

# Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion

## ACTION PLAN 2021

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APRIL 2021

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 NDIA  
NATIONAL DIGITAL INCLUSION ALLIANCE



# ABOUT THE SACRAMENTO COALITION FOR DIGITAL INCLUSION



The Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion (SCDI) was formed in 2019 to address widespread challenges in broadband access, adoption and digital literacy in the Greater Sacramento region, and to create more opportunities for digital equity, especially as a foundation for inclusive economic development embedded in the region's 2020 Greater Sacramento Prosperity Strategy. This mission became even more critical with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, with the region's existing Digital Divide becoming a Digital Cliff for thousands of residents.

This document presents the **SCDI Action Plan 2021**, the roadmap to advance the SCDI's goals in three core areas: broadband access and adoption, hardware devices, and digital literacy and skills. The SCDI is managed by Valley Vision, a regional nonprofit civic leadership organization which also manages the Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium, funded by the California Public Utilities Commission to connect the region's unserved households with high-speed broadband infrastructure. The SCDI is led by a Steering Committee of representatives from the city of Sacramento and Sacramento Public Library, as founding SCDI members, and the Capital Region Workforce Boards, California State University Sacramento, Los Rios Community College District, and Clear Strategies. Since the fall of 2020, 100 community leaders and stakeholders have participated in the SCDI (see Appendix A). All have contributed to the development of this Action Plan.

The SCDI is supported through the generous contributions of the Morgan Family Foundation and Union Bank, along with new funding support from the region's four Workforce Development Boards: Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, North Central Counties Consortium, Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA), and Yolo County Workforce Innovation Board.

## Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion Steering Committee Members

- ▶ Aubree Taylor, Innovation Program Technician, Office of Innovation and Economic Development, City of Sacramento
- ▶ Karina Talamantes, Chief of Staff, Office of Councilmember Angelique Ashby, City of Sacramento; Vice-Chair, Sacramento County Board of Education Trustees
- ▶ Jarrid Keller, Deputy Director, Sacramento Public Library
- ▶ Tamara Armstrong, Associate Vice Chancellor, Chief Information Officer; Digital Equity Task Force, Los Rios Community College District
- ▶ Kevin Flash, Dean, Learning Resource Center, Sacramento City College
- ▶ Dr. Yvonne Harris, Associate Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development, California State University at Sacramento
- ▶ Roy Kim, Deputy Director of Workforce Development, Sacramento Employment and Training Agency and Sacramento Works, Inc.
- ▶ Coleen Morehead, EdD, Founder, Clear Strategies LLC

## Valley Vision Team

- ▶ Trish Kelly, Managing Director, Valley Vision
- ▶ Renee John, Project Leader, 21st Century Workforce, Valley Vision
- ▶ Dr. David Espinoza, Project Leader, Innovation and Infrastructure, Valley Vision
- ▶ Jesse Flores, Project Associate, Valley Vision
- ▶ Caitlin Blockus, Project Associate, Valley Vision



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



I.	INTRODUCTION .....	4
II.	ACTION PLAN 2021 OVERVIEW .....	6
	Vision, Mission, and Goals .....	7
	Broadband Access and Adoption Mapping .....	8
III.	WORK GROUP WORK PLANS.....	11
	Broadband Access and Adoption.....	11
	Hardware Devices.....	14
	Digital Literacy & Digital Skills.....	16
IV.	SCDI MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE .....	18
	Appendix A: Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion Participants .....	19
	Appendix B: Digital Literacy and Skills Resources/Additional Resources .....	24
	Appendix C: Digital Equity Bill of Rights.....	26





# I. INTRODUCTION



“Broadband is essential to modern life. It is an engine of economic possibility, educational opportunity, civic engagement, and access to health care. People and communities that lack broadband and the means to use it are falling behind.” *Broadband Action Plan 2020, California Broadband for All, California Broadband Council, December 2020*



The **Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion (SCDI)** had its foundation in discussions which began in 2018, in a call to action inspired by a Brookings Institution economic assessment commissioned by civic leaders in the Sacramento Capital region. This report, *Charting a Course to the Sacramento Region's Future Economic Prosperity* (April 2018), identified the vital importance of a digitally skilled workforce for the future of the region's economy, and noted a major digital equity and skills gap, especially for the region's majority minority population of youth.

A series of community discussions was organized around the mission of achieving digital equity, with the Sacramento Public Library hosting the Sacramento Digital Inclusion Summit in January 2019. This led to the creation of the Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion, with more than 40 organizations, guided by a Steering Committee of community partners, focused on Sacramento City and Sacramento County. During 2019, the Coalition built collaborative relationships, conducted needs assessments including through community engagement, and produced a Preliminary Report in September 2019 which recommended a set of actions to increase digital literacy and skills, access to hardware (i.e., computers and devices), and access to affordable Internet services, as well as to build SCDI organizational infrastructure and capacity. The City of Sacramento passed a resolution in October 2019 to launch National Digital Inclusion Week.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, the work of the Coalition became even more timely. Due to the disruptive, immediate impacts of the pandemic, the focus of efforts shifted, especially to address the critical needs of students - at all levels - and families pivoting to distance learning and remote work. The need for a sustainable funding mechanism and organizational capacity to drive the mission of equitable connectivity and recovery required an urgent solution.

After participating in efforts by the city of Sacramento including several councilmembers and Sacramento City Unified School District to address the needs of vulnerable populations, especially children, in the Spring of 2020, Valley Vision reconvened the SCDI in June of 2020. Members began meeting on a monthly basis in September to share information on needs and resources, identify priorities, and develop strategies for implementation in 2021.

These strategies build upon the digital inclusion efforts that were catalyzed by the K-12 schools districts, higher education, Library and city of Sacramento's investment of CARES funding in Internet access and adoption and digital skills programs in 2020, including through community-based organizations such as United Way California Capital Region, Greater Sacramento Urban League, Greater Sacramento Economic Council, Hacker Lab, Square Root Academy, Cyber Proud and others. The city of Sacramento also piloted an innovative mobile WiFi



program with Regional Transit and Sacramento City Unified School District to reach underserved neighborhoods, and provides free WiFi in several parks through a partnership with Verizon.

