2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

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Knowledge Build Hudson

Government Relations Liaison and Special Projects Coordinator
Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh
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2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

National Digital Alliance (NDIA)

Sean Davis

NDIA Research and Policy Manager

Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh
Alleghany County Housing Authority
Digital Inclusion Convening
April 14, 2021

About ConnectHomeUSA – A Brief History

- **April 2015** – Demonstration announced in Federal Register
- **June 2015** – MOU signed with nonprofit partner EveryoneOn
- **July 2015** – First 28 demonstration communities selected to "Bridge the Homework Gap"
- **July 2017 –** Expansion program, ConnectHomeUSA, announced with goal to reach 100 communities by 2020. All resident groups targeted.
- **October 2020** – Last cohort onboarded reaching 100 communities.
- **Looking ahead** – support for this work from new administration

ConnectHomeUSA

What Is ConnectHomeUSA?

- Platform for **public-private collaboration to bridge the digital divide**
- **Locally-tailored solutions** for narrowing the digital divide
- Utilizes a **collective impact model** for implementation
- **Focuses on the three-legs of the digital inclusion stool to provide residents**:
  - Low-cost, high-speed internet access
  - Devices
  - Digital literacy training

ConnectHomeUSA

How ConnectHomeUSA Works

HUD and EveryoneOn – National Platform and Technical Assistance

Stakeholders – Free and low-cost offers/resources

PHAs & Cities Community Leadership, Leveraging Existing Programs, & Resident Engagement

NEW: Quality-of-Life Partner – Community College; Apprenticeship Program, Employer, STEM Provider, Library

HUD-Assisted Families – Higher Broadband Adop

tion and Improved Life Outcomes

ConnectHomeUSA

everyoneon

A national nonprofit that believes everyone deserves the Internet and the opportunity it brings

Offer locator tool: https://www.everyoneon.org/find-offers

ConnectHomeUSA

What ConnectHomeUSA Communities Do

- **Convene** stakeholders and develop implementation plan
- **Reach out** to residents to understand needs and educate
- **Partner** with stakeholders to engage residents, leverage resources, and deliver services
- **Lead organization** keeps pieces moving

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LEVERAGING RESOURCES AND STAKEHOLDERS

- HUD self-sufficiency grants or other HUD funding (e.g. CDBG)
- Other community/municipal efforts
- ConnectHomeUSA stakeholder offers

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It Takes a Village – The Importance of Convenings

- **Mobilizes the community and diverse group of stakeholders** to organize around the problem of the digital divide
- **Introduces the community's plan and/or goals to stakeholders** and lays the foundation for moving forward
- **Identifies resources and gaps** that need to be filled
- **Identifies the community champion/quarterback**
- **Can help establish / build upon a formal coalition**

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Benefits to Residents and Community at Large

- **More opportunity** – educational and professional
- **Reduced isolation** – especially for seniors/disabled
- **Telehealth** – healthier residents = safer, healthier community
- **Innovation** – small business creation
- **Greater civic engagement** – local and national issues

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CONNECTHOMEUSA'S IMPACT

- **Connections**: 72,500+
- **Devices Distributed**: 30,000
- **Total Approximate Leveraged Value:** $26.9 million
- **New congressional interest** in CHUSA

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Promising Practices

Digital Literacy Passport Program – San Antonio

- Partners stamp residents' passport
- Eight stamps = device

Digital Ambassador Program – Austin

- Residents trained to reach out and train other residents
- Job experience

Community Health Worker/Digital Navigator – Los Angeles

- Community Health Workers trained to ask about digital needs
- Connect to resources

City-wide Coalition – Baltimore, Denver, San Antonio,

ConnectHomeUSA

Promising Practices

Entrepreneurial Training – Rockford, IL

- Residents trained to market products on Etsy
- Article

Job Training/Apprenticeship Programs – Elizabeth, NJ

Using the Community Reinvestment Act

- Banks
- School Districts
- Devices, infrastructure, training
- Guidance from the Dallas Federal Reserve

HUD Funding for Broadband

Funding Infrastructure and In-Unit Connectivity with HUD Funding:

- **Capital Fund & Operating Fund**
- **Community Development Block Grant Program**
  - FAQs
  - Webinar
- **CARES Act until 12/31/2021**
  - Notice
  - FAQ
  - Other FAQs

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More Federal Funding for Broadband – FY21 Consolidated Appropriations

Emergency Broadband Benefit – FCC

- $3.2 billion enacted to cover in-unit broadband up to $50 a month; one-time device up to $100;
- $6 billion in additional funding proposed by Senators Klobuchar and Rep. Clyburn: Accessible, Affordable Internet for All Act

The Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives ($285 Million) – Collaborate with Federal agencies to carry out broadband internet access service support programs to determine how to expand access to broadband internet access service and other digital opportunities in anchor communities. (NTIA)

The Tribal Connectivity Program ($1 billion) – Grants to eligible entities to expand access to and adoption of broadband service on Tribal land; or remote learning, telework, or telehealth resources during the COVID–19 pandemic.

Broadband Expansion to Underserved Communities ($300 million) – Grants for competitively and technologically neutral projects for the deployment of fixed broadband service that provides at least 25/3 in an eligible area (census block with at least one household or business that does not have access to 25/3). (**For minority-serving institutions**)

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More Federal Funding for Broadband – The American Rescue Plan

- **The Emergency Connectivity Fund** ($7.171 billion) – Reimburses schools and libraries for providing free broadband service (and connected devices) to students and patrons at their homes

- **The Homeowners Assistance Fund** ($9.961 billion) – Treasury will make grants to states to administer programs assisting homeowners with mortgage payments and related costs including internet service

- **The Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ($350 billion)** – Treasury will distribute funds to municipalities and counties, tribes, territories and states to keep first responders, frontline health workers, teachers, and other providers of vital services safely on the job as states, local governments, Tribes, and territories roll out vaccines and fight to rebuild Main Street economies. Digital inclusion is assumed to be an eligible use of funds.

- **The Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund ($10 billion)** – Treasury will distribute funds to States, territories, and Tribal governments to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the pandemic. The funding could be limited to broadband and broadband adoption

- **Institute for Museum and Library Services ($200 million)** – Grant funding for necessary expenses to carry out museum and library services

Looking Ahead

- **The Infrastructure/Jobs Plan -** $100 billion for broadband networks

- **The Internet of Things**
  - **Approximately 50 billion connected devices in 2020**
  - **With 35 billion more projected in 2021**
  - **Transforming business, employment, education, daily life**
  - **BIG opportunity to prepare residents and to lower operating costs**
    - Internet connected thermostats
    - Internet connected household appliances
    - Online rental payments
    - Online recertifications

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ConnectHomeUSA

Q & A

everyoneon

Fostering Digital Equity in Our Lifetime

A moment of unprecedented need and opportunity

Increased visibility of digital divide and digital equity issues on local and national stage

Increased demand for low-cost internet, device options, and digital skills trainings

Increased commitment from diverse stakeholders to solve the digital divide

Our Mission

Create social and economic opportunity by connecting low-income families to affordable internet service and computers, and delivering digital skills trainings.

How We Drive Digital Equity

Offer Locator Tool

Digital platform of low-cost internet service solutions, affordable computers, and digital literacy training sites.

Internet Adoption & Computer Donation Campaigns

Activities designed to facilitate enrollment in low-cost internet programs and distribute devices.

Digital Literacy Trainings

Trainings that equip diverse audiences with the knowledge and skills to harness the power of technology.

Local Capacity Building

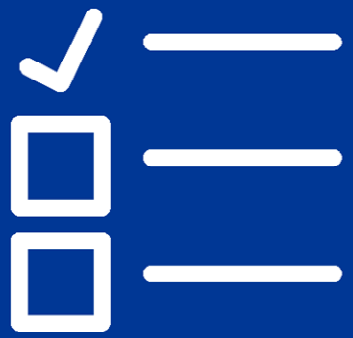
Trainings for organizations to build digital inclusion awareness and local capacity to address the digital divide in their communities.

Offer Locator Tool

Our offer locator tool facilitates access to affordable technology solutions for diverse audiences. Anyone can locate low-cost offers in just three simple steps at www.everyoneon.org.

Step 1:
Enter Zip Code

Step 2:
Select Eligibility Criteria



Step 3:
View Offers and Sign Up

Internet & Computer Campaigns

Working closely with national and local partners, we design and execute community-specific and relevant digital inclusion activities:

- Internet enrollment events - facilitated, multi-lingual assistance assistance to sign-up for a low-cost internet service

- Computer donation events - source and coordinate distribution of laptops, tablets, Chromebooks

Digital Literacy Trainings

We design and facilitate workshops that equip participants with the knowledge and skills to utilize and harness the power of the internet.

- Bridges to Tech - nine-month program exposes high school students to tech-based careers
- Creative Computing - build-your-own device trainings for young students utilizing Kano computer kits
- Digital Skills - computer and internet basics for adults
- Senior Tablet Training - introduction to tablet use, internet safety, and online banking

Local Capacity Building

Utilizing a train-the-trainer model, we design trainings for community-serving organizations that build capacity to address the digital divide. Topics include;

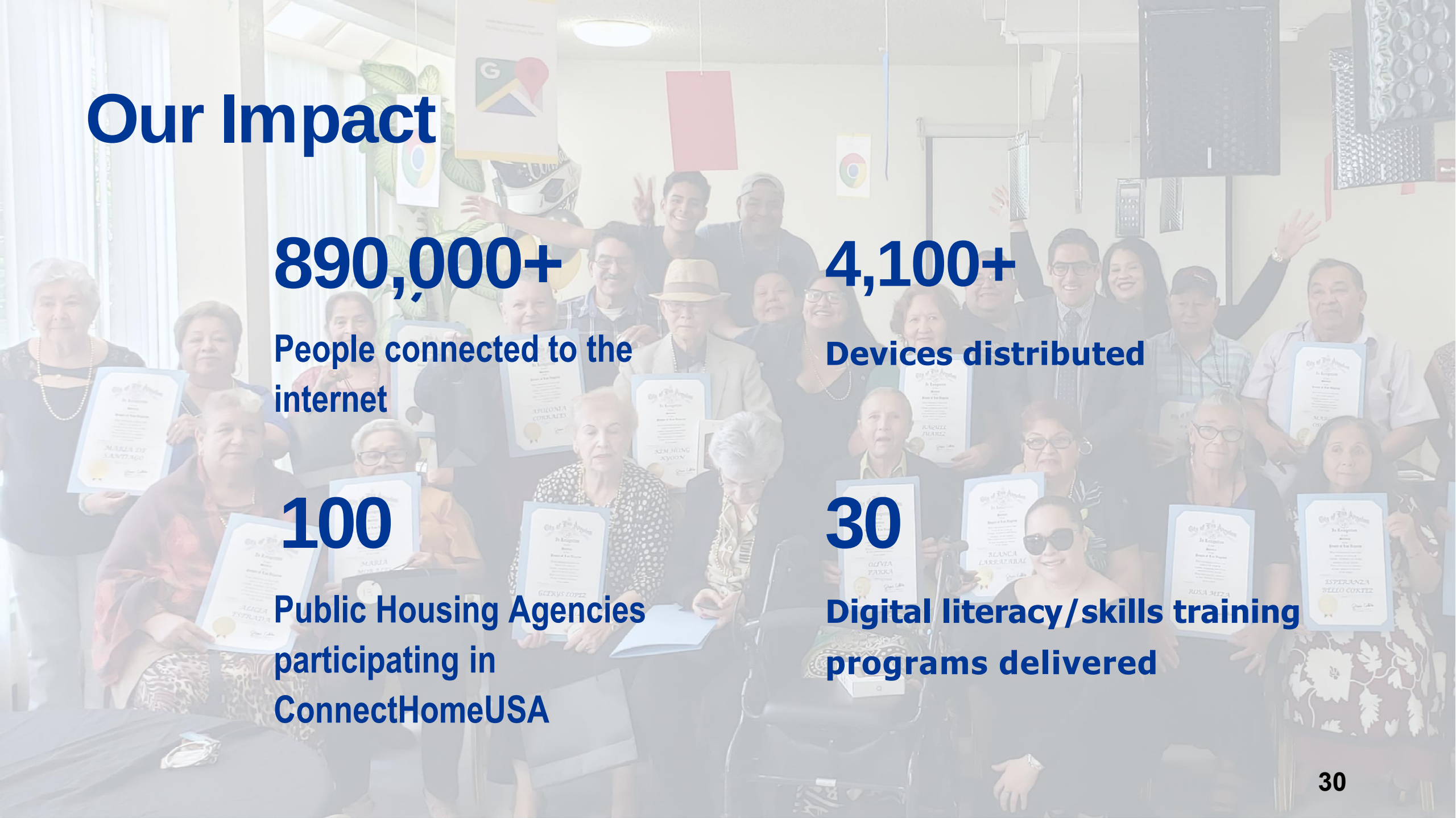
- The digital divide and its impacts locally
- National and local digital inclusion resources
- Outreach strategies and messages to diverse populations
- Facilitating enrollment in a low-cost internet service program
- Integrating digital inclusion activities into existing organizational programs and services

ConnectHomeUSA

A national program in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Our goal is to close the digital divide for residents in public housing.

