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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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## Yolo County Library Launches New "Dial-A-Story/Telecuento" Program

(Woodland, CA) – Yolo County Library launches a new service for children called "Dial-A-Story/Telecuento." Stories read from a book can be accessed by calling (530) 298-9990.

Parents, caregivers and children can call any time from landlines or mobile phones. The same story can be accessed on the library's website at: <u>https://yolocountylibrary.org/dial-a-story</u>.

Stories are available in English and Spanish. New stories will be presented every month. Selected stories include classic fairy tales, popular contemporary children's books, and internationally recognized stories. Most story presentations are less than 10 minutes in length.

"It's fun, easy, and empowering for a child to dial a phone number and choose to hear a great story being read to them," says Sharon Tani, Assistant County Librarian. "While COVID-19 constraints continue to affect children and families, our Library team is finding new ways to keep children connected to early learning, use their imaginations, and cultivate a love of stories and language from a young age," she continued. "We provide virtual programs online, but we recognize that there's a need in Yolo County to present quality educational resources for those who may not have reliable internet access or may want a break from homework and screen-time."

Program stories are read by library staff or pre-recorded by the LibraryCall system developed and customized for Yolo County Library by project partner, the Galecia Group, a library technology consulting company in Sonoma County. Library staff are planning to feature local children's book authors who will read and record their own stories as part of the new program.

For more information, visit Yolo County Library at <u>https://yolocountylibrary.org</u> or call (530) 666-8005 for staff assistance.

For more information about library programs and resources, visit any of the Yolo County Library branches or the library webpage at <u>https://yolocountylibrary.org</u>. Individuals can also connect with Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u>.

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