In late 2020, SCDI participants representing a diverse range of organizations and interests organized into three work groups to identify priorities and implementation activities for an SCDI Action Plan for 2021 – **Broadband Access and Adoption, Hardware Devices and Digital Literacy/Skills**. SCDI's efforts are providing the collaboration, coordination and advocacy needed to align and maximize the effectiveness of the 2020 CARES funding and education funding and position the region for additional strategic investments from forthcoming federal, state and local sources and initiatives. More than 100 community leaders and stakeholders have participated in SCDI to date and will have an active role in the implementation of the **Action Plan 2021**.

Union Bank and the Morgan Family Foundation provide core funding support for SCDI. In April 2021, the region's four workforce development boards - Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, North Central

Counties Consortium, Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA), and Yolo County Workforce Innovation Board provided a major investment in the SCDI, including to expand the work of the Coalition across the region.

The following sections of the **SCDI Action Plan 2021** present the goals, objectives and activities developed by the three working groups, and the overall SCDI management activities to be conducted by Valley Vision.





## II. SCDI ACTION PLAN 2021 OVERVIEW



“Digital Inclusion refers to the activities necessary to ensure that all individuals and communities, including the most disadvantaged, have access to and use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). This includes five elements: 1) affordable, robust broadband Internet service; 2) Internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the users; 3) access to digital literacy training; 4) quality technical support; and 5) applications and online content designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation and collaboration. Digital inclusion must evolve as technology advances. Digital inclusion requires intentional strategies and investments to reduce and eliminate historical, institutional and structural barriers to access and use technology.” National Digital Inclusion Alliance, January 25, 2021



This section of the **Action Plan** presents the recommended areas of focus for the SCDI in 2021, listing goals, objectives, activities, potential implementation parties, timelines and deliverables for Broadband Access and Adoption, Devices and Digital Literacy and Skills. SCDI Participants heard about and contributed updates and information over the fall of 2020 regarding priorities, policy issues and resources that could be addressed through a more organized effort in 2021. The three Work Groups met several times over the course of late 2020 and early 2021, in addition to monthly SCDI meetings, to develop work plans for each of the three priority areas. The work plans build upon the efforts underway by various partners, and address both the immediate challenges presented by the pandemic and longer-term systemic issues.

Valley Vision also outlines activities to manage and deepen the infrastructure and capabilities of the SCDI, including:

- Engaging in policy issues
- Identifying and leveraging resources to support the work of SCDI and its members
- Catalyzing leadership on behalf of community priorities
- Providing a cohesive voice for regional needs
- Identifying and promoting best practices

This work will include providing up to date information on new state and federal policy initiatives and learning about promising innovations and practices across the country. The SCDI became a member of the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) to support this mission. The NDIA has been a valuable resource along with statewide partners such as the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) and California Forward.



This Action Plan is a living document that will be updated throughout the year as conditions evolve, new opportunities are presented, new members or partnerships are developed, and additional resources generated that could increase the Coalition's capacity. The SCDI will meet monthly throughout the year with additional Work Group meetings as needed to advance their scopes of work. SCDI activities will contribute to the goals of the Greater Sacramento Prosperity Strategy, which prioritizes digital equity and inclusion, digital skills and broadband infrastructure as critical elements for advancing regional inclusive economic development, along with the city of Sacramento's Scale Up Strategy. SCDI meeting notes and resource materials are available at <https://digitalinclusionsac.org/>.

## SCDI Vision and Mission

The Action Plan 2021 is guided by the Vision and Mission for the SCDI:

### Vision

Every resident and household in the Greater Sacramento Region has access to the Internet, the equipment needed to use it, and the skills necessary to utilize it.

### Mission

To facilitate collaboration among organizations and initiatives working to bridge the Digital Divide in order to maximize the resources for the greatest impact.

## Goals

The goals of the three areas of Action Plan focus are as follows:

Work Group	Goal
Broadband Access and Adoption	Support and promote access and adoption to high-speed and high-quality broadband Internet services in the Greater Sacramento Region
Hardware Devices	Ensure a suitable device for each individual by 2025
Digital Literacy and Skills	Develop standards to grow our regional digital literacy and align to our workforce needs





