



# Opioids in Communities

## Libraries in Response

Q1: What changes can you make to library facilities that would promote wellness and community development?

- Pop up libraries
- **Space for encouraging conversation**
- “Safe haven” sign for kids
- Multi-lingual signage
- More meeting space
- Less formal/relaxed environment
- Make brochures and community info visible
- Roving librarians (less intimidating)
- More play for everybody
- Make windows clear and visible
- Comfortable temps
- Collaboration between departments
- Coffee machine
- **Comfortable chairs, moveable furniture**
- Foyer Seating
- Conversation boards
- **Bulletin boards w/Community info, displays that reflect the community**
- Add brochure holders
- Variety of meeting spaces (different sizes)
- **Interactive activities (puzzles)**
- Café gathering space
- Resources ctr/Help me station
- **Designated gaming computers, gaming area**
- Accessible power sources/outlets
- **Designated kids space w/ related resources nearby**
- Hip, cool, comfortable, colorful spaces
- **Reach out to community for input on changing spaces and money**
- Add plants and decorative water fountain
- Warm and welcoming staff
- Reduce barriers between customers and staff
- **Inviting outdoor spaces**
- Clear concise signage
- Availability of mobile tech and equip
- Bicycle repair station at library

Q2: What changes can you make to library services, policies, and procedures that would demonstrate an ethic of care?