- 100 public housing agencies across 36 states
- Cross-sector partnerships and commitments: micro-grants, discounted computers, volunteers
- Direct service programming: internet enrollment events, device distributions, trainings
- Technical assistance: newsletters, webinars, playbook, annual summit

Our Impact



890,000+

People connected to the internet

4,100+

Devices distributed

100

Public Housing Agencies participating in ConnectHomeUSA

30

Digital literacy/skills training programs delivered

Our Model

Cross-sector partnerships

National reach and local impact

Community-based solutions

Lean and expert team

Successful digital inclusion outreach is...

Community- responsive

High-touch

Cross-sector collaboration

Builds local expertise

Q&A

Contact Information

EVERYONE ON

www.everyoneon.org

FOLLOW US:

@EveryoneOn

Kurt Peluso
Senior Director of Programs and Partnerships

kurt@everyoneon.org

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

HUD Office of Public and Indian Housing

Todd C Thomas

Director

HACP

Housing Authority
City of Pittsburgh

HACP Computer Program Digital Literacy

200 Ross Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-456-5000

www.HACP.org

Byron Wright

Computer Program Manager

Started with HACP in 2004

Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Managing Information Systems - Robert Morris University

Manage a team of two staff members:

Jordan Owens and Steve Kohr

Computer Program
Digital Literacy

- Operate 4 physical computer labs across the HACP properties:
  - Bedford Envision Center, Pressley Street High-rise, Northview Heights High-rise, Caliguri Plaza High-rise
- Operate Mobile Computer Lab - goes around to other HACP sites without a physical computer lab.
- Mobile Lab consist of several laptops and two wifi hotspots.
- Mobile Lab operates in our community rooms (that are wifi enabled).
- Provide technical support to our Resident Tenant Councils.
- Provide technical support to HACP residents.
- Goal: Increase digital literacy amongst all residents to help bridge the digital divide

Computer Program
Digital Literacy Cont'd

Partnered with the NNLM (Network of the National Library of Medicine) to add a health literacy course along with our digital literacy course.

- Distributed T-mobile tablets to residents
- Instructed students on how to navigate the MedlinePlus website
- Went over basic digital literacy objectives that each resident should be aware of. (Identifying keys on the keyboard, do you have an email address, who is your internet provider, are you comfortable using new technology, etc.)
- Distributed 100 tablets to residents.
- Received grant to purchase new laptops for the program.

HACP

Computer Program
Digital Literacy Cont'd

Things we have done or do:

Computer donations - refurbished old computers and distributed them to residents.

We have repaired resident computers and made recommendations for repair or purchase.

Computer classes - MS-Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Email, Gmail, Virtual

Resources we use: GCFlearnfree.org, Word, Excel and Powerpoint tutorials

HACP

Computer Program
Digital Literacy Cont'd

During Covid:

- We have embarked on a mission to equip as many households as possible with devices and Internet access.
- We are working on distributing tablets to every resident on our FSS/RSS caseload.
- We distributed laptops to 827 Pittsburgh Public School students.
- We partnered with Comcast to bring Internet Essentials to households without Internet access.
- Partnered with Macedonia church to help install apps on all tablets
- We lent all of our laptops to the HACP IT department to help equip staff so they could work remotely.

HACP

Computer Program
Digital Literacy

Currently:

- Sat in on the planning process for the new Pitt Civic Engagement Center
- Partnered with Pitt to run a 3 week course on coding for teens.
- We are working on expanding our Mobile computer lab.
- We purchased a small van to help transport equipment to multiple locations.
- WOW - Wifi On Wheels
- Partnered with Comcast to install wifi Lift Zones in several HACP neighborhoods - afterschool programs (BJWL) and the ABK learning daycare center located in the Bedford Envision Center.
- We are in talks with several partners to help fund the expansion of our Mobile computer lab - Be on the lookout for this!!!

HACP

The Allegheny County Housing Authority

Helping to Bridge the Digital Divide Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic

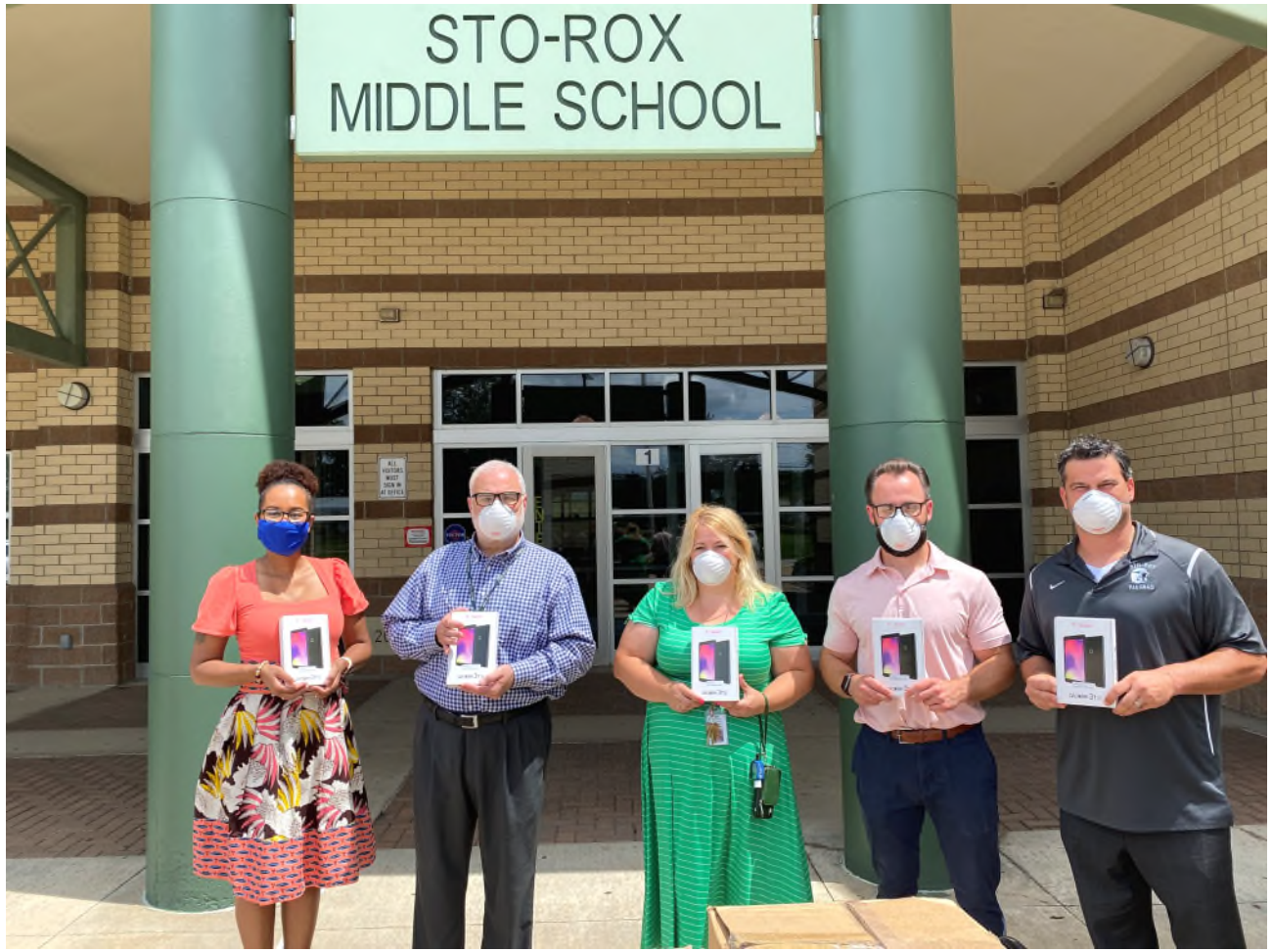
Like many Public Housing Authorities across the country, the Allegheny County Housing Authority has been faced with the challenging task of helping to keep both residents and employees safe during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

With a staff of close to 200 people, and residents across 3,300 units (not to mention the numerous health workers, family and friends, and 3rd party providers who visit ACHA sites on a daily basis), the Housing Authority could not waste any time when it came to putting plans and procedures in place to keep Covid-19 from spreading through its communities.

From providing personal protective equipment (PPE), boxed food and hot meals, and most recently, vaccinations, the ACHA staff rose to the occasion to help residents during these troubling times.

One area of need that also did not go unnoticed was Digital Literacy. As schools closed and children were required to begin taking classes online from home, the need for computers, tablets, internet connections, and the knowledge to use these things, grew tremendously.

Because of various COVID-19 restrictions, holding computer classes for parents was not an option at the time, so the ACHA Department of Resident Services presented 175 internet-ready tablets (provided to us by our partners at T-Mobile), to the Sto Rox School District on August 4, 2020. The tablets would be used by elementary and middle school students of the Sto Rox school district during socially-distant in-school time. Sto Rox Superintendent, Frank Dalmas, and some of the teachers were on site to accept the tablets from ACHA Service Coordinator, Jenny Lynn Whitley. It was quite an exciting day!



The pandemic has caused so many people of all ages to suffer from isolation away from family and friends, especially the senior population, many of them having relied on their churches, bingo nights, or bus trips to the casino as their means of socializing and getting out of their apartments. COVID-19 put a stop to all of that.

The ACHA Department of Resident Services wanted to find a way to help our seniors stay connected, but that wouldn't be as difficult to learn in a quick manner. It was soon decided on to provide our seniors with Amazon Echo Show 5 devices.

With the Echo Show device, our seniors can video chat with their friends and neighbors who also have an Echo Show or the Alexa app, play games, listen to the news and weather, watch tv shows, search for recipes, and so much more!

So far, we have held three socially-distant training sessions at three separate senior buildings, for a total of 20 devices given away, with more classes on the horizon!

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Question and Answer

META MESH
Wireless Communities

- A Nonprofit Wireless Internet Service Provider
- Does not bill End Users in project areas
- Raises grant funds and works with community groups, universities, and school districts to cover the cost of services.

This way, we can get broadband Internet to Pittsburghers who need it, without burdening them with a monthly bill.

This approach has rarely been done on a city-wide scale in the US!

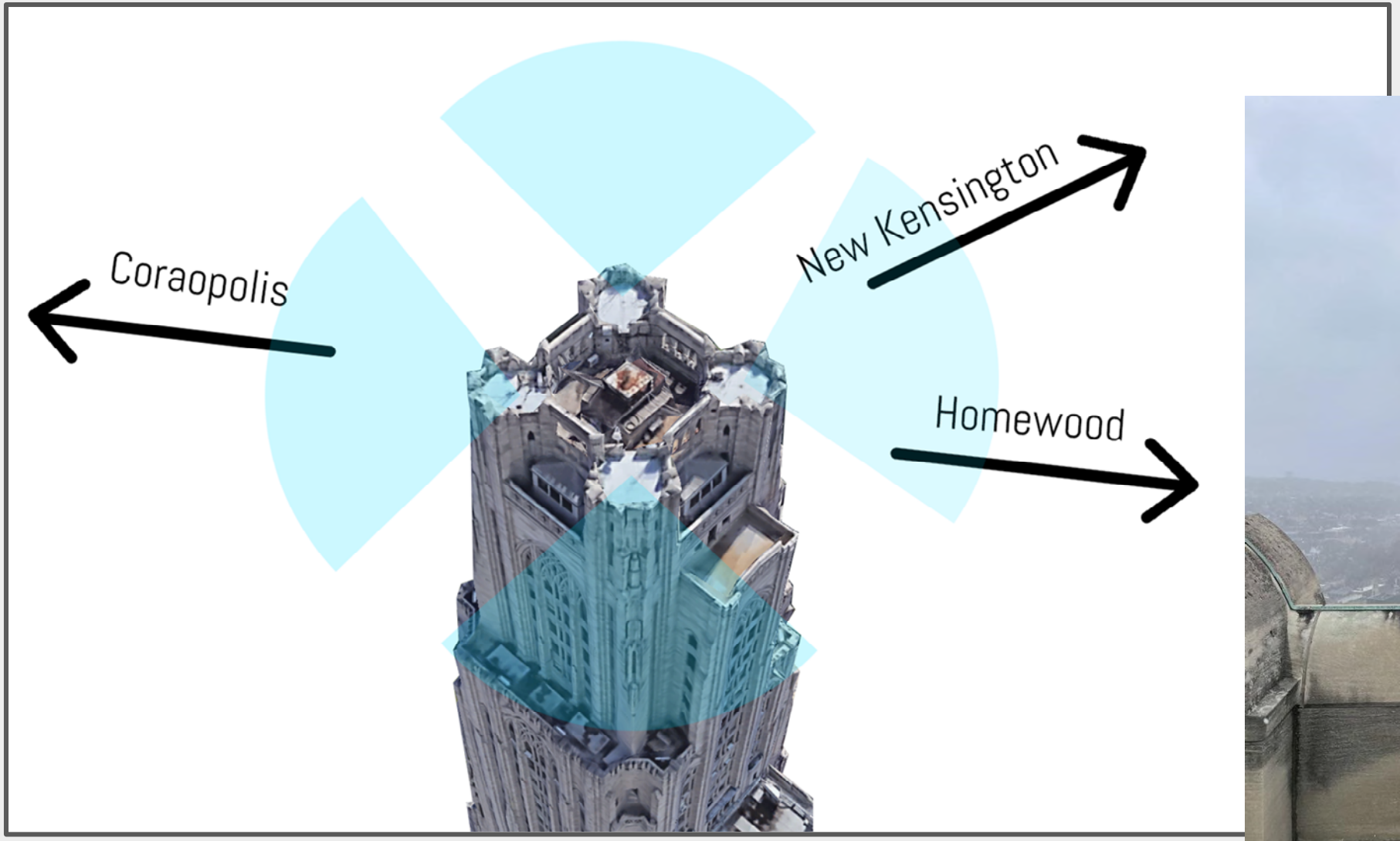
Pilot Project Background:

