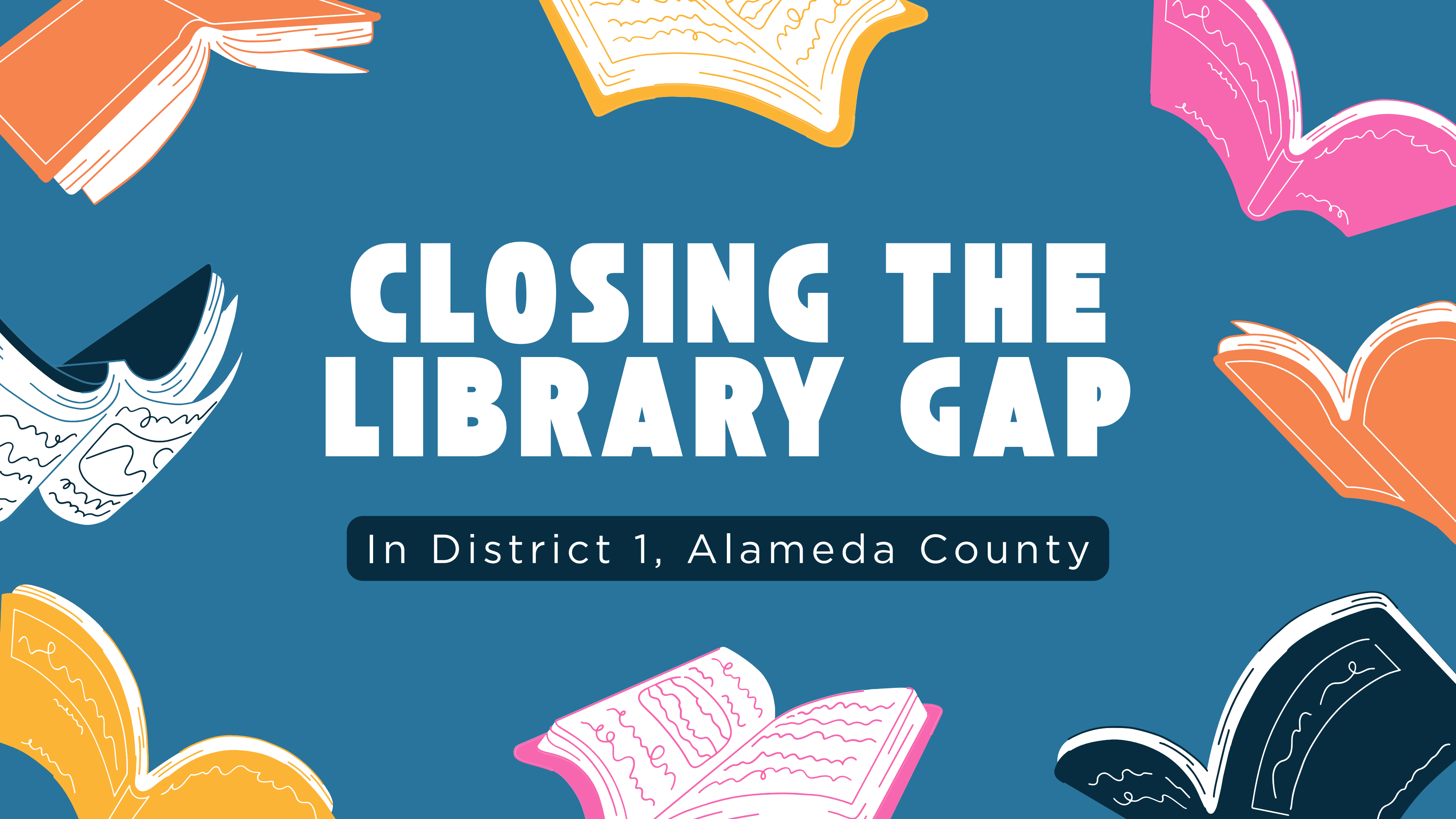




CLOSING THE LIBRARY GAP

In District 1, Alameda County

WHY THIS MATTERS

Libraries have
more than
just books!



- Libraries provide:
 - Free internet, educational programs, ESL classes, and youth services
 - Safe, inclusive spaces for learning and connection
 - Especially critical for:
 - Immigrant families
 - Students and low-income households
- ★ **Key Issue: Many who need these services most are not using them**

LIBRARY BARRIERS:

1. **Limited budget growth** (\$44.9M → \$47.0M)

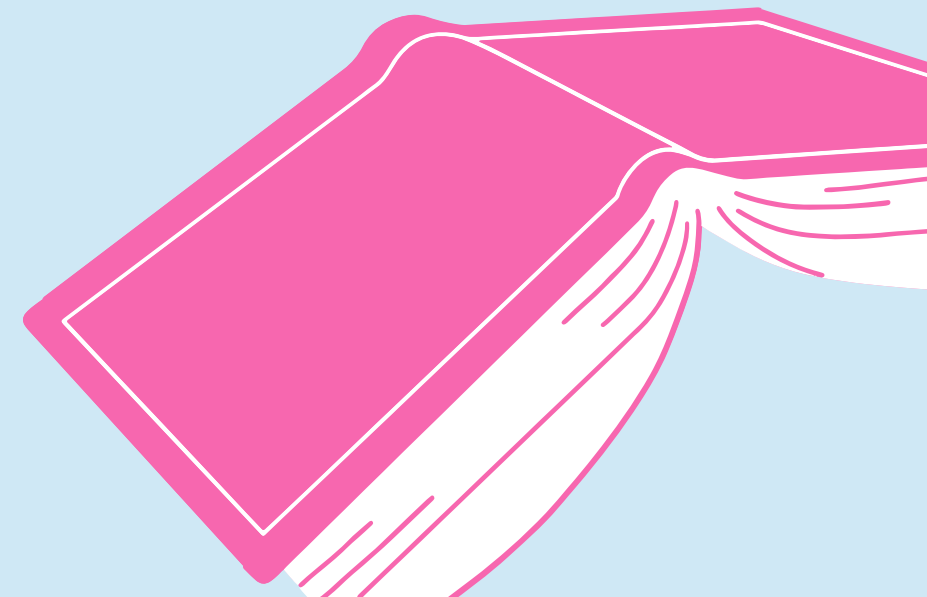
a. Restricts flexibility for new or expanded programs

b. Funding is often fixed:

2. **Hard to add weekend or specialized programs**

3. **Outreach limitations:**

a. Reliance on flyers, email, and limited social media reach



BEYOND JUST “INTERNET AVAILABILITY”



- Fremont broadband access: ~96.8%
- But access $\neq$ usability
- Many families struggle with:
 - Online catalogs and library apps
 - Basic digital skills

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS!

1. Multilingual outreach:

- Translated materials, ads, and signage

• Flexible scheduling:

- Evening and weekend programs

• Youth engagement:

- Social media (Instagram, TikTok) + teen advisory boards

• Community partnerships:

- Promote programs through schools and local organizations



Reallocate, not expand, resources



CONCLUSION

Help bring
library
benefits to all
D1 citizens!



- Libraries are already powerful, but heavily underutilized
- Small changes can create big impact:
 - Better communication
 - More inclusive programming
- ***Community + Libraries = Stronger Access***

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

If you're a *student, parent, or community member*

- Explore your local library
- Share information with others

If you're a *Policymaker or Educator*:

- Support inclusive, accessible library strategies





**THANK YOU
FOR READING!**