

STEERING GROUP + INTERVIEWEE CANDIDATE SUGGESTIONS

Library Strategies recommends recruiting volunteers who represent a cross-section of your community. This diversity of perspective and lived experience ensures rich discussion and useful takeaways. If possible, seek a blend of:

- Library usage habits (regular library users, semi-regular/occasional users, and nonusers)
- Ages and life stages (seniors, working-age adults, adults with young children in the home, 20-somethings, and even teens)
- Racial and ethnic backgrounds (ideally, in line with demographic data for the patron base your library serves)
- Socioeconomic statuses
- Lengths of residency in your community (from well-connected ‘lifers’ to new residents)

Specific participant profiles of particular value include those listed below. Note that you are NOT asked to check all boxes, and that this rundown is merely a point of departure. Other promising candidates may occur to you, and can be added to the list at your discretion.

- Local elected officials (ex., mayor, county commissioner, aldermen)
- City/Village department heads (ex., communications/marketing, parks & rec)
- School administrators (ex., principal, superintendent)
- K-12 teachers
- Representative from the homeschooling community
- Area business leaders/representatives
- Liaisons from community organizations with allied missions (ex., homeless shelters, adult basic education programs)
- Representatives from local philanthropic community (ex., community foundation)
- Liaisons from area cultural or arts organizations (ex., historical society)
- Leaders in / representatives from active civic groups (ex. Rotary, Kiwanis)
- Religious leaders
- Friends of the Library (no more than 1-2)
- Former library trustees (but preferably not *current* board members)