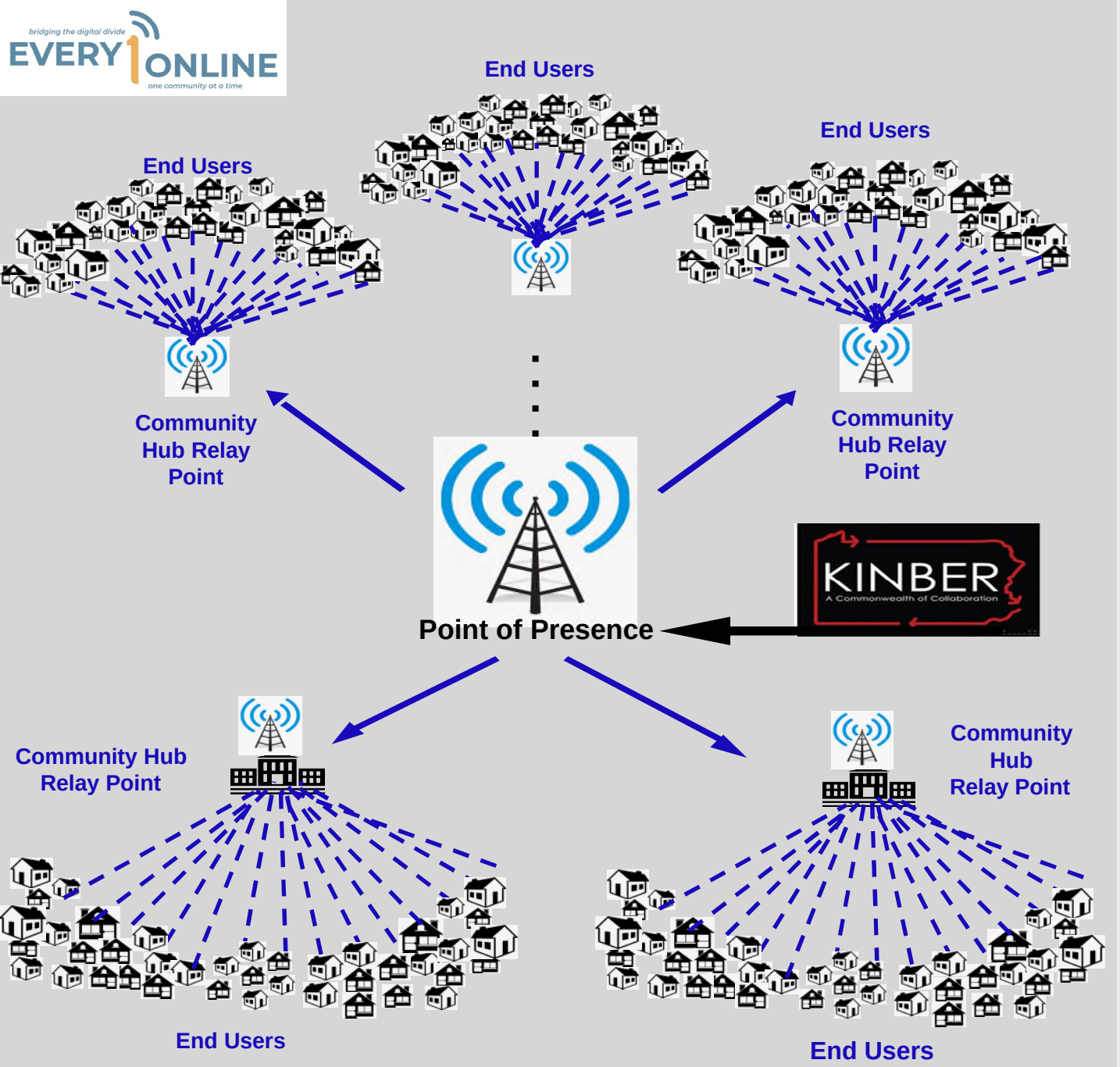
- Initial funding provided by the Richard King Mellon Foundation and CMU
  - CMU team continuing to fundraise locally and nationally
- Homewood, Coraopolis/Neville Island, and New Kensington-Arnold are the three pilot sites of the project *Every1online*.

Goals:

- Free in-home wireless connections to residents in need for one year
  - Continuing free and low-cost, sustainable wireless access following one-year coverage period
  - Durable wireless infrastructure that is community-based and serviced by Meta Mesh

What does this look like?





WISP Response

Every1online is a unique nonprofit Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISP) providing Internet connectivity to underserved communities in Allegheny County in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Our WISP model is designed to provide reliable and affordable Internet access via partnerships with institutional organizations like school districts, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, and social service agencies with constituents whose quality of life is compromised by not having affordable access to the Internet. Our WISP relies on several key components that are depicted in this illustration.

KINBER - This an 1,800 mile statewide fiber optic network established to serve under resourced communities in the Commonwealth. As a strategic partner we obtain bulk high-speed bandwidth from KINBER which we then transmit wirelessly to our targeted communities.

POINT OF PRESENCE - We are hardwired into to the KINBER network at multiple points throughout the county.These are called *Points of Presence* (PoP). They are typically located on the highest buildings or towers accessible near the KINBER network (e.g. atop the *Cathedral of Learning* at the University of Pittsburgh).

PoPs are a robust source of bandwidth which we then transmit wirelessly to various *Community Hub Relay Points* strategically positioned in the communities we plan to serve.

Strategic Partners

KINBER
A Commonwealth of Collaboration

University of Pittsburgh

Carnegie Mellon University

GROUNDFLOOR SOLUTIONS

Food21™

PennState New Kensington

Community Partners

CORNELL
CORAOPOLIS NEVILLE IS

HOMEWOOD CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
Where *Every* Child Succeeds!

NK New Kensington-Arnold School District

INTERNET ESSENTIALS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

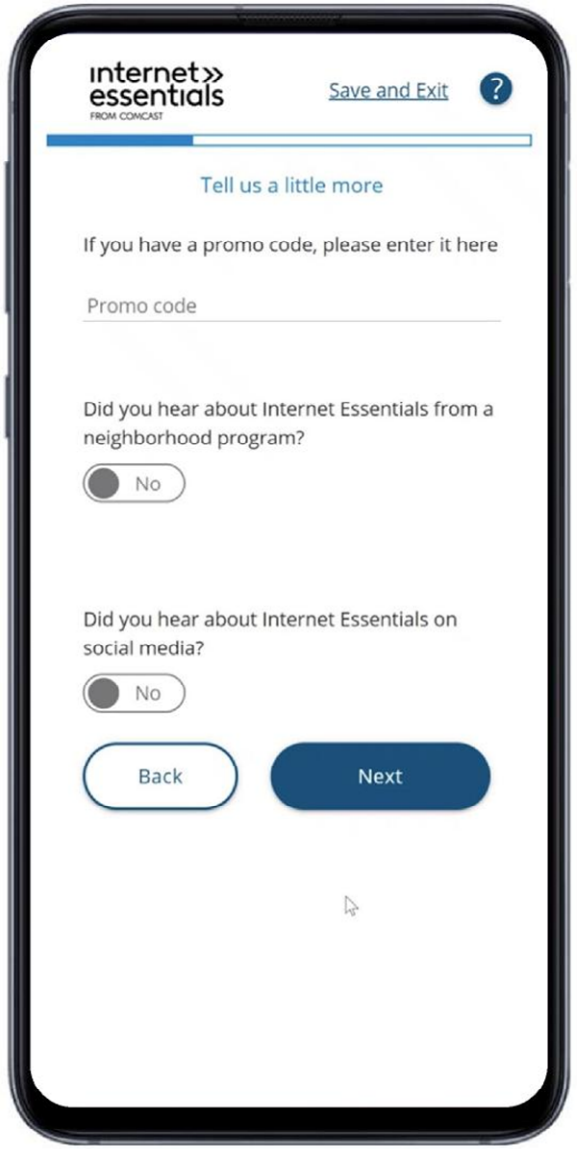
internet essentials
FROM COMCAST

April

What is the Internet Essentials Partnership Program?

The Internet Essentials Partnership Program is designed to help accelerate Internet adoption at a critical time. The program provides the opportunity for school districts and other organizations to fund and quickly connect large numbers of students and families to broadband access at home.

Partners, such as schools, healthcare providers, and other community-based organizations, have the ability to sponsor, or pay for, Internet Essentials service for their eligible members/families at a cost of $9.95 + tax per month per household. The minimum requirements to establish a Partnership Program Agreement are at least a six-month term for at least 25 eligible applicants that are new to the program.



COMCAST
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Internet Essentials Confronts All Three Barriers to Internet Adoption

Internet Essentials is designed to be a wrap-around solution to directly confront every barrier to digital adoption by offering affordable Internet, subsidized computers, and free digital literacy training to eligible low-income families.

Affordable Internet Service

Speeds of 50/5 Mbps for $9.95/month + tax per household.

- No contract or credit check
- Free Self-Install Kit*
- In-Home WiFi included
- Access to Xfinity WiFi Hotspots xFi
- Parental Controls and Advanced Security
- New Internet Essentials customers will receive two free months of Internet service if they apply and are approved by June 30, 2021.

Low-Cost Computer

Internet Essentials Customers can purchase a low-cost computer for $149.99 + tax.

- Internet-ready laptop or desktop with a 90-day warranty
- Equipped with Windows 10 and Office 365

Digital Literacy Training

Households may also participate in free digital skills training to better understand the Internet and the many ways it can benefit them.

- Free Internet training available online, in person, and in print

*Taxes, home drop-off, and professional install extra.

Who Is Eligible for Internet Essentials?

Households may be eligible for Internet Essentials if they:

- Qualify for programs like the National School Lunch Program, housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others.
- Live in an area where Comcast Internet Service is available.
- Have not had Comcast Internet in the last 90 days.
- Households who owe money to Comcast may still qualify if approved by 6/30/2021.

Interested households are asked to apply either online at InternetEssentials.com or over the phone.

Lift Zone:
Program Overview

Comcast's Program to Launch More than 1,000 Wifi Connected eLearning Centers Nationwide

Internet»
essentials
FROM COMCAST

What are **Lift Zones**?

Comcast announced a multiyear program to launch more than 1,000 WiFi-connected "Lift Zones" in community centers nationwide to help students get online, participate in distance learning, and do their homework.

The COVID-19 crisis has put many low-income students at risk of being left behind and has accelerated the need for comprehensive digital equity and Internet adoption programs to support them. Lift Zones are intended to help those students who, for a variety of reasons, may be unable to connect to distance learning at home, or who just want another place in which to study .

