



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
San Diego Public Library

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**SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, SANITAS, INC. LAUNCH FREE
DIGITAL HEALTHCARE TOOLS FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY**

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library announces today that it is partnering with Sanitas, Inc., to provide software to visitors of the new Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common to help them learn more about potential health risks and chronic conditions. This software, which is free to those who use it onsite, was exclusively created for the Library and is an integration of Sanitas products, [Wellaho](#)[™] and [Family Healthware](#)[™].

Family Healthware[™] brings powerful, free, Web-based tools to anyone interested in discovering more about how their health history, environment, lifestyle and inherited genetics may influence their health and that of their biological family. *Family Healthware*[™], which was originally developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), employs quick, easy-to-use questionnaires that users fill out to build a comprehensive family health tree. *Family Healthware*[™] does a preliminary assessment of each member's potential risk for six common chronic diseases: coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and colorectal, breast, and ovarian cancer, then generates an overall health profile, health score and private, customized disease prevention plan outlining recommended lifestyle changes and medical screenings that the individual can use when following up with their doctor. *Family Healthware*[™] utilizes standard secure protocols that protect the privacy of each user so that an individual's personal information cannot be accessed or disseminated.

Wellaho[™] is a Web and mobile software system that allows people with chronic conditions, their family and care givers access to a wealth of doctor-approved, easy-to-understand, advertising-free videos and materials about common diseases that include diabetes, obesity, heart failure, kidney disease and breast cancer. *Wellaho*[™] is Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved and was tested and deployed with patients at UC San Diego Health Services.

In announcing the partnership with the San Diego Public Library, Naser Partovi, CEO of Sanitas, Inc. said "We are proud to make our digital software broadly available via the technology provided by the new San Diego Central Library facility. Together we are bringing cutting edge health management tools to San Diego with the hope of improving the overall health and well-being of the citizens of our city."

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“We are so pleased to offer this great new resource to those who visit the San Diego Central Library,” said Library Director, Deborah Barrow. “When Sanitas approached us about partnering on this software, we eagerly embraced the opportunity. One of the top types of information sought by library users is reliable and cutting edge health related information. Having this customized health management tool makes it easy for Library users to access and use this important information that is so important to their health.”

To acquaint Library users with this customized version of *Wellaho*[™] and *Family Healthware*[™], branded for the Library under the single *Family Healthware* name, there will be an introductory training on “Wellness Wednesday,” January 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common in the Wells Fargo Technology Learning Center. The timing of this training coincides with the beginning of the year when so many people make New Year’s resolutions about improving their health. Having access to these resources can give users the extra boost they need to achieve positive and sustainable results.

Family Healthware[™] online resources are incorporated into the Central Library’s new “Health and Wellness Center” on the 2nd floor near the Homework Center. In addition to these online resources are books, videos, and health newsletters available for checkout. There is also a listing of health and wellness programs offered, such as Zumba Gold dance exercise, meditation classes, and video showings on popular health related topics. Many of the programs are co-sponsored and funded by community partners including Kaiser Permanente and CVS Pharmacy.

About Sanitas, Inc.

Sanitas Inc. is a privately held San Diego company founded in 2010. *Wellaho*[™] is the company’s proprietary web and mobile platform serving patients with chronic conditions including: diabetes, congestive heart failure, kidney disease, COPD, asthma, hypertension, breast cancer, sleep disordered breathing, and obesity. Sanitas is actively engaged with UC San Diego Health Services in several clinical studies including diabetes, congestive heart failure and weight management. *Family Healthware*[™] was developed and tested by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and is now owned and operated exclusively by Sanitas, Inc.

About the San Diego Public Library

The San Diego Public Library serves over 1.3 million San Diego residents and operates a Central Library and 35 branches throughout the city of San Diego. It’s mission is to inspire lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other. The new Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, which opened on September 30, 2013, is San Diego’s new civic icon that embodies the city’s commitment to the future. It is the heart of San Diego’s 35-branch library system and serves as a new regional center for learning and literacy. It is already a major destination and gathering place for the community with its small and large meeting spaces, innovative technology, public art throughout the facility, and integration of an onsite charter high school.

For more information about Sanitas, please contact moya@sanitasinc.com. For more information about the San Diego Public Library, please contact mhubbard@sandiego.gov.

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