Value

Your library is a great value! The Stanislaus County Library, which is funded primarily through a 1/8-cent dedicated sales tax, is a community treasure—a necessity for a healthy, vibrant community.

The average Stanislaus County household contributed $1.66 per month (or $20.00 per year) to the library through its taxable purchases. In return, all residents have access to 781,023 books, magazines, newspapers, audio books, videos and DVDs, valued at $19 million. Sixty-nine percent of residents have library cards and last year, they checked out 2.2 million items.

Supporters

2010 Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
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District 3 Terry Withrow
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49-99 Library Cooperative
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Stanislaus County Library Foundation Board
www.stanislauslibraryfoundation.org (209) 204-9360
Kathi Cohn
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What’s your family’s annual return on your investment in the library? Use the Library Value Calculator at www.stanislauslibrary.org

Revenue

Local
County
Sales Tax

Local (book sales, donations, fines/fees) 5%
County General Fund 9%
Sales Tax 84%

Expenses

Operating Expenses 24%
Salaries & Benefits 73%
Books, Materials & Databases 3%

The Stanislaus County Library fosters the love of reading and opens the door to knowledge.

www.stanislauslibrary.org
Quality Literacy

It’s never too early to begin developing literacy skills. Studies have shown that reading aloud to young children not only helps instill a love of reading, but it’s an important factor in a child’s future success in school.

Early literacy is a key component of children’s programs at Stanislaus County Libraries. Last year, 71,000 people attended 2,000 StoryTimes and Class Visits at Stanislaus County’s 13 libraries.

The Summer Reading Program keeps teens and children engaged in reading through the summer months. Last summer, 9,362 children and 2,065 teens participated. Adults were also invited to join in the summer reading fun by sharing short book reviews with others. More than 2,000 adults participated, and modeled good reading habits for their children. The Stanislaus Library Foundation funded the entire Summer Reading Program and many Friends of the Library groups augmented Summer Reading with funding for additional children’s programs and prizes.

Helping adults learn to read, use computers, and find library resources improves the quality of life for our community.

Through the ReadingWorks Adult Literacy program, a partnership with the Stanislaus Literacy Center, adult learners receive individual tutoring from trained volunteers. Last year, 1,457 adults were served through this important program.

During the 2010-2011 fiscal year, ReadingWorks and the library were awarded a Job-Now! grant, enabling us to better serve ReadingWorks students and others who are seeking employment. For more information, please call 558-4505.

Volunteer instructors also teach small-group computer classes in several branches. In 2010-2011, 59 classes were offered countywide, serving 503 students. Students learned to use the Internet, how to create a résumé and to use software such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Contact Information

Hours/General Information .......... 558-7800
Adult Literacy/ReadingWorks ......... 558-4505
Computer Classes .................. 558-7814
Home Delivery Service .............. 558-7817
Information/Reference .............. 558-7814
Children’s Services ................. 558-7810
Teen Services ....................... 558-7827
Checkout/Circulation ............... 558-7808
Volunteer Opportunities ............ 558-8949
TDD ..................................... 558-7821
(Service for the deaf & those with hearing impairments)

Resources

The 2010-2011 fiscal year began with a loss of 13 hours per week in service to the public, due to declining sales tax revenue. However, income from sales tax, which makes up the majority of the library’s budget, stabilized during the year. Despite the ongoing challenge, library staff remain committed to providing excellent customer service.

Libraries are more important to the community than ever in difficult economic times like these. More residents are using their libraries. In fact, 358,052 of the county’s 515,978 residents now have library cards.

The library continues to focus on outreach. In Spring and Summer of 2011, the community joined together in the Stanislaus Reads program, featuring agriculturally related books, including David Mas Masumoto’s “Wisdom of the Last Farmer” and two other titles for younger readers. With the help of the Stanislaus Library Foundation, sponsors provided funds to purchase books and advertise the program. Families participated in agriculture learning activities at libraries and more than 2,600 books were distributed countywide.

Volunteer docents led behind-the-scenes tours at the Modesto Library, intriguing even the most avid library users. Schedule your tour at 558-7817.

Reference librarians answered 120,029 questions last year, guiding customers to both print and electronic resources. Premium subscription databases and e-reference books offer everyone access to high quality information in an electronic format.

In 2010-2011, customers utilized public computers 212,520 times to do school research, prepare résumés, search for employment or apply for benefits online. Many also utilized the library’s free wireless Internet service through their own web-enabled laptops or smart phones.

Literacy

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