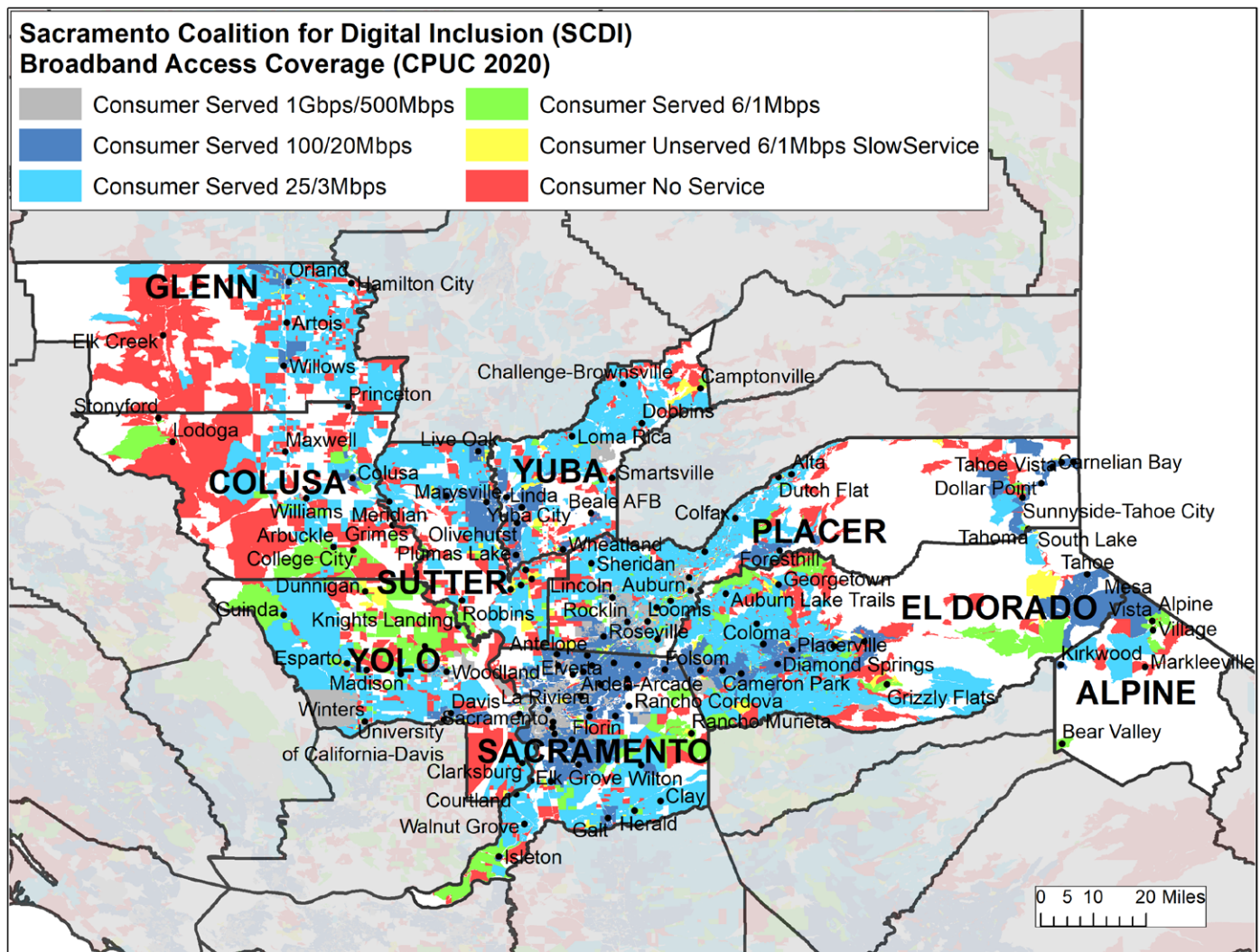
## Access and Adoption Maps

As background for the development of the **Action Plan**, Valley Vision prepared the following maps which will enable activities to focus on priority areas of need. The maps cover the nine counties served by the Workforce Development Boards. Broadband access and adoption maps are available at census block and tract level, respectively.

Map 1 shows broadband access coverage at the census block level at different speed standards for the region based on broadband availability data from the

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC): California (AB 1665) standard of 6/1 Mbps, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)’s standard of 25/3 Mbps, California Action plan standard of 100 Mbps, and the FCC Gigabit definition of 1 Gbps/500 Mbps. Service of at least 25 Mbps (Megabits per second) download and 3 Mbps upload is considered the minimum level to handle several users of the Internet at home, as shown during the pandemic. Large areas across the region do not have adequate coverage and when the maps are seen at a more granular level the needs are even greater.

**Map 1. Broadband Access at Different Levels of Service (California 6/1 Mbps, FCC 25/3 Mbps, CA Action Plan 100 Mbps, and FCC Gigabit).**



