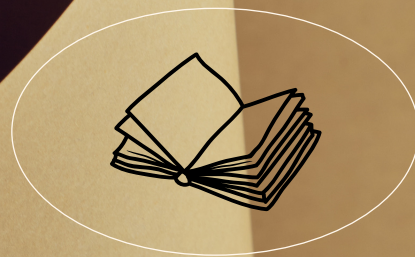# Bonne Riche Public Library
Strategic Plan 2024-2028

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Library Overview

A snapshot of who and where we are

Bonne Riche Public Library is located in Bonne Riche, Louisiana. Bonne Riche Public Library is a branch of the greater Belletarre Parish Library System. It is the smallest branch out of the five total in the system. Bonne Riche is a census-designated place with a population of approximately 1,056, but the library serves the surrounding areas as well as supplementing the main branch.

Bonne Riche Public Library primarily serves youth under the age of eighteen and senior citizens. In the mornings and early afternoons, seniors are the library's primary users. After the local schools let out in the afternoons, children and young adults go to the library as well. Though how seniors and youth use the library differ in many ways, both groups primarily seek the library as a third place or as a community center. Adult users primarily utilize the library on weekends.

The Bonne Riche Library possesses the typical collections of children's, young adult, and adult nonfiction and fiction, reference materials, periodicals, and DVDs, as well as more unique collections for its user base. These include an expansive Large Print collection, a health and wellness collection specifically aimed at the elderly, board games, art and craft supplies, a manga and graphic novel collection, and college and career preparatory materials.

The Bonne Riche Public Library has many programs and services, most aimed at young people and the elderly. The library hosts a knitting and crochet club, multiple book clubs for various age groups and interests, a creative writing club for teens, and an exercise class for seniors with limited mobility. The library provides services such as printing, faxing, scanning, and reference services. Free Wi-Fi is available as well. Digital resources are available through the parish and state library database subscriptions.

The Bonne Riche Public Library is rectangular in shape. The front doors are located to the right of the front of the building. When you walk in, you first see the front desk. The library is only one large room, plus the bathroom and a small area for staff only that is behind a curtain. Shelves line all the walls, and there are three large square tables that can seat up to eight people each in the middle of the library. At the end of the library are eight computer stations. The special collections such as the large print and college and career prep materials are located at this far end of the library. The board games and arts and crafts supplies are held at the front desk and are available upon request.
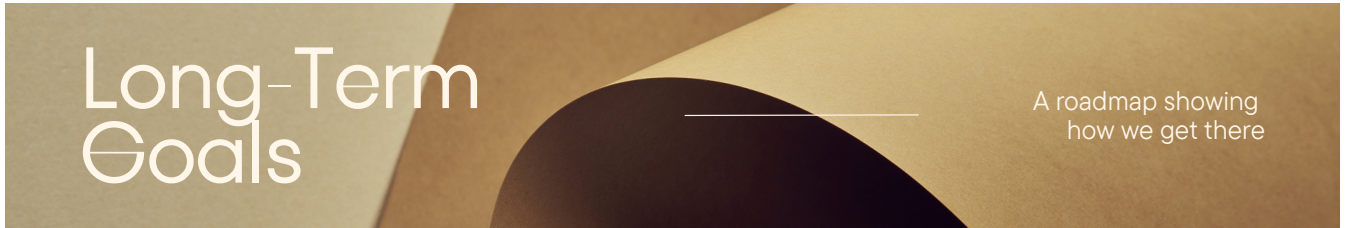
Mission and Vision

What we strive to achieve

Mission

The Bonne Riche Public Library's mission is to provide the community of Bonne Riche and Belletarre Parish with access to information and a common gathering place. The Bonne Riche Library strives to provide diverse services and programs to its community by providing technology and resources that allow patrons to be lifelong learners and connect with their community.

Vision

The vision of the Bonne Riche Public Library is to provide more services and programs for the existing patrons of the library as well as potential future patrons who are currently underserved in the area. The Bonne Riche Public Library strives to become an even greater asset to the community than it is currently by increasing community engagement and enrichment.

