

XX. Fundraising Policy

Fundraising for the support of organizations other than the Mercer Public Library is not allowed on Library property. Posters and/or flyers announcing an event, or ticket sales to benefit non-profit, civic, and/or community organizations may be displayed in the community information shelving unit and/or the community bulletin board in the vestibule if space allows. Materials must be approved by the Library Director and comply with the Library's *Public Notice Bulletin Board* policy.

Requests for an exception to this policy may be made by local nonprofit or charitable organizations only and must be submitted in writing and with sufficient time in advance for the review and approval of the Library Board. The Mercer Public Library will not display items that are intended as a part of a fundraiser whose purpose does not support the Mercer Public Library regardless of whether the solicitation of donations or contributions occurs on Library property.

Except when it is in conjunction with a Library program or event, solicitation, sales, or advertisements by private individuals or businesses are strictly prohibited.

Common fundraising activities may include but are not limited to the sale of raffle or bingo tickets, flyers or pamphlets requesting donations, pledges, or contributions, or the sale of merchandise. A contribution, as defined in Wis. Stat. §202.11(5), includes a grant or pledge of money, credit, property, or other thing of any kind of value, except food, used clothing, or used household goods, to a charitable organization or for a charitable purpose.

As provided in Wis. Stat. §202.11(9), solicitation is defined as the act or practice of soliciting, whether or not the person soliciting receives any contributions. Solicitation includes, but is not limited to, any of the following methods of requesting or securing a contribution: an oral or written request, distribution or posting of a written advertisement, or the sale or attempt to sell a membership, advertisement, ticket, or other tangible item for the purpose of supporting a charitable organization.

Fundraising Policy amended and approved by Library Board of Trustees – August 21, 2025.