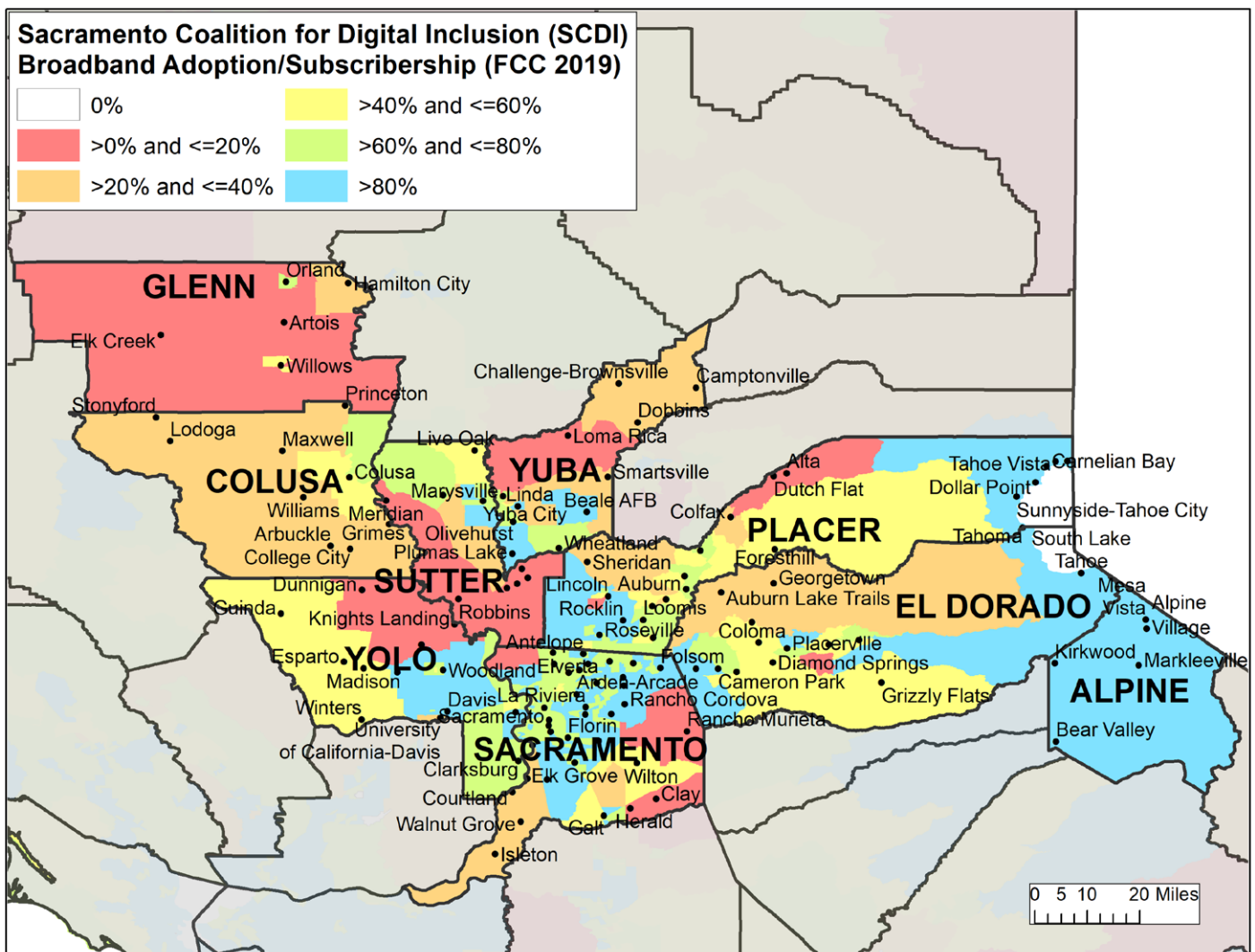


Map 2 shows the level of broadband adoption (at 20 percent intervals) at the census tract level throughout the region by the percentage of consumer fixed broadband access connections over the total number of households offered broadband internet access service. According to the newly released Statewide Survey of Broadband Adoption, conducted by the California Emerging Technology Fund and the University of Southern California, more than 90% of the state's households have high-speed Internet connectivity at home through either a computing device or a smartphone (March 30, 2021). However, the

survey showed that the many groups have inequitable access to the Internet, including low-income households, low-income Latinos, those without a high-school diploma, and seniors and people with disabilities - all on the wrong side of the Digital Divide.

Map 2 shows the large areas across the region that have subscription levels of less than 80%; this condition is pervasive in both rural and urban areas. Lack of affordability and low levels of awareness about available discount Internet service offers are two main barriers to Internet access although there are others as well.

**Map 2. Percentages of Adoption/Subscribership to the Internet**

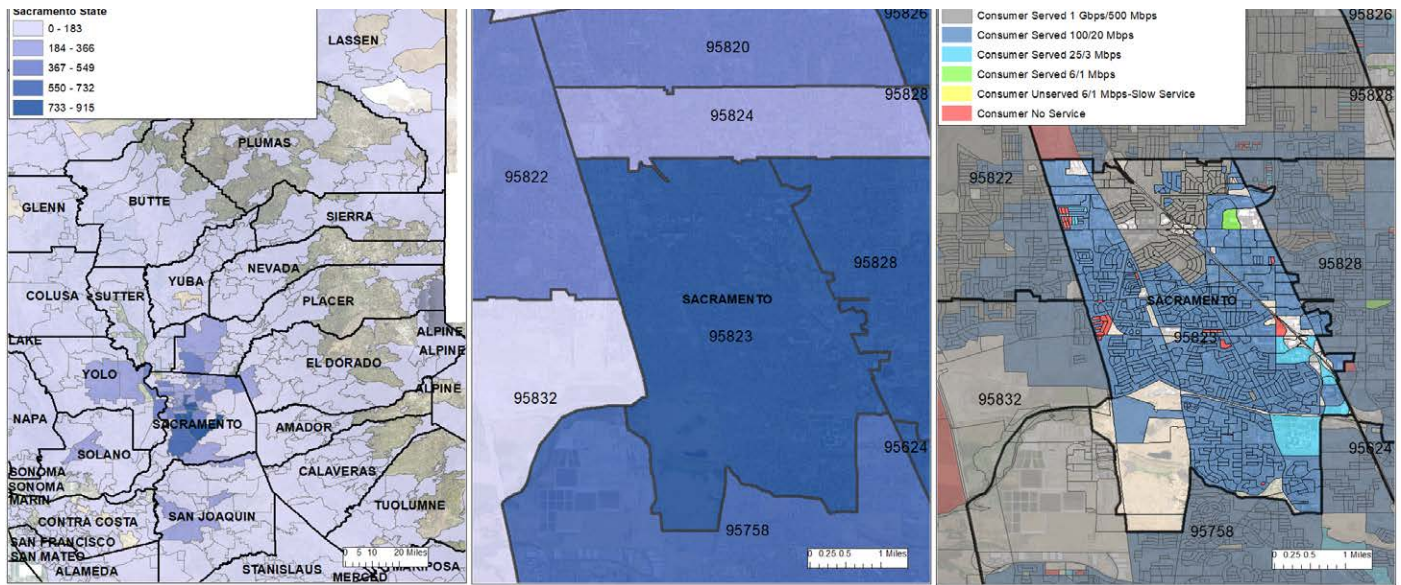




Valley Vision conducted research with California State University Sacramento in partnership with Los Rios Community College District, Sierra College, and the University of California at Davis to identify digital inclusion needs for higher education students. The data for the residence of the students was overlaid with zip code data to identify areas of residence with lower levels of broadband access and adoption. CSU Sacramento and the Community Colleges have identified that thousands of students lacked

access to devices and affordable Internet service when the pandemic forced the closure of campuses, and have been working proactively to support these students with affordable access, WiFi hotspots and devices. The Broadband Access and Adoption Work Group will be continuing to work on identifying and quantifying student residence areas with lower levels of connectivity, in order to bring these findings to decision makers and broadband stakeholders to propose solutions.

**Maps 3, 4, 5 – Number of Higher Education Students per Zip Code for CSU, Sacramento and Broadband Access Levels in Area with Highest Student Density.**





### III. WORK GROUP WORK PLANS



#### Broadband Access and Adoption

**Goal:** Support and promote access to and adoption of high-speed and high-quality broadband Internet services in the Greater Sacramento Region,

“Among households earning less than \$40,000 a year, 28% have no connection or only have access through a smartphone. Earlier gains in broadband adoption have plateaued, likely because as other research has shown poor Californians are disproportionately experiencing negative impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including job loss.” Statewide Survey on Broadband Adoption, California Emerging Technology Fund and University of Southern California, March 2021.