This initiative will provide free hotspot connectivity, and also access to hundreds of hours of educational and digital skills content to help families and site coordinators navigate online learning. Lift Zones complement Comcast's Internet Essentials program, which, since 2011, has helped connect more than 8 million low-income people to the Internet at home. The Lift Zones initiative comes on the heels of Comcast's recent launch of its new "Internet Essentials Partnership Program," which focuses on enabling cities, school districts, and community-based organizations to connect large numbers of low-income students to the Internet at home to support distance learning.

internet essentials FROM COMCAST

COMCAST

Current Lift Zones

City of Pittsburgh

NAME	ADDRESS
Bedford Envision Center	2305 Bedford Avenue
Bethany Communnity Ministries	7745 Tioga Street
Boys & Girls Club of WPA - Lawrenceville	4600 BUTLER STREET
Boys & Girls Clubs of WPA - Shadyside	6 Brownwell Place
Center That Cares @ Wesley Center	2701 Centre Avenue
CoLab18	100 S. Commons
Community Forge	1256 Franklin Ave.
Gwens Girls	711 W COMMONS
Gwen's Girls Wilkinsburg	1256 FRANKLIN AVENUE
HACP Arlington Heights	3123 CORDELL PLACE
HACP Bedford Dwelling	2275 BEDFORD AVENUE
HACP Homewood North	10 ALBERTICE STREET
HACP NorthView Hts	415 Mt. Pleasant Road
Homewood YMCA	7140 Bennett Street
Hosanna House	807 Wallace Avenue
Jeron X. Grayson Community Center	1852 ENOCH ST
Kaufmann Center	510 HELDMAN STREET
The Shop	621 N. Dallas Avenue
Thelma Lovette YMCA	2114 Centre Avenue

Allegheny County

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY
Best of the Batch Foundation	2000 West Street	Munhall
Boys & Girls Club of WPA - Carnegie	630 WASHINGTON AVENUE	Carnegie
Coraopolis Hub	912 4th Avenue	Coraopolis
Debra Booker Center	100 Park Ave	Natrona Heights
E.R. Crawford Gym	2901 Brownlee Street	McKeesport
Groveton Village	511 Groveton Dr	Coraopolis
Gwen's Girls Clairton	307 Shaw Avenue (1st and	Clairton
Hays Manor	205 Locust Street	McKees Rocks
LaRosa Family Center	901 Ravine Street	McKeesport
Lloyd Hayden Center	480 Park Avenue	Natrona Heights
Millvue Acres	1090 Marion Circle	Clairton
MoonCrest Neighborhood Center	308 Hemlock Drive	Moon Township
MoonCrest School Community Center	120 MoonCrest Drive	Moon Township
Orchard Park	1001 Ridge Street	Duquesne
Pleasant Ridge Community Building	251 Jefferson Drive	McKees Rocks
Prospect Terrace	29 Prospect Drive	East Pittsburgh

Want more info?

Elizabeth Crow@comcast.com

Jennifer Cloonan@comcast.com

Jennifer Halaszynski@comcast.com

Additional Details:
FAQs

IEPP Frequently Asked Questions

Who do I contact with general questions?

- Partners interested in the Internet Essentials Partnership Program should **click here** to provide their information and submit a request.
- Contact your local Comcast or Internet Essentials representative
- Email:IEPP_Support@Comcast.com can be expected within 24 hours Mon-Fri.

Who do I contact if I have a billing issue with my Internet Essentials Partnership Program account?

- You can either email us atIEPP_Support@Comcast.com, contact your local Internet Essentials representative, or for more immediate support please call 844-963-0193 and ask for your dedicated client manager.

What if one of my sponsored families or constituents has additional services from Comcast? Am I billed for them or just Internet Essentials?

- The Internet Essentials Partnership Program is built to only bill you for active Internet Essentials service. If one of your constituents adds TV, Phone or Home Security, they will be responsible for those charges. In addition, if one of your constituents upgrades to a higher tier of internet, you will no longer be billed for Internet Essentials for that account and the constituent will be responsible for all charges.

Who do I contact if I need additional promotional codes?

- Promo code tracking is recommended. Sponsors should keep track when distributing promo codes so they can match specific codes to their applicants, and try to keep the promo code per applicant consistent across touchpoints. If additional codes are needed, please email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and your dedicated client manager will be in touch to confirm and timing. Please include the Sponsor name in the subject line and the following information in the email:
  - Sponsor Name
  - Sponsor Address
  - Sponsor Account Number (if available)
  - Sponsor Phone Number
  - Number of promo codes needed
  - NOTE: If you have already hit your contractual limit, we may need to create an addendum to the contract.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can a promo code be reused if an applicant is denied for Internet Essentials?

- No, the promo code cannot be reused and the denied applicant needs a new promo code and to call 844-963-0178. If you need additional codes please contact Comcast at IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and include the Sponsor name in the subject line.

Who do I contact if one of my sponsored constituents complains of a service or billing issue?

- If the constituent is a current and connected Internet Essentials customer, they can contact Comcast at 1-800-XFINITY for help.

If no resolution has been provided, the sponsor can email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com.

What happens if one of my constituents has additional services and is shut off due to non-payment?

- The Internet Essentials service will not be disconnected. They would need to contact Comcast at 1-800-XFINITY to bring their account back to current or set up a payment arrangement in order to reconnect the other services.

What happens to the families we're sponsoring if my organization falls behind on payments?

- If this should happen, all sponsored accounts would have their Internet Essentials service disconnected. In the unlikely event this should happen, please email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and your dedicated client manager will be able to assist with next steps. Please include the Sponsor name in the subject line and the following information in the email:
  - Sponsor Name
  - Sponsor Address
  - Sponsor Account Number (if available)
  - Sponsor Phone Number

Frequently Asked Questions

What if one of my constituents moves? Do I still get billed for them? Do I need to notify you?

- The Internet Essentials Partnership Program cannot be transferred when a constituent moves. If they move, they need to contact you/the sponsor for a new promo code and call 844-963-0178 to reconnect Internet Essentials at the new address. Please email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com to notify your dedicated client manager if the family moving is no longer eligible for sponsorship. If the constituent moves out of the area or moves out of the school district, the family can opt to keep the Internet Essentials service at the $9.95/month rate or they can disconnect.

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2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Dr. Angela Hemingway, K12 Education Advisor
Jacob "Zeke" Ohl, Senior Director Public Sector Sales

04.14.21

T-MOBILE FOR GOVERNMENT

Advantages of a Mobile Connection

Considerations for Digital Inclusion

- Bandwidth
- Data Plans
- Staging and Kitting
- Asset Tagging
- Device Labeling
- Content Filtering
- Device Management
- Technical Support

T-Mobile for Good

OUR NETWORK FOOTPRINT:

- T-Mobile's 5G network covers over 250 million people across 1.3 million square miles — that's bigger than AT&T and Verizon's 5G networks combined
- By 2019, T-Mobile's network covered 327 million Americans with 4G LTE service (99% of Americans)

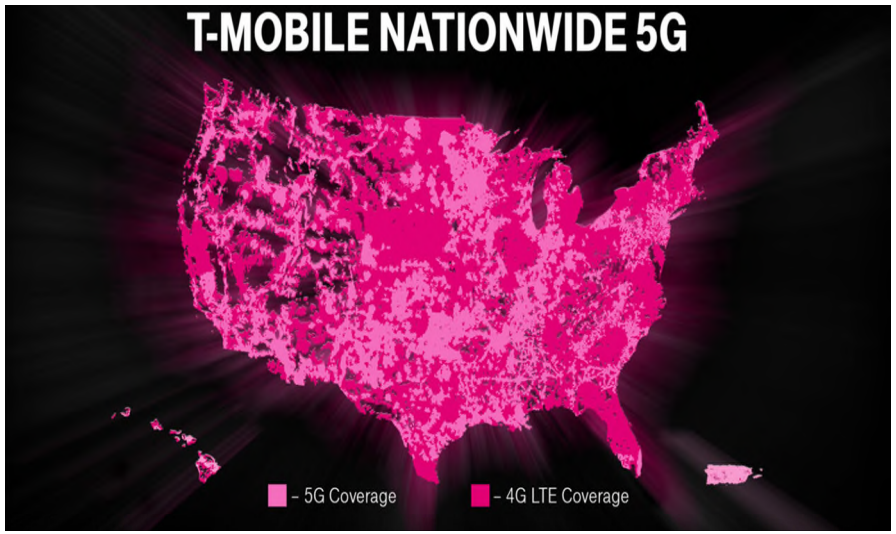
Connecting Heroes Program

- Providing **free** 5G access to first responder organizations across the country

Project 10Million

- Helping to eliminate the homework gap with **free** service to 10 million households.

New T-Mobile's Transformational Network Footprint



T-Mobile and Sprint joined forces to build the largest and most reliable 5G network

PROJECT 10MILLION
WORKING TO CONNECT EVERY STUDENT

Homework vs. Digital Learning Gap

Pre-Pandemic In-person classes + Homework **Homework Gap**

Pandemic & beyond Online classes + Schoolwork **Digital Learning Gap**

PROJECT 10MILLION
WORKING TO CONNECT EVERY STUDENT

Closing the gap

We are committed to helping close the homework gap by offering school districts **free** internet access and mobile hotspots for 10 million eligible households. Due to COVID-19 many schools continue to be online or hybrid, so we are also offering school districts low-cost options to increase monthly data plans to provide connectivity to all students.

- 2+ Million students connected through T-Mobile for Education in 2020
- $10 billion commitment to internet access and $700 million to Wi-Fi devices
- National School Lunch Program
- One Hotspot per Eligible Student Household
- Options to address homework and schoolwork gap

PROJECT 10MILLION
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Powering the future of education

Like all T-Mobile customers, Project 10Million recipients will benefit from our expanded network capacity, plus:

- FREE 100GB of high-speed data per year
- FREE Wi-Fi-enabled hotspots
- Option to purchase program-exclusive Wi-Fi-enabled devices at significantly discounted cost
- Education Grade Web content filtering and malware blocking included

During congestion, Project 10Million customers may notice speeds lower than other customers due to data prioritization. Video typically streams at DVD quality (480p).

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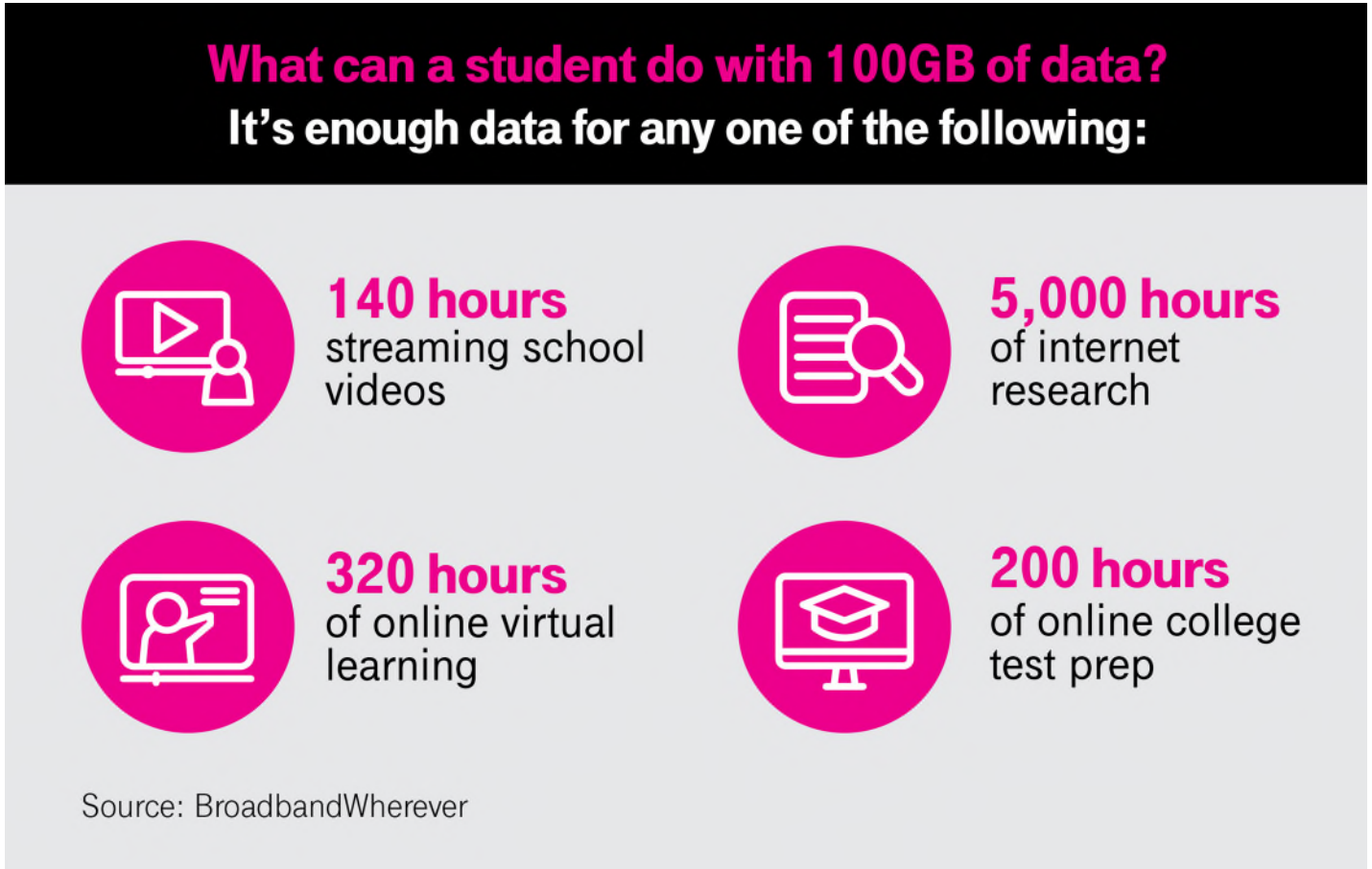

