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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Home Connectivity Kits expand digital access for local library customers

The Stanislaus County Library now offers expanded digital access with Home Connectivity Kits for checkout. Library cardholders in good standing may check out the kits, which include a Chromebook, mouse, headset with a microphone, hotspot device, as well as power adapters and carrying case.

An increased demand for WiFi connectivity and computers was illuminated during pandemic-related closures and service disruptions. As a result, the California State Library is funding equipment and data plans, to enable libraries throughout the state to create more digitally inclusive communities.

"Libraries have always been great equalizers, providing access to resources, that may otherwise be out of reach for some," said Stanislaus County Library Director Sarah Dentan. "We're excited to provide these essential tools for use beyond the walls of the library."

The Chromebook and hotspot, along with the peripherals, enable borrowers to have a user experience more similar to that of a typical home computer user. Home Connectivity Kit borrowers can perform everyday tasks such as scheduling a COVID vaccine, completing job applications, video chatting with friends or reading important news and information available on the web.

Home Connectivity Kits may be checked out for a period of three weeks, limited to one per customer. Kits may be reserved, however, due to their popularity, must be picked up within 48 hours of notification of availability.

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