- Making sure all patrons are seen, heard, and included
- Unattended children policy: Taking care of kids with no other options
- Talk to people, make them “regulars” even if you are unsure
- Keeping library jargon down/keeping it real/using language kids use
- Increase public access to electronic resources
- Training on dealing with challenging patrons
- Mental health/first aid training
- Library service as community service/proactive mission statements
- Simplify procedures (give people room to choose/decide)
- Specific goals/methods for developing communication/trust
- **Be more interactive with patrons, more “visible”-but not being watched when taking items**
- Policies for staff self-care and trauma
- **Food/beverage policies**
- Select titles on honor system (related to mental health/phys health)
- **Cards for kinship caregivers**
- Kids cards (no guardian signature)
- E cards for schools kids/deliveries to schools
- Narcan kits
- **Remove barriers to getting library card (access or opportunity cards -limited items i.e. computer use, transient patrons**
- **Fine free**
- Automatic renewals
- **Police behavior that is not acceptable, not people. With acceptable use policies (Watch perceptions, use consistency, homeless patron training)**
- Sensitive subjects poster for anonymous access
- Sensitive placement of materials at programs (confidentiality)
- Therapy dogs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Counselors in library (more often than just finals week for schools and colleges)</b></li> <li>• E-newsletter</li> <li>• <b>Staff training on trauma informed service, support</b></li> <li>• Books that don't have to come back (for outreach locations)</li> <li>• Healthy snacks at programs</li> <li>• Enforce teen only space (respect/safety)</li> <li>• Resources on paper, not just electronic</li> <li>• Community social services reps at monthly staff meetings</li> <li>• Self-checkout</li> </ul>
<p>Q3: What changes can you make to library programming and collections that would support wellness and community development?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing snacks for kids after school</li> <li>• Make volunteer opportunities to create community/pride of ownership/vale/self esteem</li> <li>• Libraries as role models/mentoring programs</li> <li>• Discussion groups for teens (not comfortable in front of other adults)</li> <li>• Have judge come to school, talk to kids. Become a real person to give advice on how to stay out of trouble.</li> <li>• Book Bundles-Put on book mark to pull in kids, etc. Low key</li> <li>• Resources for homeless/vets: find out who is doing what, what there is a lack of</li> <li>• <b>Host a health clinic</b></li> <li>• CPR, drug awareness classes</li> <li>• Bullying classes, especially before school starts</li> <li>• Catalog community resources-easily discoverable</li> <li>• Host regular community meetings: Topical-Meet and Greet, senior care, multi-generational (gparents/kids)</li> <li>• <b>Host Narcotics Anonymous (and other support groups) meetings on site</b></li> <li>• More robust collections of topics: Stress, trauma (explained more easily for kids)</li> <li>• Emphasizing/ encouraging resilience through programming) demo/role playing)</li> <li>• Parenting class info provided-partner with local org.</li> <li>• Custody issues/programs</li> <li>• Speaker series-Teens/Sports stars/authors</li> <li>• "Hidden in plain sight"-Hosted at library/community based</li> <li>• <b>Hiking trail/nature walk/weekly hike program</b></li> <li>• <b>Combining fiction and relevant NF</b></li> <li>• <b>Family programs (non-traditional), like popcorn and movie night</b></li> <li>• Teamwork through play</li> </ul>	<p>Q4: What potential connections can you make outside the library that would support the wellness of your community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chamber of Commerce/local businesses</b></li> <li>• <b>Connections between public and academic libraries</b></li> <li>• <b>Call/visit non-profits in area re: addiction/metal health/recovery</b></li> <li>• Go to local community center and bring kids to the library. Show they are welcome</li> <li>• Encourage voter registration</li> <li>• <b>Partnership with YMCA/YWCA for health and wellness programs</b></li> <li>• Partner with heart assoc.</li> <li>• <b>Attend school orientations to share resources</b></li> <li>• Partner with Ohio Means Jobs (help w/applications, etc)</li> <li>• Go to hospitals w/ book van to share library resources</li> <li>• Use honor system for outreach circulation at "onsite "places i.e cancer treatment/hospice wings</li> <li>• Resources from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities</li> <li>• Writing for local publications to bring attention to services</li> <li>• Set up speaker series</li> <li>• Partner with local orgs to provide meals</li> <li>• <b>Hospitals-First aid, wellness, gym access</b></li> <li>• Health dept-wellness clinics</li> <li>• <b>Local homeless shelters &amp; substance abuse centers</b></li> <li>• <b>Police, fire, EMS—"touch a truck"</b></li> <li>• Nursing departments, pharmacy schools</li> <li>• Free lunch programs</li> <li>• <b>Local child care centers &amp; preschools, Head Start</b></li> <li>• Service orgs: Kiwanis, Rotary</li> <li>• <b>Reach out to neighboring communities and library systems</b></li> <li>• Collect resources and donations (clothes, food) for local groups and advertise with Black Friday</li> <li>• <b>Tables at local fairs/festivals</b></li> <li>• <b>Local 5k "run for books"</b></li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Library resources in the community, at community events</b></li> <li>• Outreach at rehab facilities</li> <li>• Donated book drive</li> <li>• Community dinners</li> <li>• Programs of resilience and wellness</li> <li>• <b>Exercise courses as “wellness” branded events-- Yoga, line dance, Zumba, walking groups</b></li> <li>• Exercise bikes</li> <li>• “Happy light” at lib &amp; circulation</li> <li>• Discussion about opioids-Create discussion, partners</li> <li>• Alzheimer’s groups (hosting)</li> <li>• Cancer survivors’ groups (hosting)</li> <li>• Local counseling services at staff meetings (meeting patrons at place of need)</li> <li>• Local middle school principal – “talking to teens”</li> <li>• Exercise programs- Healthy cooking programs</li> <li>• Community gardens</li> <li>• Sticker votes for local charities as SRP prizes</li> <li>• “kits” for nature walks, birdwatching, nature exploration</li> <li>• Summer lunch programs</li> <li>• Clubs for community: Staff initiates/catalyst. Library gives space/promotion/community facilitation</li> <li>• Board buy-in for policy</li> <li>• Bibliotherapy for adults (kits)</li> <li>• Focus/programs of resiliency</li> <li>• <b>Life skills/“How to Adult” programs</b></li> <li>• <b>Info on your website/Create a libguide (Spotlight on health issues, directory of social service orgs.)</b></li> <li>• Consult w/community (orgs and leaders)</li> <li>• <b>Have speakers who have overcome issues/substance abuse</b></li> <li>• Community survey of needs</li> <li>• Kids activities on snow days</li> <li>• Spotlight staff hobbies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parks dept.</b></li> <li>• <b>Schools/ School councilor</b></li> <li>• Suicide prevention</li> <li>• Service orgs (Rotary, Kiwanis)</li> <li>• Project DAWN</li> <li>• Recovery groups</li> <li>• <b>Jobs and Family Services, social workers</b></li> <li>• Churches/Faith-based groups</li> <li>• <b>Food banks and farmer’s markets</b></li> <li>• Art centers</li> <li>• <b>Local officials/councils</b></li> <li>• Parish nurse groups</li> <li>• Assisted living/senior/aging orgs</li> <li>• <b>Yoga/tai chi/exercise groups</b></li> <li>• Crafter/hobby/makers groups</li> <li>• Attorneys</li> <li>• Financial advisors</li> <li>• Boys and Girls Clubs</li> <li>• Therapy dogs</li> <li>• ASPIRE GED prep</li> <li>• ESL</li> </ul>
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**\*Items in bold were mentioned more than once at more than one event!**