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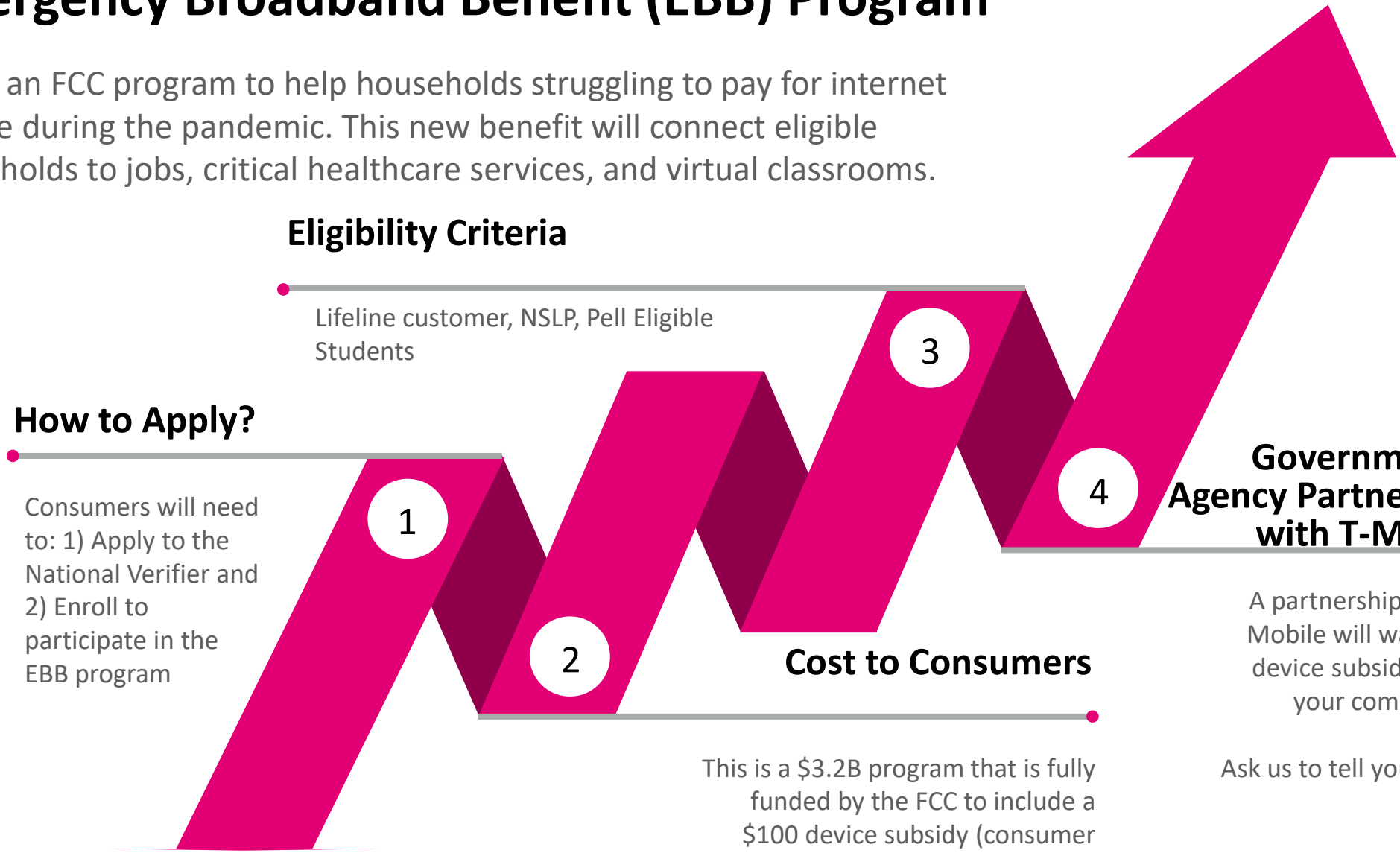

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2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Breakout Rooms

HACP

Housing Authority
City of Pittsburgh

Creative Uses of CARES Act Funds

200 Ross Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-456-5000

www.HACP.org

How has HACP utilized CARES Act Funds to further efforts to create digital equity?

- Partnering with public schools to get kids laptops.
- Delivering internet service to low-income communities.
- Purchasing tablets as a tool to use toward achieving self-sufficiency.

Partnering with Pittsburgh Public Schools

HACP bought laptops for 837 PPS students in our communities.

Funds from CARES Act: $275,000

Comcast Internet Essentials

HACP provided Wi-Fi service from Comcast Internet Essentials to **all our communities**.

Funds from Cares Act: **$149,000.***

Comcast Lift Zones

HACP & Comcast providing free WiFi to youth-serving programs in six HACP communities through Comcast's "Lift Zones" program.

*HACP was first HA in "Keystone Region" to partner with Comcast on Internet Essentials & Lift Zones.

HACP

Tablets for Resident Self-Sufficiency (RSS) Participants

HACP purchased 500 Tablets for participants in RSS programs.

Funds from CARES Act: $105,000

HACP

Looking Ahead: WiFi on Wheels

HACP is expanding the WiFi on Wheels Mobile Computer Lab with **a custom-built RV.**

$110,000 - CARES Act
$150,000 - RK Mellon Foundation Grant

HACP

HACP

Housing Authority
City of Pittsburgh

Thank you!

www.HACP.org

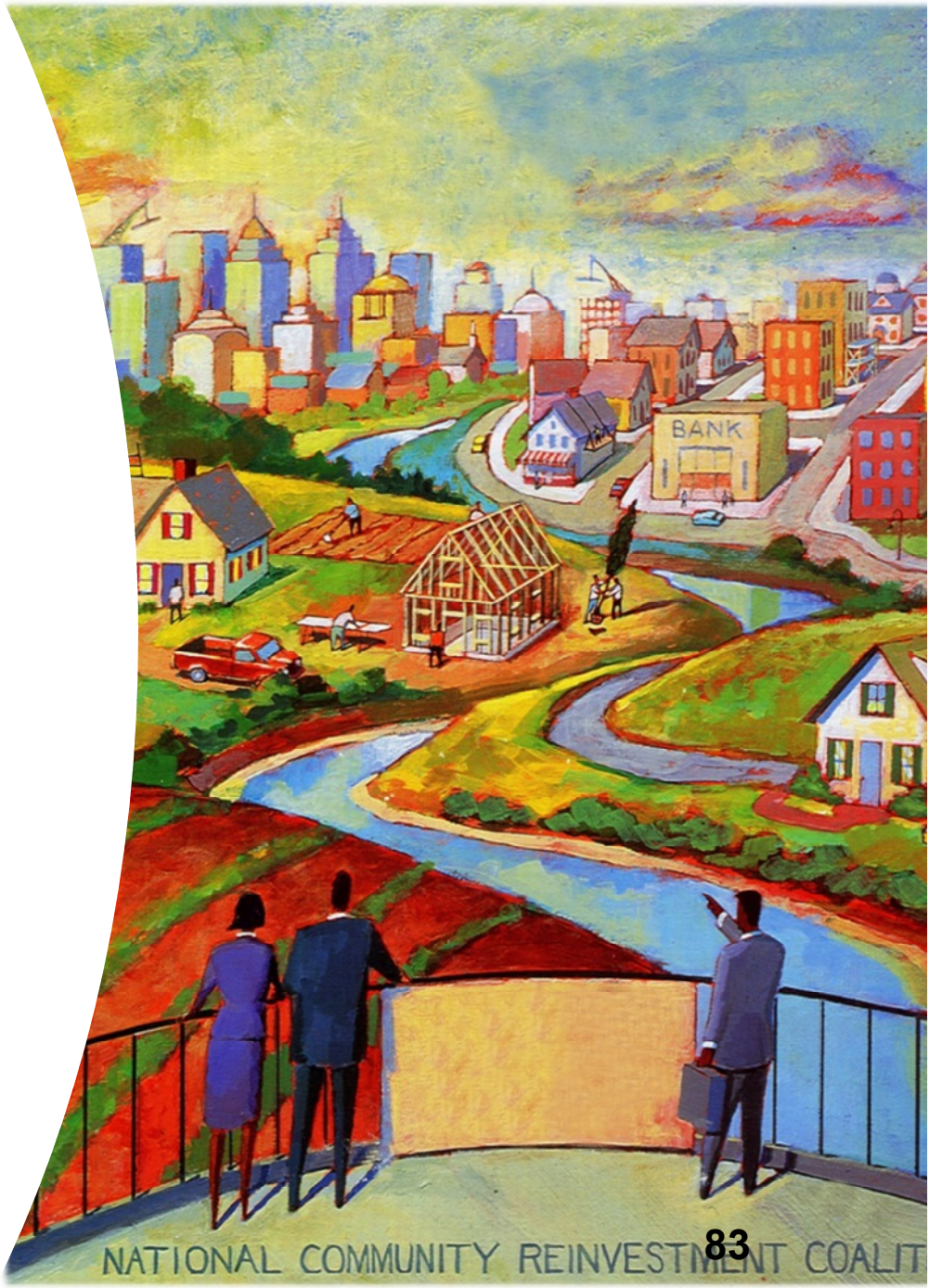
Follow us on social media!

@HACP1

@HACPgh

Community Reinvestment Act Passed 1977

- Banks provide financial services to the community that they are in. From checking and saving accounts, home loans, small business loans, and other financial activities.
- Banks are community anchors because of these services.
- Banks have an additional role to play, in their community.
- Establishes a “continuing and affirmative obligation” for banks to meet “the credit needs of its entire community . . . consistent with the safe and sound operation of the institution.”
- Targeted toward low and-moderate income communities
- Created a framework for the community to engage with the bank



2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Breakout Rooms

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Michael Horvath
Pittsburgh Field Office Director
Michael.A.Horvath@hud.gov

Ashley Kappeler
Management Analyst
Ashley.V.Kappeler@hud.gov

John McLaughlin
Program Analyst
John.C.Mclaughlin@hud.gov

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Thank You!