#### Broadband Access Objectives

**Objective 1:** *Identify main challenges and barriers to broadband service access/availability in the Greater Sacramento Region*

- **Activity 1.1:** Identify, connect, and gather input from broadband stakeholders who work with or represent groups and communities impacted by the Digital Divide and do not have access to high-speed and high-quality broadband services.
- **Activity 1.2:** Identify data sources, information and methodologies (i.e., reports, surveys, GIS data, CalSPEED tests, among others) that can help to assess and quantify access needs, challenges and barriers in the Region including:
  - 1) geographical locations of unserved areas,
  - 2) estimated population/households, and 3) existing broadband infrastructure and services.Provide support to California State University at Sacramento which is coordinating a group of higher education institutions partners to identify underserved students and collaborate to advocate on their behalf with Internet providers; understand how digital access impacts degree attainment; and help give students a voice and incorporate strategies into the California Broadband Action Plan on student digital inclusion – the Digital Inclusion for Students In Higher Education (DISHE) Initiative.
- **Activity 1.3:** Develop a report and identify venues and forums to share information/education on broadband access gap findings, and carry out advocacy activities, including proposing and submitting comments on policies and legislation to Federal, State, and Local governments. The report will be made available on the SCDI website including online maps.
- **Activity 1.4:** Develop a two-year prioritized plan.
  - o **Participant Parties:** Work Group.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:** Comprehensive report on Objective 1 findings, and number of identified unserved and underserved geographical areas/population/households.
  - o **Timeline:** January – May 2021



**Objective 2:** *Assess, identify, connect and apply to existing programs, information, and funding resources to reduce the access/availability gap*

- **Activity 2.1:** Identify existing programs, approaches, information and funding resources that can be pursued to address the broadband access gap.
- **Activity 2.2:** Propose potential solutions and/or apply to projects to reduce the broadband access gap in the Region.
- **Activity 2.3:** Support SCDI members and/or partners with information and/or funding resources to implement solutions to address the broadband access gap.
  - o **Participant Parties:** Work Group.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:** Project, program or solution proposals and/or implementation to address access needs, and number of them proposed and/or implemented. Including supporting existing projects and programs.
  - o **Timeline:** June – December 2021



## Broadband Adoption Objectives

**Objective 3:** *Identify main challenges and barriers to broadband service adoption/subscribership (for low cost/affordable Internet programs) in the Greater Sacramento Region*

- **Activity 3.1:** Identify, connect, and gather input from broadband stakeholders which work with or represent groups and communities impacted by the Digital Divide and do not have connection with or subscribe to high-speed and high-quality broadband services.
- **Activity 3.2:** Identify data sources, approaches, and information (i.e., reports, surveys, GIS data, among others) that can help to assess and quantify adoption/subscribership needs, challenges and barriers in the region including: 1) geographical locations of areas with low connectivity rates, 2) estimated population/households, and 3) existing no-cost, low-cost or affordable Internet service programs/plans.
- **Activity 3.3:** Develop a report and identify venues and forums to share information/education on broadband adoption/subscribership gap findings, and carry out advocacy activities, including proposing and submitting comments on policies and legislation to Federal, State, and Local governments. The report will be made available on the SCDI website including online maps.
  - o **Participant Parties:** Work Group.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:** Report on Objective 3 findings, and number identified geographical areas/population/households lacking or with low internet connectivity rates.
  - o **Timeline:** January – May 2021

**Objective 4:** *Assess, identify, connect and apply to existing programs, information, and funding resources to reduce the adoption/subscribership gap*

- **Activity 4.1:** Identify existing programs, methodologies, and information and funding resources that can be pursued to address the broadband adoption gap.
- **Activity 4.2:** Identify and propose potential solutions and/or projects to reduce the broadband adoption/subscribership gap in the Greater Sacramento Region.
- **Activity 4.3:** Support SCDI members and/or to apply to partners with information and/or funding resources to implement solutions for the broadband adoption gap.
  - o **Participant Parties:** Work Group.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:** Project, program or solution proposals and/or implementation to address adoption needs, and number of them proposed and/or implemented. Including supporting existing projects and programs.
  - o **Timeline:** June – December 2021

**Potential Resources:** The California Capital Region United Way has prepared an analysis of resident survey findings on barriers to subscribership; COVID Relief Package funding including subsidies for Internet subscriptions and equipment for up to \$50/month - the Emergency Broadband Benefit program administered by the FCC, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 which created the Emergency Connectivity Fund, to reimburse schools and libraries for providing free broadband service and connected devices to students and library patrons at their homes, through the FCC's E-Rate program. The California Broadband Action Plan, the CA Dept. of Technology, CETF, the PUC, and CA Department of Education are tasked to work with providers on affordable offers, including to extend the offers.



## Hardware Devices

**Goal: Ensure a suitable device for each individual by 2025.**

“As we focus on creating digital equity, we must look at not only what is available and affordable, but also how Californians access the Internet. In 2019, only 82% of households had a desktop or laptop at home. For those not yet connected to the Internet, a device can be a barrier. ...Households that access the Internet through a smartphone only are unable to fully participate in modern digital life.” Broadband Action Plan 2020, California Broadband for All, California Broadband Council, December 2020, p. 17.



### Hardware Devices Objectives

**Objective 1:** *Establish Relationships - Establish relationships in the Greater Sacramento for Digital Inclusion regarding device access*

- **Activity 1.1:** Define the region the SCDI covers.
- **Activity 1.2:** Identify Anchor Institutions, by category, that serve individuals with digital support (i.e, Educational institutions, public institutions, community-based organizations).
- **Activity 1.3:** Define the role and responsibilities of the Digital Inclusion Liaisons.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:**
    - One page sheet that lists digital liaisons, how they support the effort, and their time commitment
  - o **Timeline:** 1/1/21 – 1/31/21

**Objective 2:** *Quantify Device Need and Specify Types of Devices - Identify the quantity and quality of devices needed by the community covered by the Coalition*

- **Activity 2.1:** Identify community sectors.
- **Activity 2.2:** Identify data gathering organization for each community sector.
- **Activity 2.3:** Identify the type of data that needs to be collected (i.e. family size, intended usage for device).
- **Activity 2.4:** Centralize and collect data.
- **Activity 2.5:** Identify Preferred Devices, Acceptable Devices, Non-Desired Devices.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:**

Document quantifying how many individuals served in each group type (K-12, higher education, working, seniors) and listing organizations and their respective sectors. Compiled data based on four group types (K-12, higher education, workers, seniors) and data map that clearly identifies quantitative and qualitative needs. Profiles to help with sorting out what devices we receive as donations/purchases are preferred, acceptable, and desired. Survey detailing what kind of devices students prefer. Glossary of terms to clarify language.
  - o **Timeline:** 2/1/21 - 5/31/21



