

NORTHEAST- MILLERTON LIBRARY



NorthEast-Millerton Library

LONG RANGE PLAN 2021-2025



PLANNING SUMMARY

In 2020, the NorthEast-Millerton Library began the process to develop our new strategic plan. That process was disrupted, as was our community, by COVID-19. When we once again began to plan for our future, we realized that our organization, as well as our community, had changed. In the summer of 2021, we began to hold conversations with our staff, board of trustees, and 80 plus members of the public. Those conversations, as well as surveys of our patrons, are reflected in these pages.



ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

Throughout our Community Conversation, we heard that people wanted Millerton to “feel like a Hometown not just a small town”. They wanted to reconnect, or in some cases for the first time, with their neighbors, local organizations and government. They hoped that our community would continue to be a diverse community of different social and economic backgrounds and beliefs, where education is a priority and youth are able to build a future.



THE STATS

The Village of Millerton has a population of 903, with 84% 18 years or older and 18.6% 65 years and older. The median household income is \$64,600, with 18.9% of those under 18 years of age living below the poverty line, and 72% of the population is employed.

The Town of North East has a population of 2,971, with 79% 18 years or older and 21% 65 years and older. The median household income is \$66,716, with 4.6% of those under 18 years of age living below the poverty line, and 60.1% of the population is employed.



ABOUT OUR LIBRARY

Chartered in 1927, the NorthEast-Millerton Library houses over 37,000 physical and digital items, offers over 500 free programs yearly and has 1,720 card holders. With two full-time and one part-time staff members, the Library is assisted by thirteen volunteers. The library's main building and Annex are also the home to the North East Historical Society, Millerton Friendship Center, and Adopt-a-Family, as well as the meeting place for numerous groups.

OUR MISSION

It is the mission of the NorthEast-Millerton Library to promote the development of independent, thoughtful, and literate citizens through the provision of open access to cultural, intellectual and informational resources.

OUR VALUES

These are the core values that help guide the NorthEast-Millerton Library:

- Dedicated to providing equitable access to educational, informational, cultural, technological, and entertainment resources to all members of the community; independent of an individual's social or financial wealth, ethnicity, race, gender, background, or abilities.
- Providing a sanctuary - comfortable and welcoming to all members of the community. A place to turn when they are in need of help in a time of crisis, or respite.
- Partnering with local organizations to better service our community.
- Help to preserve and share the history of our community while moving forward and embracing the future.

OUR GOALS

Continue to Improve Library Accessibility

- By the end of 2022, have the Library website translated into other languages and be accessible to individuals with different needs.
- Look for ways to accommodate patrons who are unable to use the library in traditional ways.
- Work towards expanding the library's main building/Annex to better meet the needs of our community.

Support Increasing the Community's Access to Basic Amenities

- Support other organizations to bring affordable housing/general amenities to the community by permitting use of library space, staff support, and promotion of events.
- Expand the Tiny Free Grocery.
- Continue to upgrade technology available for patron use.
- Expand workshop offerings around technology.
- Look into increasing the Library's internet connection speed.
- Encourage Early Literacy and help our community's children be prepared for school.



OUR GOALS CONTINUED...

Help to Bridge the Divide in our Community

- Continue Community Meet Ups and Conversations to facilitate connections.
- Develop more programs based on social connections.
- Work with other organizations to develop a Millerton Community Day.
- Help our patrons feel more connected to the community by informing them of events and happenings in the Town of North East/Village of Millerton.
- Promote local organization's volunteer opportunities that align with the libraries core values.

Continue to Work Towards Making the Library More Sustainable

- Continue to look for new funding sources.
- Keep on top of structural needs of the Library's two buildings.
- Support local groups that promote environmental sustainability.
- Work to lessen the environmental impact of the Library.