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Rich Fitzgerald

Allegheny County County Executive

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

The Honorable Bill Peduto

Mayor of Pittsburgh

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Caster Binion

Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh

Executive Director

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Frank Aggazio

Allegheny County Housing Authority

Executive Director

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Ms. Cheryl Gainey

Tenant Council and Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh Commissioner

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Sascha Meinrath

Palmer Chair in Telecommunications

Penn State University

HACP

Housing Authority
City of Pittsburgh

HACP Computer Program Session 2

200 Ross Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-456-5000

www.HACP.org

Programs we offer at the HACP Computer Program

Digital Literacy Program

- How to use a computer or device (tablet, laptop, home computer, parts of the computer, etc.)
- How to get online (Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge)
- How to set up an Email account
- How to use Zoom
- Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint

Tablet Distribution program (FSS/RSS caseload residents)

Internet Distribution program (Comcast, Internet Essentials)

Pitt Coding Program for teens (Students receive stipend)

Health Literacy

- MedlinePlus Website

HACP

What we've done

- Distributed refurbished computers to residents
- Held Robotics classes for after school students
- Partnered with Schenley Heights Summer program to a Robotics Camp
- We've helped residents apply for school
- We've helped residents apply for jobs and housing
- We've expanded our computer program from physical lab to four
  - Bedford, Caliguiri, Pressley, Northview Heights

HACP

What we've done cont'd

- We've added a mobile computer lab to our program (Highrises and other locations)
- Coordinated Hud Father's and Family days in multiple communities
- Installed wifi in community rooms of our high rise locations
- Partnered with NNLM (Network of the National Library of Medicine) to teach residents how to navigate the MedlinePlus website
- Purchased Assistive technology to make our labs more accessible

What we've doing

- Virtual Computer classes (Wednesday's 2pm via Zoom open all residents)
- Distributing devices and Internet access
- Tenant Council Tech Support
- Upgraded all Tenant Council office computers
- Partnered with Comcast
- Installed Wifi Lift Zones for BJWL after school programs in four locations
  - Arlington, Bedford, Northview, Homewood
- Purchased a van for the Mobile computer lab (W.O.W van)
- Assisted Resident Advisory Board members with tablets and classes on how to use Zoom
- Working to bring Coding classes to youth, teens, and adult residents in our communities
- Distributed 872 devices to households with Pittsburgh Public School Students
- Partnered with Macedonia church to install apps on 500 tablets

Impact Stories

Cory & Clay

- Responsible father, hard worker and productive member of society
- PSU College grad, Instagram comedian

The Davis Family - Taneka, Ms. Davis, Mr. Brown

- Pursued Law Degree, Found a job online and moved to Florida,
- Senior participating in classes learned how to video conference using his tablet

Kyra - attended computer classes, received a computer, got a job as a Service Coordinator at HACP

Tyian - went through our Homeownership program, utilized the computer lab to start her own non-profit

HACP

INTERNET ESSENTIALS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

internet essentials
FROM COMCAST

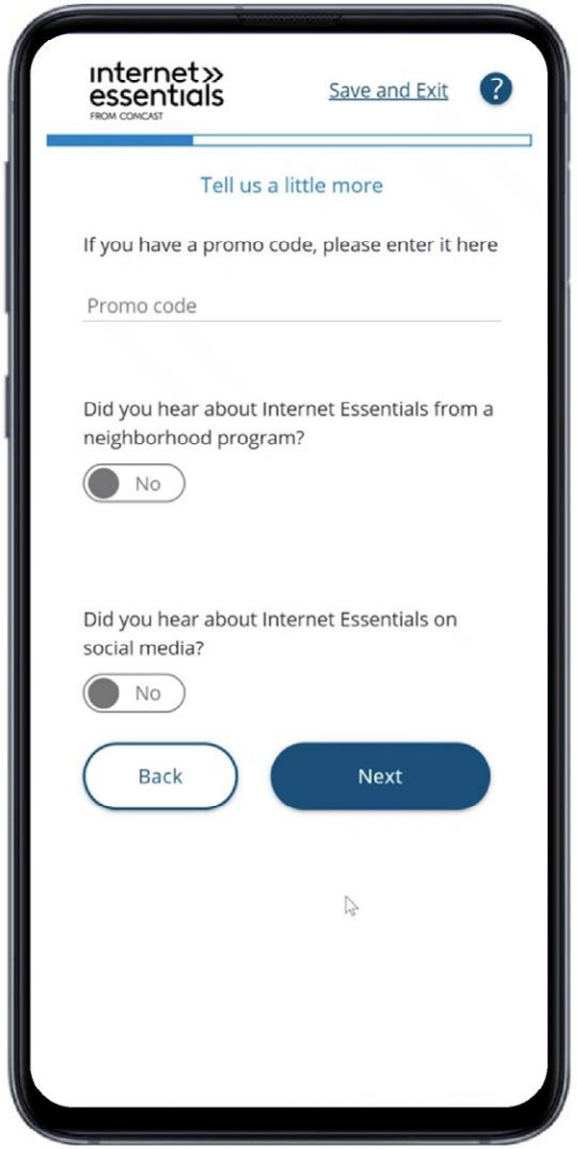
Apr

COMCAST 100

What is the Internet Essentials Partnership Program?

The Internet Essentials Partnership Program is designed to help accelerate Internet adoption at a critical time. The program provides the opportunity for school districts and other organizations to fund and quickly connect large numbers of students and families to broadband access at home.

Partners, such as schools, healthcare providers, and other community-based organizations, have the ability to sponsor, or pay for, Internet Essentials service for their eligible members/families at a cost of $9.95 + tax per month per household. The minimum requirements to establish a Partnership Program Agreement are at least a six-month term for at least 25 eligible applicants that are new to the program.



COMCAST 101

Internet Essentials Confronts All Three Barriers to Internet Adoption

Internet Essentials is designed to be a wrap-around solution to directly confront every barrier to digital adoption by offering affordable Internet, subsidized computers, and free digital literacy training to eligible low-income families.

Affordable Internet Service

Speeds of 50/5 Mbps for $9.95/month + tax per household.

- No contract or credit check
- Free Self-Install Kit*
- In-Home WiFi included
- Access to Xfinity WiFi Hotspots xFi
- Parental Controls and Advanced Security
- New Internet Essentials customers will receive two free months of Internet service if they apply and are approved by June 30, 2021.

Low-Cost Computer

Internet Essentials Customers can purchase a low-cost computer for $149.99 + tax.

- Internet-ready laptop or desktop with a 90-day warranty
- Equipped with Windows 10 and Office 365

Digital Literacy Training

Households may also participate in free digital skills training to better understand the Internet and the many ways it can benefit them.

- Free Internet training available online, in person, and in print

2 **Taxes, home drop-off, and professional install extra.*

Who Is Eligible for Internet Essentials?

Households may be eligible for Internet Essentials if they:

- Qualify for programs like the National School Lunch Program, housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others.
- Live in an area where Comcast Internet Service is available.
- Have not had Comcast Internet in the last 90 days.
- Households who owe money to Comcast may still qualify if approved by 6/30/2021.

Interested households are asked to apply either online at InternetEssentials.com or over the phone.

,iii/ AMIZI:0251

Lift Zone:
Program Overview

Comcast's Program to Launch More than 1,000 Wifi Connected eLearning Centers Nationwide

Internet»
essentials
FROM COMCAST

What are **Lift Zones**?

Comcast announced a multiyear program to launch more than 1,000 WiFi-connected "Lift Zones" in community centers nationwide to help students get online, participate in distance learning, and do their homework.

The COVID-19 crisis has put many low-income students at risk of being left behind and has accelerated the need for comprehensive digital equity and Internet adoption programs to support them. Lift Zones are intended to help those students who, for a variety of reasons, may be unable to connect to distance learning at home, or who just want another place in which to study .

This initiative will provide free hotspot connectivity, and also access to hundreds of hours of educational and digital skills content to help families and site coordinators navigate online learning. Lift Zones complement Comcast's Internet Essentials program, which, since 2011, has helped connect more than 8 million low-income people to the Internet at home. The Lift Zones initiative comes on the heels of Comcast's recent launch of its new "Internet Essentials Partnership Program," which focuses on enabling cities, school districts, and community-based organizations to connect large numbers of low-income students to the Internet at home to support distance learning.

internet essentials FROM COMCAST

COMCAST

Current Lift Zones

City of Pittsburgh

NAME	ADDRESS
Bedford Envision Center	2305 Bedford Avenue
Bethany Communnity Ministries	7745 Tioga Street
Boys & Girls Club of WPA - Lawrenceville	4600 BUTLER STREET
Boys & Girls Clubs of WPA - Shadyside	6 Brownwell Place
Center That Cares @ Wesley Center	2701 Centre Avenue
CoLab18	100 S. Commons
Community Forge	1256 Franklin Ave.
Gwens Girls	711 W COMMONS
Gwen's Girls Wilkinsburg	1256 FRANKLIN AVENUE
HACP Arlington Heights	3123 CORDELL PLACE
HACP Bedford Dwelling	2275 BEDFORD AVENUE
HACP Homewood North	10 ALBERTICE STREET
HACP NorthView Hts	415 Mt. Pleasant Road
Homewood YMCA	7140 Bennett Street
Hosanna House	807 Wallace Avenue
Jeron X. Grayson Community Center	1852 ENOCH ST
Kaufmann Center	510 HELDMAN STREET
The Shop	621 N. Dallas Avenue
Thelma Lovette YMCA	2114 Centre Avenue

Allegheny County

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY
Best of the Batch Foundation	2000 West Street	Munhall
Boys & Girls Club of WPA - Carnegie	630 WASHINGTON AVENUE	Carnegie
Coraopolis Hub	912 4th Avenue	Coraopolis
Debra Booker Center	100 Park Ave	Natrona Heights
E.R. Crawford Gym	2901 Brownlee Street	McKeesport
Groveton Village	511 Groveton Dr	Coraopolis
Gwen's Girls Clairton	307 Shaw Avenue (1st and	Clairton
Hays Manor	205 Locust Street	McKees Rocks
LaRosa Family Center	901 Ravine Street	McKeesport
Lloyd Hayden Center	480 Park Avenue	Natrona Heights
Millvue Acres	1090 Marion Circle	Clairton
MoonCrest Neighborhood Center	308 Hemlock Drive	Moon Township
MoonCrest School Community Center	120 MoonCrest Drive	Moon Township
Orchard Park	1001 Ridge Street	Duquesne
Pleasant Ridge Community Building	251 Jefferson Drive	McKees Rocks
Prospect Terrace	29 Prospect Drive	East Pittsburgh

Want more info?

Elizabeth Crow@comcast.com

Jennifer Cloonan@comcast.com

Jennifer Halaszynski@comcast.com

Additional Details:
FAQs

IEPP Frequently Asked Questions

Who do I contact with general questions?

- Partners interested in the Internet Essentials Partnership Program should **click here** to provide their information and submit a request.
- Contact your local Comcast or Internet Essentials representative
- Email:IEPP_Support@Comcast.com can be expected within 24 hours Mon-Fri.

Who do I contact if I have a billing issue with my Internet Essentials Partnership Program account?

- You can either email us atIEPP_Support@Comcast.com, contact your local Internet Essentials representative, or for more immediate support please call 844-963-0193 and ask for your dedicated client manager.

What if one of my sponsored families or constituents has additional services from Comcast? Am I billed for them or just Internet Essentials?

- The Internet Essentials Partnership Program is built to only bill you for active Internet Essentials service. If one of your constituents adds TV, Phone or Home Security, they will be responsible for those charges. In addition, if one of your constituents upgrades to a higher tier of internet, you will no longer be billed for Internet Essentials for that account and the constituent will be responsible for all charges.

Who do I contact if I need additional promotional codes?

- Promo code tracking is recommended. Sponsors should keep track when distributing promo codes so they can match specific codes to their applicants, and try to keep the promo code per applicant consistent across touchpoints. If additional codes are needed, please email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and your dedicated client manager will be in touch to confirm and timing. Please include the Sponsor name in the subject line and the following information in the email:
  - Sponsor Name
  - Sponsor Address
  - Sponsor Account Number (if available)
  - Sponsor Phone Number
  - Number of promo codes needed
  - NOTE: If you have already hit your contractual limit, we may need to create an addendum to the contract.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can a promo code be reused if an applicant is denied for Internet Essentials?

- No, the promo code cannot be reused and the denied applicant needs a new promo code and to call 844-963-0178. If you need additional codes please contact Comcast at IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and include the Sponsor name in the subject line.

Who do I contact if one of my sponsored constituents complains of a service or billing issue?

- If the constituent is a current and connected Internet Essentials customer, they can contact Comcast at 1-800-XFINITY for help.

If no resolution has been provided, the sponsor can email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com.

What happens if one of my constituents has additional services and is shut off due to non-payment?

- The Internet Essentials service will not be disconnected. They would need to contact Comcast at 1-800-XFINITY to bring their account back to current or set up a payment arrangement in order to reconnect the other services.

What happens to the families we're sponsoring if my organization falls behind on payments?

