Capital Region Coalition For Digital Inclusion
Quarterly Meeting Notes
December 9, 2022

Updates and Announcements

Sacramento State Awarded NTIA Grant for the Connecting Minorities Communities Pilot Program
- *Dr. Yvonne Harris, Associate VP of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development at Sacramento State and Coalition Steering Committee member*
    - Grant recently awarded, proposal and changes are to be finalized
    - Funding will create the Sacramento Regional Consortium for Digital Equity consisting of Sacramento State, Sacramento City College, Valley Vision, and CBOs in Lemon Hill such as La Familia, Greater Sacramento Urban League, United Way
    - Sacramento State is lead administrator, involved in project evaluation, recruiting, training, supervising the digital navigator interns, and developing the community engagement lab space
    - Addressing 4 main barriers to digital equity: Access to affordable high speed internet services, access to appropriate hardware devices, lack of proficiency in digital literacy and skills, and lack of willingness for broadband adoption

ByteBack to Introduce a Digital Navigator Program in Sacramento
- *Chrissie Powell, Chief Growth & Impact Officer at Byte Back*
    - Byte Back is a workforce development organization, providing IT training career pathways, but focused on digital literacy skills training
    - The 360 Digital Navigators Program will train Digital Navigators to work directly in the community, with training from Byte Back's Digital Navigator 101 and 102 curriculum
    - Byte Back is currently recruiting a Program Coordinator, job description can be viewed **HERE**.

$2.5 Million to Marina Vista and Alder Grove Communities for Youth-focused Community Investments, $1.4 Million Towards Broadband
- *Julius Austin, Sacramento Promise Zone Manager at Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency*
    - Clarification: $1.4 of $2.5 million was awarded to Marina Vista and Alder Grove Communities, this funding is in response to an accident involving the loss of a young community member in November 2021.

- City Council identified ways to increase security and provide opportunities for youth, $2.5 million comes from Measure U
- $1.4 million to be allocated to broadband infrastructure program, which will scale the School to Home pilot project at Leataata Floyd Elementary School

Coalition Year-in-Review
- [Capital Region Digital Inclusion Portal](#) Launches and continues to expand
- 4 Coalition Meetings
- 2 Digital Navigator Programs Joining the Region
- Capital Region Workforce Boards Adopt NorthStar Digital Literacy as a Literacy Baseline Measurement Tool
- $15,000 in funding from Union Bank to support the coalition and digital inclusion portal
- Grant received from CETF focused on digital equity, including ACP expansion

ACP Overview
- Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a Federal Communication Commission benefit program that ensures households can afford the broadband needed for work, school, healthcare and more
- Providing a $30 monthly internet service discount, $75 for tribal households, along with a one time $100 discount on a eligible device
- Eligibility based on several qualifications, including household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, and/or enrollment in programs such as Pell Grant, National School Lunch/National School Breakfast Programs, SNAP, WIC, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Medicaid, Tribal Head Start, Tribal TANF, and more

ACP in the Capital Region
- Capital Region Counties (El Dorado, Placer, Sutter Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba) averaging enrollment growth of 1% from July to October
- The Capital Region enrollment average is 24%, lowering than the state enrollment average of 29%
- With 291,575 unenrolled households, the region is leaving behind an estimate of $8.75 million monthly in funding

ACP Leaders in California
- **Kurt Peluso, EveryoneOn** - Senior Director of Programs & Partnerships
  - EveryoneOn is a non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, focused on connecting families and underserved communities to affordable internet services and digital skills training

- Able to provide assistance through several tools: National Offer Locator Tool, Enrollment Assistance Hotline, Digital Skills Academy, Internet Enrollment and Computer Donation events
- Program provides materials for self-guided learning, internet enrollment assistance, one-on-one support with instructor, loaner devices, and more
- **Debbie Shireman, California Emerging Technology Fund** - Digital Inclusion Program Director
  - [ACP Enrollment Data](#)
  - [GIS Mapping Tool for ACP Enrollment Data](#)
  - Data consists of both county and zip code level enrollment; zip code only includes households eligible by the income threshold, while county collects eligible households by all eligibility categories
  - Autoverification is available for households enrolling in ACP through Medical, HUD, or Veterans Pension. Name, address, and social security name must match.
- **Claudia Corona, Human-I-T** - Community Partnership Associate
  - Human-I-T is a social enterprise that creates equitable access to opportunity by addressing the full spectrum of the digital divide, including devices, internet connectivity, digital literacy, and tech support
  - Provide internet connectivity support through English and Spanish customer support, unbiased guidance, assessment of available internet providers, step-by-step support, and more
  - Provides digital equipment which qualify under ACP, options such as a desktop. Laptop, tablet, or hotspot
  - Provides a Digital Literacy online course which is self-paced, available to you 24/7, and available in both Spanish and English.

Next Quarterly Meeting

- March 10, 2023 from 11:00AM-12:30PM PST
  - [Meeting Registration](#)