

News Release

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Talbot County Free Library welcomes the community to help plan for its future

(EASTON, MD APRIL 13, 2022) – Talbot County Free Library welcomes the community to provide input for the new three-year strategic plan by taking their survey and participating in an upcoming focus group meeting.

The strategic planning process will examine what the Talbot County Free Library needs to focus on to serve the evolving needs of residents. The first Strategic Plan Focus Group will aim to get feedback from teens (ages 12-18) on Thursday, April 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Talbot County Free Library St. Michaels Branch.

This event will give teens a chance to earn service-learning hours and help the Talbot County Free Library. Participants will answer questions in a small discussion group and provide their thoughts and opinions about library services for teens. Teens are encouraged to bring their service-learning papers. Free pizza will be provided.

"During each focus group session, we'll ask participants about their needs and thoughts about what the library can do for them and how the library can better reach and support all of our residents," said Dana Newman, Talbot County Free Library Director.

Another Strategic Plan Focus Group will take place at the St. Michaels Branch on Monday, May 2 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This focus group invites community members of all ages to answer questions designed to help the library plan for future services, and the upcoming expansion of the St. Michaels library.

Another focus group will then be held at the Easton Branch on Thursday, May 5 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The library will also hold one at the Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center on Thursday, May 12 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. A teen focus group is being planned for the Easton area, and it is highly encouraged for everyone to check the library's website for more information.

Refreshments will be served at all of the focus groups sessions.

"From the feedback we receive, we hope to find ways in which the Library can more effectively serve both individuals and the community," Newman said.

Talbot County Free Library not only encourages the public to participate in the focus groups, but also with the Strategic Planning Survey. The survey will be on the library's website until Tuesday, April 19.

Talbot County Free Library encourages those who take the survey to share their insights about community needs that the library could help meet. The library also wants to know what services and programs patrons want to see in the library in the future.

"Library staff hopes the entire community will participate in the survey and let us know what they want to see at the library," Newman said.

For more information, please call (410) 822-1626 or visit <u>www.tcfl.org</u>. Registration is not required for the Focus Groups.

About Talbot County Free Library

It is the mission of the Talbot County Free Library to enrich and renew the lives of the people it serves. There are two locations: The main library in Easton is located at 100 W. Dover St., and the St. Michael branch is at 106 Fremont St. The Maryland Room in the Easton branch holds a voluminous collection of genealogical resources and historical documents. Services at both locations include the circulation of books, DVDs, and digital devices, as well as free Wi-Fi, public computers, exhibits, and programs for both children and adults. For more information, please visit www.tcfl.org. Be sure to like the library on Facebook and follow us on Instagram @Talbotcountyfreelibrary.