



Capital Region Coalition For Digital Inclusion

Quarterly Meeting Notes

June 23, 2023

Broadband for All and Digital Equity Planning Process Update

- *Scott Adams & Shawn Daugherty, California Department of Technology (CDT)*
 - CDT and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) are coordinating efforts
 - CDT administers the State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) process
 - CPUC administers the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program
 - SDEP and BEAD require prioritizing eight covered populations: Individuals living in covered households with an income at or below the 150% Federal Poverty Level, aging individuals (60+), incarcerated individuals, veterans, individuals with disabilities, individuals with language barriers, members of a racial or ethnic minority group, and individuals who primarily reside in a rural area,
 - Two additional covered population have been identified in BEAD's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Women and those who identify as female; LGBTQI+
 - SDEP process consists of: statewide planning group (SPG) meetings, outcome area working group meetings (OAWG), California Digital Equity Survey, Regional Planning Workshop, Statewide Public Engagement
 - [Upcoming SPG meeting](#): Wednesday, July 26, 2023 12-2pm
 - OAWG focus on digital equity across six groups: Education, Healthcare, Digital Inclusion, Economic and Workforce Development, Civic Engagement and Essential Services, and Tribal groups
 - CDT and CPUC have convened 17 Regional Planning Workshops, view the recommended strategies from the [Greater Sacramento Planning Workshop](#).

- The [California Digital Equity Survey](#) is available in 14 languages, mobile-friendly, ~10-15 minutes, & closes June 30th. The survey has received over 15,000 responses
- Q&A
 - Data of broadband speeds from the California Digital Equity Survey is collected at zip-code level
 - The California Digital Equity Survey results data will be provided, as well as summarized and aggregated as part of the State's Digital Equity Plan
 - Call to Action: Participate in the [Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping \(DEEM\) Tool](#)

Federal BEAD Process

- *Marina MacLatchie, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)*
 - Funding is managed by CDT and CPUC
 - CPUC manages the California Advanced Services Funds (CASF) and will be managing BEAD funding
 - CDT manages SDEP funding, Middle-Mile Broadband funding, as well as funding related to SB156 and the Investment, Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA)
 - BEAD is \$42.5 Billion federal funding program to support broadband infrastructure planning and implementation
 - States will receive BEAD funding from NTIA; states are responsible for administering funding through grants
 - States must submit a 5-year digital equity plan and initial proposal to qualify for BEAD funding, due at the end of 2023
 - The [FCC Broadband Map](#) will determine BEAD funding allocation across states
 - BEAD Challenge Process: states are in charge of leading a 90-day challenge process for stakeholders to determine locations as underserved, unserved, or served.

- The challenge process will determine locations and community anchor institutions within jurisdictions that are eligible for BEAD funding.
 - States must submit results of the challenge process to the NTIA.
- Q&A
 - California's role in selecting sub-grantees and administering BEAD funds is determined to occur in 2024

Digital Navigator Programs, Regional Digital Inclusion Efforts

- *Kevin Flash, Capital Region Coalition for Digital Inclusion Steering Committee*
 - CALE - Capacity for Adoption Leading to Equity
 - We have a variety of new regional digital navigator programs - including Byte Back, and the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program through Sacramento State.
 - Digital navigators will play a key role in adoption in the region, as well as within regional and state investments.
 - Navigators must be from trusted communities, with knowledge of affordable resources for internet service, devices, digital skills and more.
 - There is a regional need for digital inclusion events:
 - Valley Vision, Computers 4 Kids, Byte Back, and the City of West Sacramento are planning an upcoming ACP enrollment event.

Local Digital Equity Initiatives

- *Julius Austin, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), Sacramento Promise Zone*
 - [School2Home Program: Leataata Floyd Elementary School](#)
 - Survey results from the School2Home pilot program: 90% believe the program to be solution which made it easy to gain wifi, 85% reported the program made daily work and live easier, 93% would recommend to the program others in their

community, 87% reported the program as better than household connectivity options

- Communities hardest hit deserve the opportunity to achieve digital equity and inclusion; supporting efforts will require time, commitment, funding, and resources

Next Quarterly Meeting

- September 29th, 2023 from 11:00-12:30 P.M. PST
 - [Meeting Registration](#)