Long-Term Goals

A roadmap showing how we get there

Goal One: Increase services and programs offered to currently underserved populations in Bonne Riche and surrounding areas.

Supporting objectives: Determine why certain user groups are not utilizing the library. Create programs and services aimed at these populations. Increase the number of patrons in the library who are currently underserved.

Proposed Activities:

- Use the local newspapers and social media to ask community members why they do not use the library and what would make them use it.
- Create programs and offer services based on community response.
- Based on response, alter or create new programs and services.

Performance measures/indicators:

- Record increased numbers of underserved patrons utilizing the library, resources, services, and programs.

- Receive positive survey responses from underserved populations indicating themselves as new users from 2024-2028.

Goal Two: Increase services and programs offered to primary user groups at the library

Supporting Objectives: Diversify program offerings. Enhance engagement and connection with the library's primary user groups. Evaluate and improve the services and programs currently offered and future services and programs.

Proposed Activities:

- Create a de-stress program for high schoolers including relaxing activities and information on mental health management strategies.
- Create periodic drawing classes for children, teens, and senior citizens. (These can be put on by the branch manager, a library staff member, or a volunteer from the community.)
- Continue to survey patrons informally and formally about what they enjoy about the programs, what they would like to see altered, and what kind of programs they would enjoy having in the future.

Performance measures/indicators:

- Record an increase in library use as compared to previous figures by the end of 2028.
- Receive positive survey responses in 2028 from patrons who indicate themselves as having been users before 2026.

Goal Three: Increase community outreach outside of the library walls.

Supporting Objectives: Increase participation in community events outside of the library. Develop community outreach programs. Increase social media presence and increase digital resource awareness.

Proposed Activities:

- Table at various community events such as the local school's various public events.
- Host storytelling sessions and book readings at local festivals, farmers markets, and other community events.
- Conduct workshops on various topics outside of the library at local schools, community events, assisted living facilities, etc.
- Create a bookmobile-like service to reach community users who cannot make it to the library.
- Collaborate with local organizations, schools, and businesses to create joint programs, workshops, or events to reach more community members.
- Post on social media regularly and stay up to date on trends and local news.
- Regularly request feedback from patrons and potential future patrons on social media.

Performance Measures/Indicators:

- Record an increase of partnerships with outside organizations.
- Record an increase of social media engagement on all platforms used by the library.
- Receive formal and informal survey responses indicating that the community outreach events are well-liked and appreciated by the community.

Goal Four: Renovate library facilities to better serve the patrons of Bonne Riche Public Library.

Supporting Objectives: Replace all computers with newer models. Improve energy efficiency. Refresh interior design.

Proposed Activities:

- Hold fundraisers and raffles to raise money for renovations and upgrades.
- Write grants to obtain funding. Involve community members to either obtain free or reduced-cost labor.
- Work with local businesses to obtain materials at a reduced cost or as a donation.
- Install energy-saving insulation, lighting, and other such improvements.
- Get volunteers to help repaint the interior. Have the art classes and arts and crafters volunteer to create decorations for the library.

Performance Measures/Indicators:

- Obtain new computers by the year 2026. Renovate library interior by 2026.

- Install energy-efficient improvements by 2028.

Goal Five: Increase community involvement in the library.

Supporting Objectives: Improve feedback mechanisms. Increase and advertise volunteer opportunities. Publicly recognize and thank volunteers and supporters regularly.

Proposed Activities:

- Install suggestion boxes in the library.
- Make feedback forms on the library website visible and easy to use.
- Use social media as a response platform.
- Come up with volunteer opportunities that fill library needs.
- Promote volunteer opportunities in the library, on social media, and in local newspapers.
- Collaborate with schools and local churches to get teen volunteers who need community service hours.
- Hold volunteer appreciation events.
- Use social media to regularly acknowledge and thank volunteers, highlighting their efforts and impact.
- Hand out personalized thank-you notes to volunteers and supporters.

Performance Measures/Indicators:

- Record an increase in volunteers every year.
- Record an increase in feedback responses from all sources.