- If this should happen, all sponsored accounts would have their Internet Essentials service disconnected. In the unlikely event this should happen, please email IEPP_Support@Comcast.com and your dedicated client manager will be able to assist with next steps. Please include the Sponsor name in the subject line and the following information in the email:
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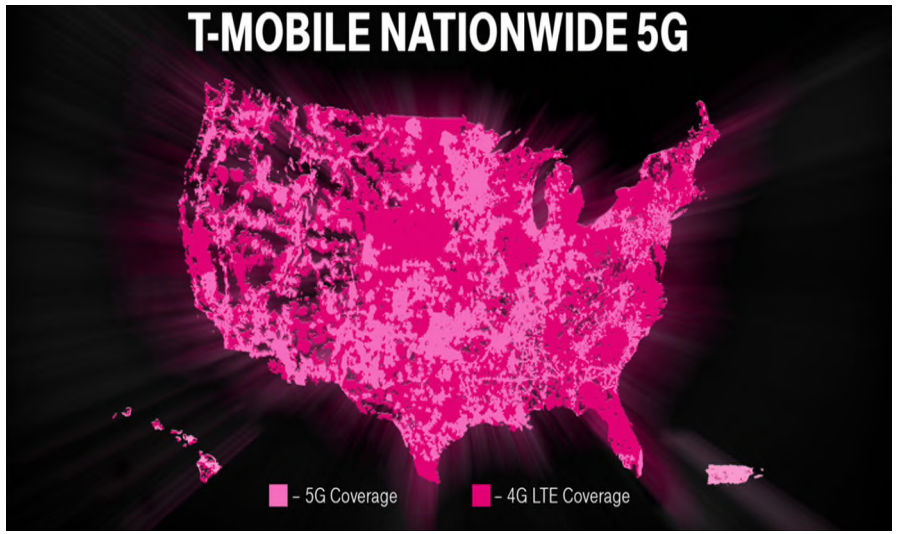

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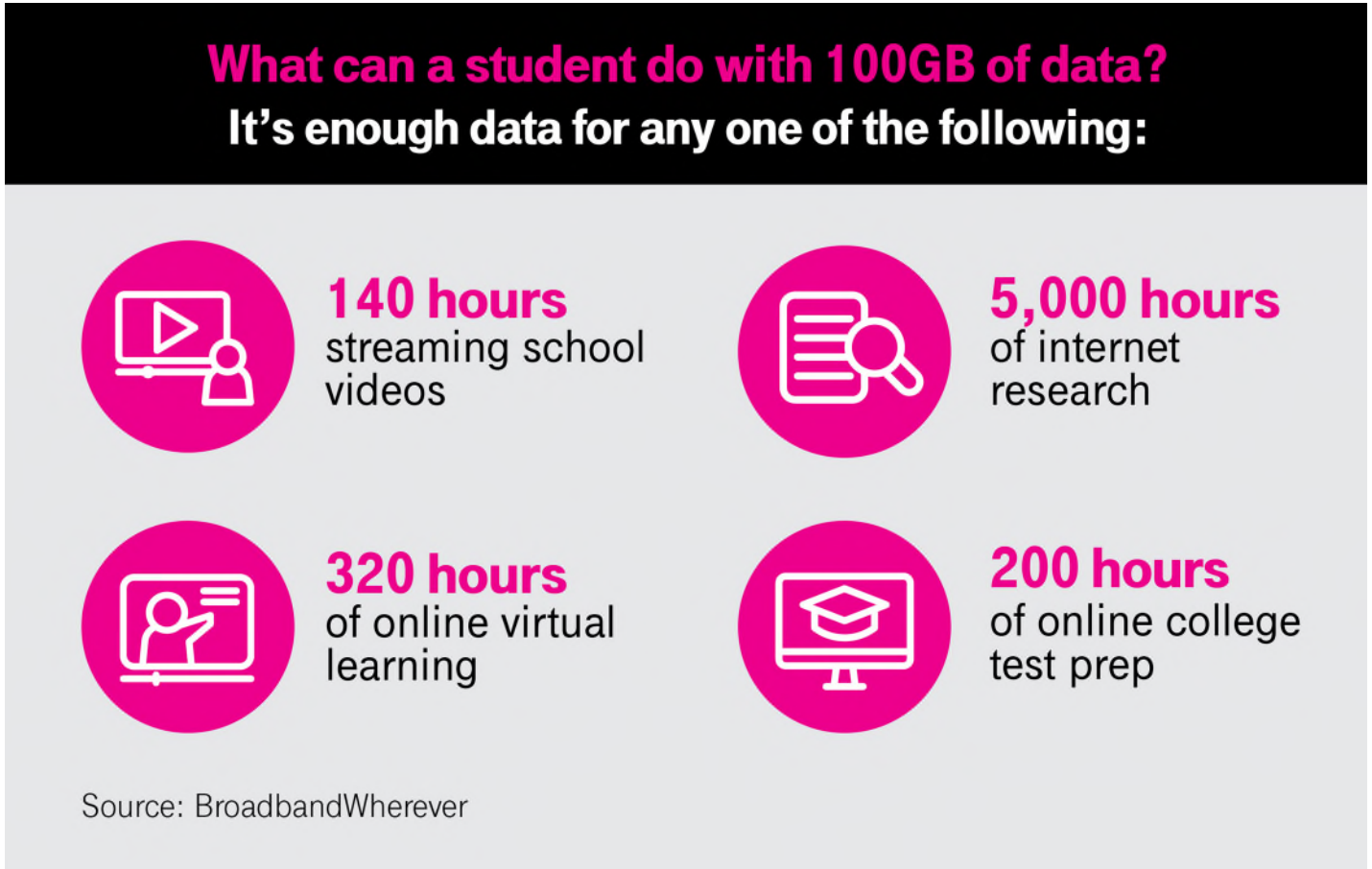

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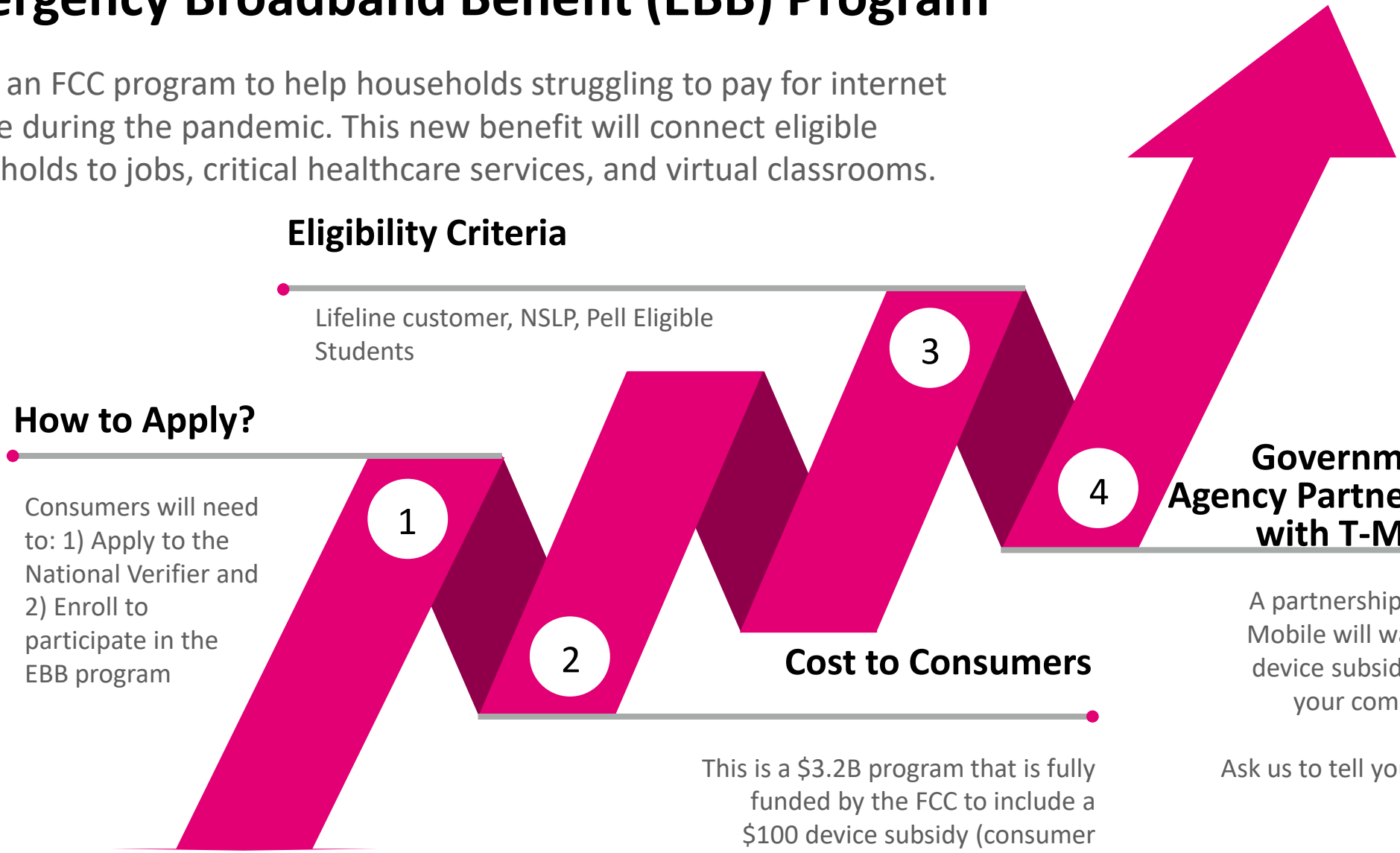

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The Allegheny County Housing Authority

Services for Residents

The ACHA will be offering a wide variety of services for our residents through our EnVision Center at Hays Manor (in partnership with Focus on Renewal). Some of those services will include:

- Computer Classes for Adults
- Children's Coding Classes
- Financial Literacy & the Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS)
- Job and Career Assistance for Adults and Youth
- Health Services (COVID-19 vaccinations, CVS Healthcare Bus)

computer reach

20 Years . . . digital literacy for all

LOCALLY, in Western Pennsylvania, Computer Reach serves multiple communities, see our map.

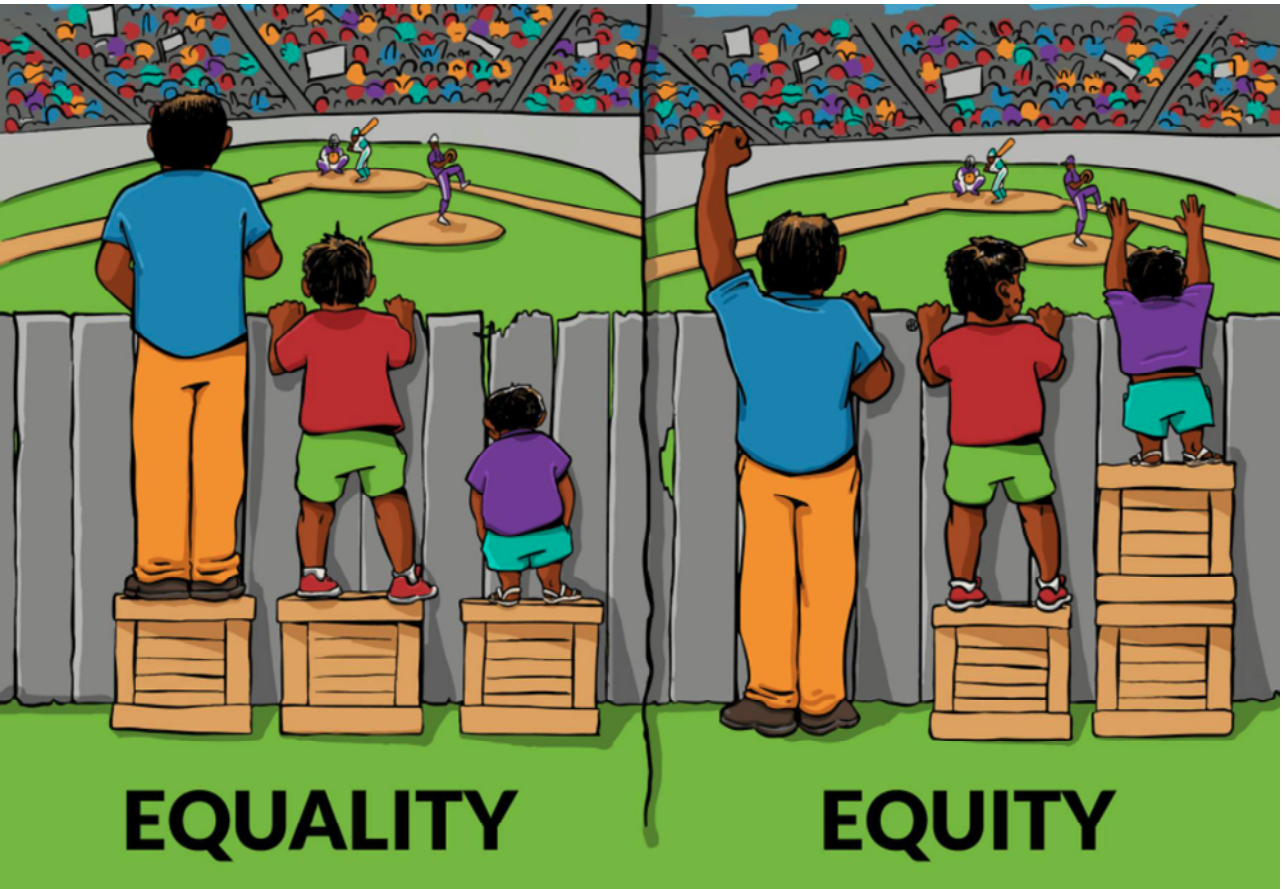
NATIONALLY, Computer Reach has served nonprofit organizations and individuals in **47 states, plus DC** including: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, **New Mexico**, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Washington DC, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Leaving only Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming yet to be reached.