**Objective 3:** *Identify funding sources*

- **Activity 3.1:** Describe infrastructure & operational funding needs.
- **Activity 3.2:** Identify grant funding opportunities for device refurbishing and new devices.
- **Activity 3.3:** Identify and outreach to funding partners.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:**  
Document explaining COVID-19 related funding and greater demand for refurbishment due to COVID-19. Grant applications or partnerships to help Computers 4 Kids expand capacity, and list of other funding sources regarding geographic reach of refurbishment services.
  - o **Timeline:** 3/1/21 – 6/31/21

**Objective 4:** *Identify suppliers and refurbishers of used devices*

- **Activity 5.1:** For supply, identify and conduct outreach to Government (e.g., Federal, State, local) and private industry sources.
- **Activity 5.2:** For refurbishment, assess local and State refurbishers and capacity and identify cost and factors for refurbishing.
- **Activity 5.5:** Develop process for donating and refurbishing, and Receipt Procedures.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:**  
Matrix and document explaining how different departments recycle their devices and identifying opportunities for centralized efforts. Matrix of institutions that donate used computers. Map detailing refurbishers and their geographic coverage. Document detailing general parameters for accepted devices and accounting for the diverse needs of community members who receive our devices.
  - o **Timeline:** 1/1/21 – 4/31/21

**Objective 5:** *Develop distribution network*

- **Activity 5.1:** Develop definition of who receives devices (eligibility to participate).

- **Activity 5.2:** Define prioritized populations, methods for distribution and distribution partners.
- **Activity 5.3:** Identify communication strategies and community resources of devices (Libraries, etc.)
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:**  
Document detailing how to offer short orientations for individuals who are taking devices home. Urban and rural outreach and distribution strategy. Partnerships for greater storage of donated devices (i.e, staging areas before devices reach refurbisher) and accessible distribution locations. Outreach strategy for higher education and K-12 device users. Strategy for devices that get dropped off/picked up at libraries
  - o **Timeline:** 4/1/21 – 6/31/21

**Objective 6:** *Develop five year plan*

- **Activity 6.1:** Identify community resources currently available to meet needs.
- **Activity 6.2:** Strategically plan for expansion of existing resources to meet the goal of a suitable device for each individual by 2025.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metric:** Near-term strategy addressing device users in higher education, then those in K-12, worker, and senior categories.
  - o **Timeline:** 7/1/21 – 10/31/21

**Participant Parties**

- Valley Vision, Los Rios Community College District, California State University Sacramento, Computers4Kids

**Potential Resources:** California Broadband Action Plan to identify resources and strategies; new forthcoming federal and state programs including the federal Emergency Broadband Benefit Program and the Emergency Connectivity Fund, and programs with Internet Service Providers on affordable offers and equipment.



## Digital Literacy and Skills

**Overall Goal:** Develop standards to grow our regional digital literacy and align to our workforce needs.

**2021 Goal:** Build awareness of and support for standards and professional learning opportunities for educators.

“Digital Literacy, or the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create and communicate information, is an increasingly critical skill in a changing economy.” “Digital Fluency for a Resilient Economy,” National Skills Coalition, April 21, 2020



### Digital Literacy & Skills Objectives

**Objective 1:** *Research, determine, and advocate for K-12 digital literacy standards for the Greater Sacramento region.*

- **Activity 1.1:** Research ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) and other standards to develop a definition of a standard for potential adoption in our region.
- **Activity 1.2:** Develop recommendations for student competencies and identify grade specific examples; identify which education stakeholders have or are in the process of developing K-12 digital standards relevant to the definition developed in Activity 1.1.
- **Activity 1.3:** Present research and findings to digital literacy champions, including local stakeholders; representatives of CDE who are developing standards and members of the Education Technology Committee; Board of Education members, legislative and policy advocates in universities, associations and jurisdictions.
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metrics:** Report/paper with recommendations
  - o **Timeline:** January to June 30, 2021

**Objective 2:** *Amplify and incentivize professional learning opportunities for educators.*

- **Activity 2.1:** Research credentialing, certification, and professional learning opportunities.
- **Activity 2.2:** Research opportunities to incentivize credentialing, certification, and professional learning opportunities.
- **Activity 2.3:** Develop support resources for educators including a regional community of practice focused on digital literacy
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metrics:** Report/paper with standard recommendation and validation.
  - o **Timeline:** September 30, 2021





**Objective 3:** Adopt digital literacy/skills standards for adult learners that meet the needs of the Region's diverse population

- **Activity 3.1:** Establish common definitions
- **Activity 3.2:** Explore promoting NorthStar Digital Literacy as a pre and post assessment tool uniformly used throughout the region.
- **Activity 3.3:** Inventory and investigate frameworks for learning including Skill Rise, Digital Skills for Diverse Users, NorthStar Digital Literacy and others, make recommendation
- **Activity 3.4:** Work with Capital Region Workforce Boards (SETA, Golden Sierra, Yolo County, and North Central Counties Consortium), libraries, community-based organizations, adult education programs and other key stakeholders to validate and adopt the recommendations
- **Activity 3.5:** Develop stair step matrix of standards progression aligned to workforce needs
  - o **Deliverable and Performance Metrics:**  
Report/paper with standard recommendation and validation
  - o **Timeline:** December 30, 2021

**Participant Parties:** With two areas of focus – K-12 and Adult Ed – various SCDI members have indicated interest to work on specific activities.

**Potential Resources:** Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) received a new \$750,000 grant from the CA Dept. of Education for a distance learning curriculum and instructional guidance project, to develop a draft distance learning curriculum and instructional guidance for math, English language arts, and English language development, to be adopted by the State Board of Education by May 31st, 2021.<sup>1</sup>

Additional resources are contained in Appendix B. Appendix C includes the Digital Equity Bill of Rights developed by the California Emerging Technology Fund to support local and regional digital equity and inclusion initiatives.



