</p>	<p>Identify staff resources needed to meet community needs and interests and seek funding support through the annual budget process</p> <p>Work with Town officials to ensure pay and benefits are competitive</p>
<p>We encourage and expect staff to remain informed about emerging library services and technology, and be active participants in planning and developing new services and the spaces required to deliver those services.</p>	<p>Maintain staff memberships in professional organizations and provide staff opportunities to attend library conferences and visit other libraries</p> <p>Have staff establish annual professional development goals</p>
<p>We continually explore opportunities for more efficient and convenient ways to deliver library services.</p>	<p>Meet regularly with different staff departments to identify service areas needing improvement and share ideas for solutions</p> <p>Explore alternative approaches to service delivery and internal operations used by other libraries, in person and via reading/viewing of professional online resources</p>