21st Century Public Library Service Functions
Prioritized in Focus Groups

1. CREATE YOUNG READERS: EARLY LITERACY (62)
   Children from birth to age five will have programs and services designed to ensure that
   they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.

2. CONNECT TO THE ONLINE WORLD: PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS (56)
   Residents will have high-speed access to the digital world with no unnecessary
   restrictions or fees to ensure that everyone can take advantage of these services.

3. BE AN INFORMED CITIZEN: LOCAL, NATION, AND WORLD AFFAIRS (46)
   Residents will have the information they need to support and promote democracy, to
   fulfill their civic responsibilities at the local, state, and national levels, and to fully
   participate in community decision-making.

4. KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY: COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES
   (46)
   Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs,
   services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations

5. LEARN TO READ AND WRITE: ADULT, TEEN, AND FAMILY
   LITERACY (41)
   adults and teens will have the support they need to improve their literacy skills in order
   to meet their personal goals and fulfill their responsibilities as parents, citizens, and
   workers

6. SATISFY CURIOSITY: LIFELONG LEARNING (37)
   residents will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and
   continue to learn throughout their lives.

7. UNDERSTAND HOW TO FIND, EVALUATE, AND USE INFORMATION (36)
   residents will know when they need information to resolve an issue or answer a question
   and will have the skills to search for, locate, evaluate, and effectively use information to
   meet their needs.

8. MAKE CAREER CHOICES: JOB AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (33)
   adults and teens will have the skills and resources they need to identify career
   opportunities that suit their individual strengths and interests.

9. VISIT A COMFORTABLE PLACE: PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL SPACES (28)
   residents will have safe and welcoming physical places to meet and interact with others
   or to sit quietly and read and will have open and accessible virtual spaces that support
   networking.
10. **STIMULATE IMAGINATION: READING, VIEWING, AND LISTENING FOR PLEASURE (27)**
Residents who want materials to enhance their leisure time will find what they want when and where they want them and will have the help they need to make choices from among the options.

11. **SUCCEED IN SCHOOL: HOMEWORK HELP (25)**
Students will have the resources they need to succeed in school.

12. **MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS: HEALTH, WEALTH, AND OTHER LIFE CHOICES (21)**
Residents will have the resources they need to identify and analyze risks, benefits, and alternatives before making decisions that affect their lives.

13. **GET FACTS FAST: READY REFERENCE (19)**
Residents will have someone to answer their questions on a wide array of topics of personal interest.

Business owners and non-profit organization directors and their managers will have the resources they need to develop and maintain strong, viable organizations.

15. **CELEBRATE DIVERSITY: CULTURAL AWARENESS (17)**
Residents will have programs and services that promote appreciation and understanding of their personal heritage and the heritage of others in the community.

16. **WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES: SERVICES FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS (14)**
New immigrants will have information on citizenship, English Language Learning (ELL), employment, public schooling, health and safety, available social services, and any other topics they need to participate successfully in American life.

17. **EXPRESS CREATIVITY: CREATE AND SHARE CONTENT (9)**
Residents will have the services and support they need to express themselves by creating original print, video, audio, or visual content in a real-world or online environment.

18. **DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS: GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY (3)**
Residents and visitors will have the resources they need to connect the past with the present through their family histories and to understand the history and traditions of the community.

American Public Library Association