SAN BENITO COUNTY FREE LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

Overview

- Funded by the American Rescue Act of 2021

- Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is offering $7.17 billion in funding for schools and libraries

- Funding for hotspots, modems, routers, laptops, tablets, commercially available broadband service that provides fixed or mobile broadband connection for students and library patrons, and construction of new networks in limited instances where applicants can demonstrate that it has no available service options sufficient to support remote learning

Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

FCC — Federal Communications Commission

Our Application

- A collaborative effort with County IT and San Benito County Office of Education

- Approximately $13 Million in funding

- 10,000 laptops & WiFi hotspots for checkout through the library, based on HHSA data for individuals receiving public assistance

- Equipment to provide the Library's 10 gbps broadband connection at Migrant Center, parks, and other community locations, with focus on white spot areas identified by local jurisdictions

- Will provide infrastructure for possible future broadband expansion projects
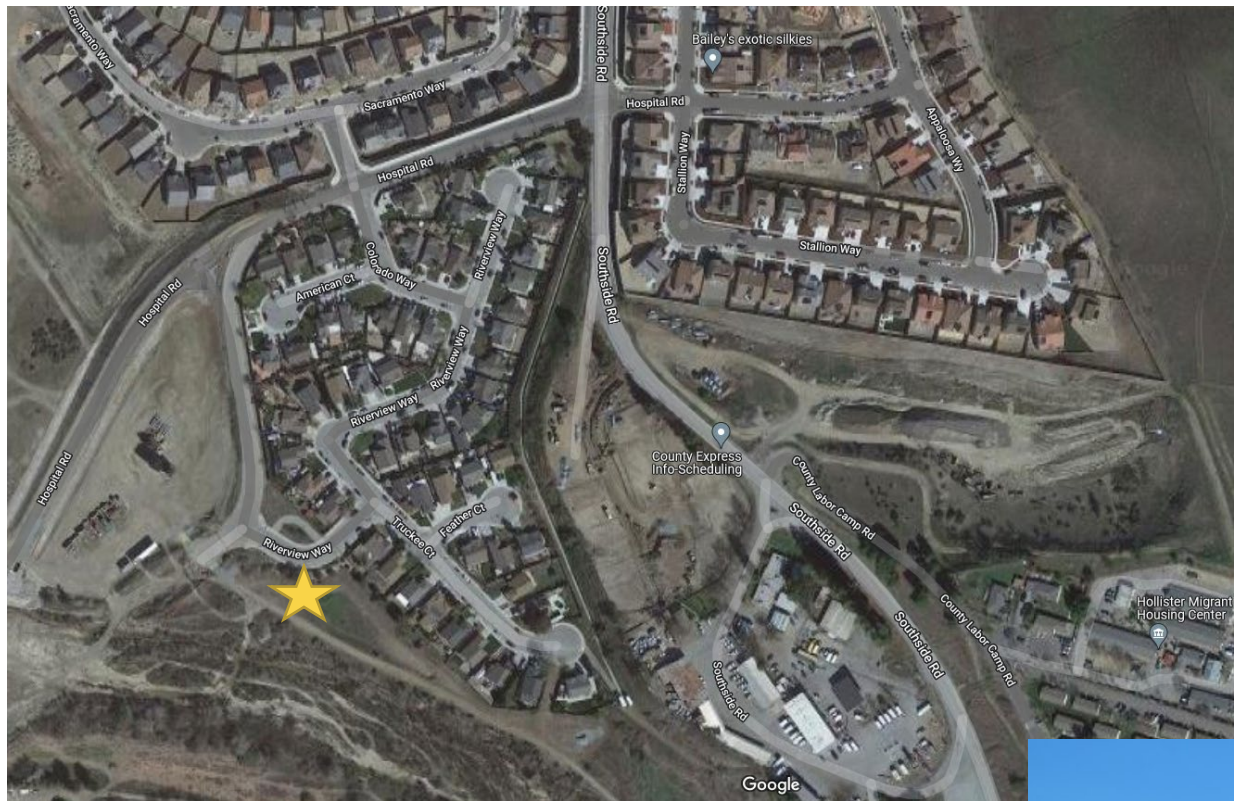
Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS) $500,000 Grant

24-Hour Library Kiosk

- Holds 235 items
- Ability to broadcast WiFi signal to surrounding area
- 24-7 access to contactless checkout and return
- Ideal in case of pandemic or other emergency

INSTITUTE *of*
Museum and **Library**
SERVICES

- Off Hospital Road & Riverview Way

- Approximately 4 miles from Library

- Near Migrant Center, low-income housing and new housing developments

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

- Partnership with California State Library and the California Emerging Technology Fund to promote and provide education about ACP

- Federally funded through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

- Saves qualifying households up to $30 a month on high-speed home internet

- Qualifications: Free or Reduced School Lunch Program, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, WIC, Pell Grant, Household Income of $53,000 or less for a family of 4

CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY

Library Tech Tutorials

- Your First Click for computers, tablets, and smartphones

- Email Basics

- Using Library Databases

- E-Books, Audiobooks, and Streaming Services

- Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Goodreads

- Available at the Library, on the Bookmobile, and via Zoom

Library Literacy & Technology Mobile

- Via California State Library "Bringing the Library to You" grant

- Tech Tutorials & Classes

- Laptop, tablet, and hotspot lending

- Hands-on Science, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) activities

- Broadcast WiFi signal

As technology evolves, the library will also continue to adapt and evolve to empower our community members to access and utilize that technology.

Visit us at sbcfl.org