



September 19, 2022

## **Vulnerable Adult Policy**

A vulnerable adult is an individual over the age of 18 that has impairment of mental function, physical function or emotional status who is unable to, or is unlikely to report abuse or neglect without assistance.

Vulnerable adults, who can understand and follow the rules of conduct and who can care for themselves, are welcomed to be in the Library unattended. Vulnerable adults will be expected to follow the rules of conduct as outlined in the Code of Conduct Policy. They should have contact information for a parent/guardian or caregiver who can assist them in an emergency.

- Vulnerable adults who are unable or unwilling to care for themselves must be attended by an adult and have adequate supervision at all times.
- The Library assumes no responsibility for vulnerable adults left unattended on the Library premises. Staff members are responsible for assisting all Library customers and cannot adequately monitor unattended vulnerable adults.
- Staff cannot be expected to monitor or prevent vulnerable adults from leaving the building/grounds or to assume responsibility for monitoring their behavior.
- Sudden emergencies may occur in the library and in such cases the Library assumes no responsibility for unattended vulnerable adults.
- Staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian or caregiver when a vulnerable adult's health or safety is in doubt, when his/her behavior disturbs other Library users, his/her actions violate any of the Code of Conduct Policy, or a parent/guardian or caregiver is not present at closing time
- Every reasonable effort will be made by the staff to assist the vulnerable adult in contacting the appropriate adult. If no responsible adult is reached, or the vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes of Library closing, staff may notify the police.
- Library staff may not drive vulnerable adults to any location, even by request of the parent/caregiver.

Board Approved: 9/21/22