

ARCHIVAL RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

2020 - 2021

MISSION

The Archival Researchers Association (ARA) advocates for individuals, private organizations and small businesses who require access to state and federal historical records.

VISION

Effect positive, lasting change to reliable records access and research services that will benefit the general public, researchers, and archives staff.

VALUES

1. **ACCESS**-Advocating for essential access to the historical records which tell our national story, strengthen our democracy, and enable veterans to access the benefits they deserve.
2. **RESEARCH**- Promoting learning through hands-on exploration, collaboration, and discovery.
3. **EDUCATION**- Facilitating personal connections with the past to inform, inspire, and educate.
4. **PRESERVATION**-Honoring the memory of veterans and documenting our nation's history through research, digitization, and curation.

OBJECTIVES

1. **ADVOCACY**: The ARA will appeal to Congress for improved access to historical records and improved research services for individuals, private groups, and small businesses.
2. **MEMBERSHIP**: The ARA will seek to increase the number and diversity of our members so that we can better represent the research community at large.
3. **PARTICIPATION**: The ARA will seek input from members on our policy agenda and the selection of officers for the board.
4. **PARTNERSHIP**: The ARA will forge partnerships with like-minded groups to uphold our values and to achieve our stated mission.
5. **FUNDING**: The ARA will create strategic plans to generate funding through public outreach, membership plans, sponsorship, and planned donations.
6. **POLICY**: The ARA board will meet monthly to strategize on policy, outreach, and to report on the progress of ARA committees.