1. Additional Digital Literacy & Skills resources can be found in Appendix B



## IV. SCDI Management and Infrastructure



Thanks to funding support from Union Bank and the Morgan Family Foundation, Valley Vision was able to take on management support for the SCDI in 2020; activities and accomplishments included:

- Organizing and coordinating SCDI monthly meetings, including all logistics (program planning, doing invitations and outreach, developing agendas, securing speakers, preparing meeting notes, etc.)
- Conducting outreach with grantees of the City of Sacramento's CARES funding to engage them with the Coalition
- Convening Steering Committee members and SCDI Work Groups, and consulting with expert stakeholders to develop work plans and the overall SCDI Action Plan for 2021
- Identifying funding sources, best practices in California and nationally and new initiatives that could benefit the region, including COVID recovery efforts
- Coordinating with leadership organizations such as California Forward, the California Emerging Technology Fund, the California Broadband Council, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Legislature and others to identify and advance supportive digital inclusion policies
- Updating the SCDI website and inventory of digital equity resources to create a hub for information and resources
- Hosted Angela Siefer, Executive Director, National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) for the December SCDI meeting to discuss 2021 policy initiatives and best practices; SCDI joined as a member
- Serving as an information resource for SCDI members and supporting Steering Committee members

Activities in 2021 will continue to be supported by Union Bank and expanded across the Greater Sacramento region through the generous investment of the region's four workforce development boards, enabling us to strengthen the management of SCDI and the implementation of the objectives and activities identified in the **Action Plan**. Valley Vision will also work with the Steering Committee members to generate additional resources for the implementation of the SCDI **Action Plan** and for the SCDI members and their initiatives. In addition to the above activities, Valley Vision and Steering Committee members will seek to build the infrastructure, capacity and impact of the SCDI with the following activities:

- Develop a charter for the SCDI, including mission, roles, structure, Steering Committee process and governance, and a process for advocacy and education.
- Expand the capabilities of the website to serve as a robust information hub.
- Conduct outreach to raise awareness of the SCDI and recruit new members.
- Expand inventory of community assets, partner organizations and resources.
- Conduct and support action-driven research, prepare and disseminate findings of work products.
- Expand the footprint of the SCDI.
- Cultivate champions.
- Track and report on new federal, state and regional/local initiatives and advocate for SCDI.
- Test and prototype new technology platforms for meetings and other activities that expand engagement and input.



# Appendix A: Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion Participants



First Name	Last Name	Organization
Carolyn	Abrams	UC Davis Center for Regional Change
Jazmine	Alop	Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Javier	Alvarado	Simple Dev Coding
Jared	Amalong	Sacramento County Office of Education
Tamara	Armstrong	Los Rios Community College District
Philip	Arndt	Comcast
Meg	Arnold	Valley Vision
Jaime	Arreola	Valley Vision
Julius	Austin	Sacramento Promise Zone/SHRA
Brenda	Avalos	Capital Adult Education Regional Consortium (CAERC)
Patricia	Averette	Community Member
Lewis	Bair	Sacramento City College
Monica	Barber	SETA (Sacramento Employment and Training Agency)
Kristin	Belden	Bitwise Industries
Thomas	Bennett	United Way
Jennifer	Berdugo	AARP CA
Caitlin	Blockus	Valley Vision
Barry	Boyd	Community Member
Stephanie R.	Bray	United Way California Capital Region
Anthony	Burik	Outreach and Technical Assistance Network
Terri	Carpenter	Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA)
Steven	Casperite	Placer School for Adults
Jennifer	Clement	Community Member
Angelika	Corchado	Sutter Health
Ashley	Crandall	IRC
Jeff	Davis	Architectural Nexus
Walter	Di Mantova	Generative Futures Lab/The GEN Lab



First Name	Last Name	Organization
Gloria	Earl	California Workforce Development Board
DeNelle	Ellison	Greater Sacramento Urban League
Bethany	Ely	Sacramento County Office of Education
Marc	Epstein	CETEN
David	Espinoza	Valley Vision
Mark	Fink	Yolo County Library
Kevin	Flash	Sacramento City College
Jesse	Flores	Valley Vision
Surangi	Frazier	Sacramento City College
Brooke	Galas	Sutter Health
Virginia	Gardiner	Delta Protection Commission
Natasha	Greer	IT Program Specialist
Yvonne	Harris	California State University - Sacramento
Lorena	Hernandez	Comcast
Nadine	Hugg	California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)
Aaron	Huitt	Davis Adult and Community Education
Casandra	Issaka	Sacramento Public Library
Cassandra	Jennings	Greater Sacramento Urban League
Renee	John	Valley Vision
Nia	Jones	Office of Congresswoman Matsui
Grace	Kaufman	Valley Vision
Andrew	Kehoe	City of Sacramento
Jarrid	Keller	Sacramento Public Library
Trish	Kelly	Valley Vision
Roy	Kim	SETA (Sacramento Employment and Training Agency)
Kathy	Kossick	SETA (Sacramento Employment and Training Agency)
Rick	Larkey	North State Building Industry Foundation



First Name	Last Name	Organization
Frank	Leschinsky	Volcano Communications Group
Antonio	López	Sacramento City College
Maria	MacGunigal	City of Sacramento
Kevin	Mack	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Geno	Malkiewicz	Folsom Cordova Adult Education, CAERC
Branka	Marceta	Capital Adult Education Regional Consortium, Sacramento County Office of Education
Alejandro	Marmolejo	Computers 4 Kids
Lori	Martinez	Amador Adult Education
Laurelle	Mathison	Discovery High School
Anitra	McMillon	Twin Rivers Adult School
Kathy	McKim	Hawksbill Group





