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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Yakima Valley Libraries Still Needs Feedback from Yakima County Residents**

Yakima, Wash. – On April 11, Yakima Valley Libraries (YVL) successfully distributed an intentionally curated survey in Yakima County to check the pulse of the community by capturing challenges and opportunities that exist throughout their service area. To ensure representation across Yakima County, YVL still needs more feedback from community members who live in Sunnyside, Union Gap, Toppenish, Granger, Mabton, and Wapato.

“The initial support and response from the community has been amazing! We want to thank everyone that helped promote the survey and everyone who took the time to take the survey to provide us their feedback,” said Candelaria Mendoza, Executive Director of YVL. YVL has already received over 2,500 survey responses from in the last month.

The survey will remain open until May 31<sup>st</sup> and is available in both English and Spanish, in person at each of the sixteen library locations and online at [www.yvl.org](http://www.yvl.org). The survey is open to residents 18 and over who live in Yakima County/a city currently served by YVL. It asks respondents to rate the importance of quality-of-life influences, such as: cultural diversity, educational opportunities, career programs, social connections, and access to resources. All participants who complete the survey can enter into a drawing for an Apple® iPad.

“The ideas and opinions of our community members are vital to developing our programs and services at Yakima Valley Libraries,” said Mendoza. “We’re asking our community members to offer feedback about their experiences at our locations, what services they enjoy or dislike, and how we can provide more relevant and necessary materials for their learning and growth.”

YVL aims to efficiently use its resources to address the most common wants and needs of those whom it serves – be it education, community integration, leisure, or any other service that one might seek from their hometown library. YVL will study the results in collaboration with its community partners and use the insights to ensure the library district continues providing valuable services to taxpayers and its communities as a whole.

After accessing the survey online, participants will be asked where they live. Users will be allowed to proceed if they live in locations currently served by YVL. YVL operates sixteen libraries from Tieton to Sunnyside and provides library services to all of Yakima County with the exception of the City of Grandview.

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*Yakima Valley Libraries supports lifelong learning and an informed citizenry by providing free, open, and full access to a vast array of ideas and information. Visit [www.yvl.org](http://www.yvl.org) for more information.*