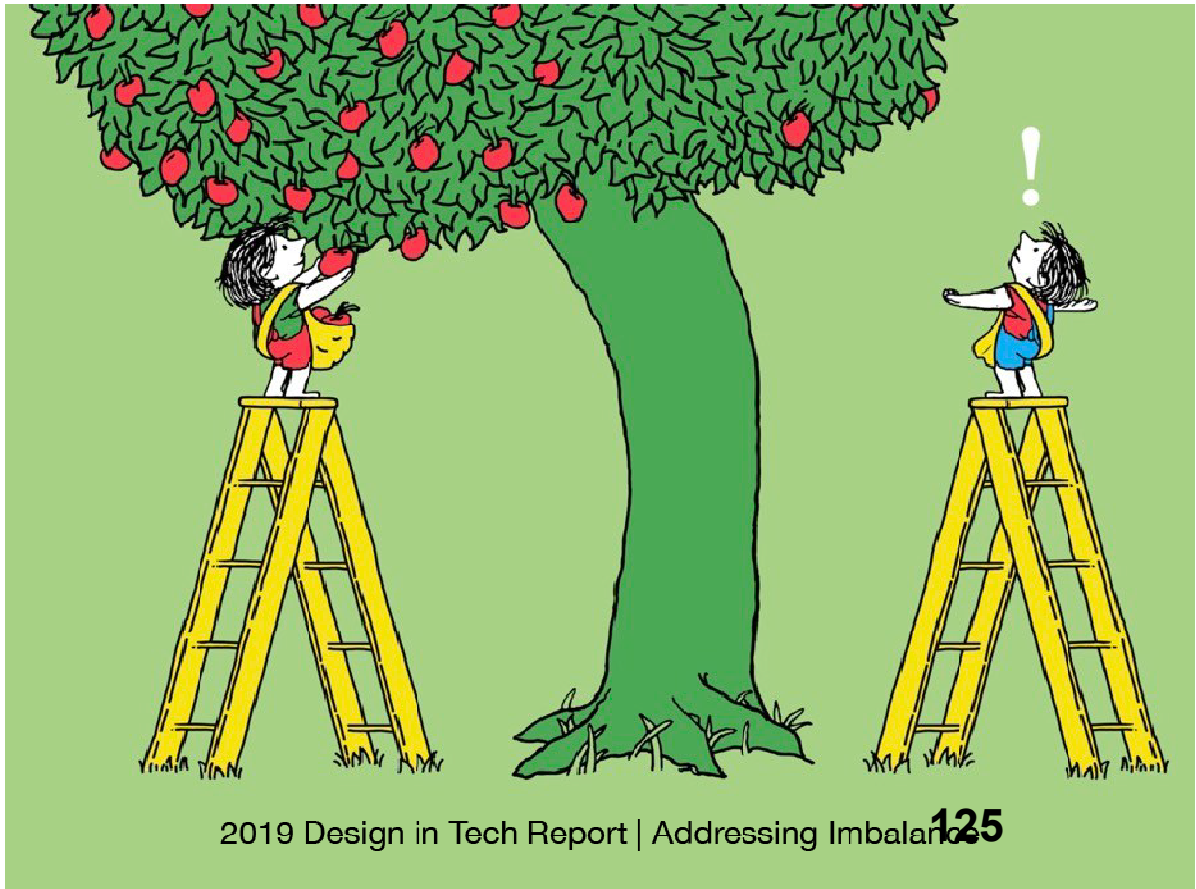
INTERNATIONALLY, Computer Reach has served non-governmental organizations in **40 Nations** including: Bahamas, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, **Puerto Rico**, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

Dave Sevick, Executive Director, **Computer Reach,** dsevick@ComputerReach.Org **412-444-8816**

Equality means each individual or group of people is given the same resources or opportunities.

Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances and allocates the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach an **equal** outcome.





Pittsburgh Digital Inclusion Coalition

7 organizations with wide networks that serve our Pittsburgh region:

1. A+ Schools (educational access) **James Fogarty**
2. The Education Partnership (school supplies) **Josh Whiteside**
3. Neighborhood Allies (neighborhood resources) **Vanessa Buffry**
4. Allegheny County Housing Authority (subsidized housing) **Bev Moore**
5. Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh (aging community) **Laura Poskin**
6. Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania (youth programs) **Lisa Abel-Pal**
7. Computer Reach (computer literacy) **Dave Sevick**

NORTHSTAR

aftrr.org™
Alliance for Technology Refurbishing & Reuse

Digital Navigator
National Digital Inclusion Alliance
www.digitalinclusion.org

NORTHSTAR

Read about **building your digital literacy skills** during COVID-19 restrictions. Testing locations: see our **info on remote proctoring and resources**.

Computer Reach

1 DRV Drive
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
4124448816 • info@ComputerReach.Org

NORTHSTAR

Read about **building your digital literacy skills** during COVID-19 restrictions. Testing locations: see our **info on remote proctoring and resources**.

Using NS During COVID-19

March 18, 2020

Updated 2/13/21 with updated proctoring methods and best-practices documentation for remote proctoring.

Testing locations: as the COVID-19 situation progresses, we are aware that the ways in which testing locations use Northstar may well change. We hope you feel free to be creative and try new ways of helping people master digital literacy skills - which are even more crucial as so much of daily life moves online.

COVID

Videos - 24hr access

Live Remote instruction
Phone voice
Phone

Live In-Home instruction

Digital Navigator support

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New Normal

30 Topics

In person class size 4-5 students
Vaccinated, spaced out, no masks

Basic Computer Skills (New)	View Report	1385	1045	75.5%
Internet (Legacy)	View Report	563	391	69.4%
Internet (New)	View Report	986	730	74%
Windows 7 (Legacy)	View Report	77	35	45.5%
Windows 10 (Legacy)	View Report	163	119	73%
Windows 10 (New)	View Report	194	117	60.3%

Mac OS (Legacy)	View Report	172	82	47.7%
Mac OS (New)	View Report	55	33	60%
Email (Legacy)	View Report	525	376	71.6%
Email (New)	View Report	670	522	77.9%
MS Word Office 2016 (Legacy)	View Report	123	66	53.7%
MS Word Office 2010 (Legacy)	View Report	58	38	65.5%

MS Word Office 2016 (New)	View Report	255	184	72.2%
Social Media (Legacy)	View Report	727	507	69.7%
Social Media (New)	View Report	559	331	59.2%
MS Excel Office 2016 (Legacy)	View Report	113	86	76.1%
MS Excel Office 2010 (Legacy)	View Report	34	27	79.4%
MS Excel Office 2016 (New)	View Report	141	104	73.8%

MS Excel Office 2016 (New)	View Report	141	104	73.8%
MS PowerPoint Office 2016 (Legacy)	View Report	179	81	45.3%
MS PowerPoint Office 2013 (Legacy)	View Report	51	11	21.6%
MS PowerPoint Office 2016 (New)	View Report	130	84	64.6%
Information Literacy (Legacy)	View Report	156	68	43.6%
Information Literacy (New)	View Report	25	6	24%

	Career Search Skills (New)	View Report	24	11	45.8%
	Your Digital Footprint (Legacy)	View Report	37	2	5.4%
	Your Digital Footprint (New)	View Report	0	0	0%
	Docs (New)	View Report	0	0	0%
	K-12 Distance Learning (New)	View Report	0	0	0%

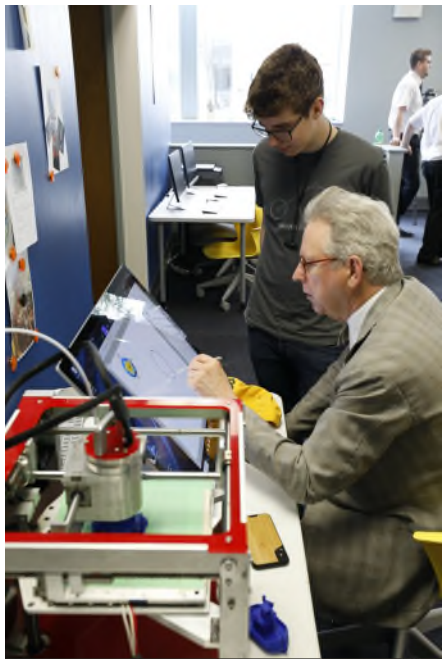
Bridges 2 Tech
Best Buy Teen Tech Center @ PHASE 4

Aaron McKinnon & Josh Stewart

Programs- PHASE 4 Learning Center

- Alternative Education
- Diploma Workforce Program
- Best Buy Teen Tech Center
- C2C Career Pathways/Bridges to Tech
- Learn and Earn

www.phase4learningcenter.org



Bridges 2 Tech

9-month program

Recruit from local HUD housing ages 14-21

Work readiness

Internships

Hands on Projects

Guest Speakers

Example- Table Project

- CEO Dr. Terrie Suica-Reed's Birthday present
- She has dedicated her life to helping youth with a second chance
- To display our appreciation we embarked on the Table Project

Background- Table Project (Cor

- Starting from scratch we built and end table from wood and engraved a barn scene into the top using the Makerspace
- Youth used the Green Screen Room to video record personalized Birthday messages
- Lastly, they used the recording studio to record a song of appreciation for Dr. Suica-Reed

Skills Learned

In one project- the youth used the following technology:

- Basic hand tools, squares, drills
- Cameras, editing software
- Music studio software
- Art technology
- Wood engraver
- The art of sanding, staining, and clear coating

Lessons Learned

- Let youth work to their strengths to develop the self confidence to try new things
- Connecting the youth to your projects can have great benefits
- Never underestimate the power of peer to peer learning
- Projects with multiple parts teach accountability, teamwork, and problem solving to individuals and the group

Looking Forward

- Most people learn by doing
- Consider your youth (skills, interests, hobbies)
- Develop projects for YOUR youth- build relationships!
- Set project goals and deadlines to keep the project moving
- It is possible to learn and have fun at the same time!

Contact Information

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(724) 581-6968

Rec to Tech

Digital Inclusion in Youth Programming

Intro

Rec to Tech started in 2016 with the idea of changing our recreation centers into Tech spaces. The City of Pittsburgh currently houses 10 recreation centers and 13 senior centers in which local residents frequent regularly. The goal is to create a space where students can not only use the physical equipment but also engage in a number of STEM activities. Those activities include tech, robotics, artificial intelligence and programming. In the last two years we have ramped up our work. Although we still have much further to go we have been able to accomplish enough to be proud of the direction we are going .

Cohorts

- Paulson Coding Camp (2019)
- Phillips AI Bootcamp (2019)
- Warrington Coding Camp 2019
- Digital Coding (Camp (2021)
- Digital Coding Camp Summer (1) 2019
- Digital coding Camp Summer (2) 2019
- Holiday Coding Class January (2019)
- Black History Month Coding Camp (2021)

Partnerships

Included with the programming are a number of strategic partners that we have been able to collaborate with and in some cases they have been able to contribute to growth of Rec to Tech.

- Remake Learning
- Stem Coding Lab
- Digital Harbor Foundation

Contributions

- Penguins Foundation donated 100k to Ammons Recreation Center.
- Through the National Science Foundation Pittsburgh and Baltimore have acquired a 1.5 million dollar grant to continue the work.

Thanks!

Contact us:

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Digital Inclusion Coordinator for
The City of Pittsburgh

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https://pittsburghpa.gov/

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Emily L. Miller

Librarian at Carnegie Library

What is Academy PGH?

We host 12 week sessions to train individuals to work at in demand jobs.

Half of our seats are reserved for people that are underrepresented in tech.

6 months after graduation, over 80% of our grads are employed, making an average of over $55K

Our extended network includes over 100 graduates working for various organizations in the Pittsburgh region.

SFU
FOOTBALL

Upcoming sessions

#AcademyPGH13

Sep, 2021 - Dec, 2021

Days & Times:

Mon – Thu | 9 AM to 5 PM

Fri | 9 AM to 12 PM

#AcademyPGH14

Feb, 2022 - May, 2022

Days & Times:

Mon – Thu | 9 AM to 5 PM

Fri | 9 AM to 12 PM

How do I pay for Academy?

- $10k up front OR

- ISA (Income Share Agreement)
  - Pay after class is over (plus grace period)
  - Don’t start paying until you’re making at least $45k per year
  - Pay 10% of your monthly income for 24 non-consecutive month
  - You will pay between 0 and $16k
  - If you never make $45k in the 5 years after Academy, your obligation is done and you owe nothing

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Knowledge Build Hudson

Government Relations Liaison and Special Projects Coordinator
Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh
Knowledgebuild.hudson@hacp.org

2021 ConnectHomeUSA Digital Inclusion Convening

Thank You!