First Name	Last Name	Organization
Kim	Mims	Community Member
Coleen	Morehead	Clear Strategies LLC
Jaclyn	Moreno	Cosumnes CSD
Benjamin	Murti	SETA (Sacramento Employment and Training Agency)
Linda	Myers	Sacramento City College
Maury	Nickelson	United Way
Barbara	O' Connor	California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)
Michelle	O'Camb	SETA (Sacramento Employment and Training Agency)
Mary Anne	Ostrom	California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF)
Alice	Perez	AT&T
Eileen	Ramos-Prince	Sacramento City USD
Staci	Richardson	Sierra College
Sylvia	Romo	Building Skills Partnership
Mark	Rossow	Office of Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
Ricky	Samayoa	E-Center
Rivkah	Sass	Sacramento Public Library
Logan	Sidle	Office of Congressman John Garamendi
Angela	Siefer	National Digital Inclusion Alliance
Kari	Sinoff	Sierra Business Council
Rebecca	Sloan	Office of Sacramento County Supervisor Nottoli's
Stephanie	Smith	Sacramento City College
Liz	Stevenson	Sacramento City College
Chris	Sullivan	Sacramento City College
Rochelle	Swanson	Crown Castle
Chad	Swaim	Wheatland School District
Karina	Talamantes	Office, Councilmember Angelique Ashby, City of Sacramento
Ryan	Tan	SMUD



First Name	Last Name	Organization
Aubree	Taylor	City of Sacramento
Becca	Trumbly	Elk Grove Adult and Community Education (EGACE)
Cheryl	Urbani	EDCOE
Keli	Van Putten	Center Unified School District
Teresa	Viramontes	Community Member
Susan	Wheeler	SMUD
Phil	Williams	Community Member
George	Xiong	Mutual Housing California





## Appendix B: Digital Literacy and Skills Resources/Additional Resources



**Potential resources for Objective 1,**  
development of the definition:

[Computer Science Education - Content Standards \(CA Dept of Education\)](#)

[The Department of Education, CTE Information and Communications Technology Standards](#)

[ISTE Digital Literacy Assessment](#)

[ISTE Standards for Students](#)

[Equip Digital Literacy Curriculum](#)

[New York Digital Literacy Standards](#)

[Long Beach Unified: Common Core Technology Skills Standards](#)

[Computer Using Educators](#)

**Potential resources for Objective 2,**  
possible groups to survey that have  
or are in the process of developing  
K-12 digital standards relevant to the  
definition adopted in Activity 1. The  
groups surveyed could include but  
not be limited to the following:

[The Department of Education, Education Technology Committee](#)

[The Department of Education, Distance Learning](#)

[The Department of Education, Digital Citizenship](#)

[The Department of Education, Education Technology Task Force](#)

[Distance Education Accrediting Association](#)

[United States Distance Learning Association](#)

[California Teachers Association](#)

[California School Board Association \(CSBA\)](#)

[Association of California School Administrators](#)

[CSU CalTeach Program Workshop](#)

[Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment](#)

[Northstar Digital Literacy: Standards for Essential Computer Skills](#)

[Goodwill Community Foundation Global: Free Online Learning](#)



<b>Potential Resources for Objective 3:</b>	<a href="#">Infographic on ISTE SkillRise Initiative</a> <a href="#">Valley Vision Resource Page</a> <a href="#">K-12 High Speed Network</a> <a href="#">Aurora Institute</a> <a href="#">National Standards for Quality Online Learning</a> <a href="#">The NROC Project</a>
<b>Additional Resources:</b>	<a href="#">California Broadband For All: 2020 Action Plan</a> <a href="#">National Digital Inclusion Alliance</a> <a href="#">National Skills Coalition. Four Ways to Promote Digital Inclusion for California's Workers</a> <a href="#">City of Seattle, Digital Skills Sets for Diverse Users, and Digital Equity Action Plan with Metrics</a> <a href="#">Franklin County Digital Equity Coalition Framework</a>





# Appendix C: Digital Equity Bill of Rights



## DIGITAL EQUITY BILL OF RIGHTS

Digital Equity is defined by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance as the condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy and economy. Digital Equity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services. Digital Equity requires deployment and adoption of information technologies enabled by access to broadband, a generic term for high-speed Internet infrastructure, including wireline and wireless technologies.

To insure **Digital Equity** for all Californians, residents have the right to:

- 1. Broadband that is Sufficient and Reliable:** Speeds must be sufficient to meet the growing demand and reliance for access to education, government, public safety, economic prosperity and healthcare via high-speed access to the Internet. The determination of threshold speeds for high-speed Internet infrastructure should be performance-based to support distance learning, telehealth, and remote working by a majority of households online simultaneously with an increasing need for symmetrical network speeds.
- 2. Broadband that is Ubiquitous:** Sufficient and reliable broadband access must be available everywhere in the state, from the most rural areas, including tribal lands, to the most populated urban areas, including all low-income neighborhoods. Public broadband investments should be prioritized to connect entire communities and address digital redlining in historically unserved and underserved communities.
- 3. Broadband that is Affordable:** Internet service plans must be affordable for all Californians, regardless of geographic location or household income.
- 4. Broadband that Provides Educational Opportunities and Supports Digital Skills Proficiency:** Residents must have access to opportunities to develop needed skills to thrive in a digital world.
- 5. Broadband that Ensures Public Safety and Maintains Peace of Mind:** Residents need the peace of mind that comes with knowing they have reliable access to emergency response services and emergency alert systems in the event of emergencies or catastrophic disasters.
- 6. Broadband that Improves Quality of Life:** Digital Equity advances economic status with access to educational opportunities, new job opportunities and health care to improve the overall quality of life.
- 7. Broadband that Supports Economic Prosperity:** All workers and employers, businesses and entrepreneurs, start-ups and enterprises, small and large, including agriculture, need high-speed Internet access to optimize the value of their contribution to the economy to ensure global competitiveness.
- 8. Broadband that Attracts Capital Investment:** Ubiquitous high-speed Internet infrastructure is essential to ensure that California continues to attract its fair share of global capital investment to support and enhance economic prosperity.
- 9. Broadband that Supports Innovation and Research:** High-speed fiber connects all research institutions to sustain world-class research and innovation to drive economic productivity.
- 10. Broadband that Empowers and Enables Participation in the Democracy:** All residents are connected to the Internet with sufficient speeds to support participation in government, distance learning, and telehealth for quality of life and public safety.



For information, questions,  
and comments please contact Valley Vision:  
916-325-1630

[www.valleyvision.org](http://www.valleyvision.org)  
<https://digitalinclusionsac.org>