



Vulnerable Adults Policy

The Roeliff Jansen Community Library strives to provide a warm, welcoming, and safe environment for all community members. The Library is particularly concerned for the safety of vulnerable adults in and around the Library. A vulnerable adult is defined as an individual over the age of 18 who is mentally or physically challenged to a degree that may significantly impair that person's ability to provide adequately for their own care or manage their own behavior without assistance. Library staff cannot be expected to assume responsibility for monitoring their behavior or to monitor or prevent vulnerable adults from leaving the building/grounds.

The Library will adhere to the following guidelines concerning the care and behavior of vulnerable adults:

- Vulnerable adults who can understand and follow the Patron Code of Conduct and who can care for themselves are welcome to be in the Library or on the Library grounds unattended. 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 or follow the Patron Code of Conduct must be attended and have adequate supervision at all times.

It is up to the discretion of the Library staff to determine if vulnerable adults may be left unattended in the Library.

Staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian/caregiver when a vulnerable adult's health or safety is in doubt, behavior disturbs other Library users, or actions violate any part of the Patron Code of Conduct. Every reasonable effort will be made by the staff to assist the vulnerable adult in contacting the appropriate adults. If no responsible adult is reached, or the vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes of the Library closing, staff may notify the police.

**Adopted by Board of Trustees, August 8, 2017
Amended, February 15, 2022**