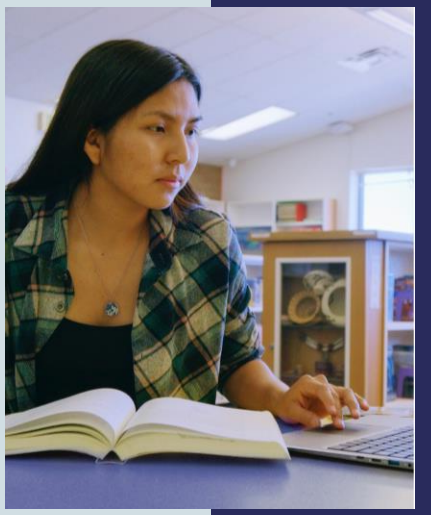
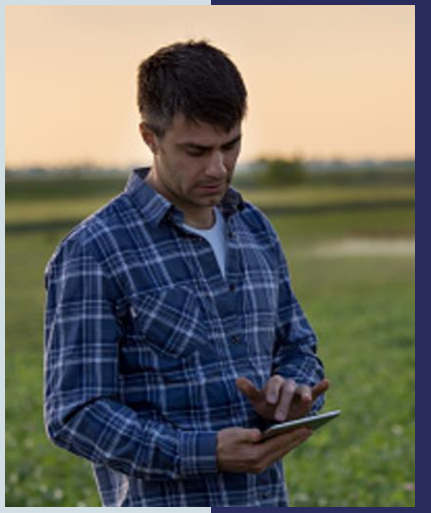
February 17, 2023

Tribal Collaboration

Digital Equity Outcome Area Working Group





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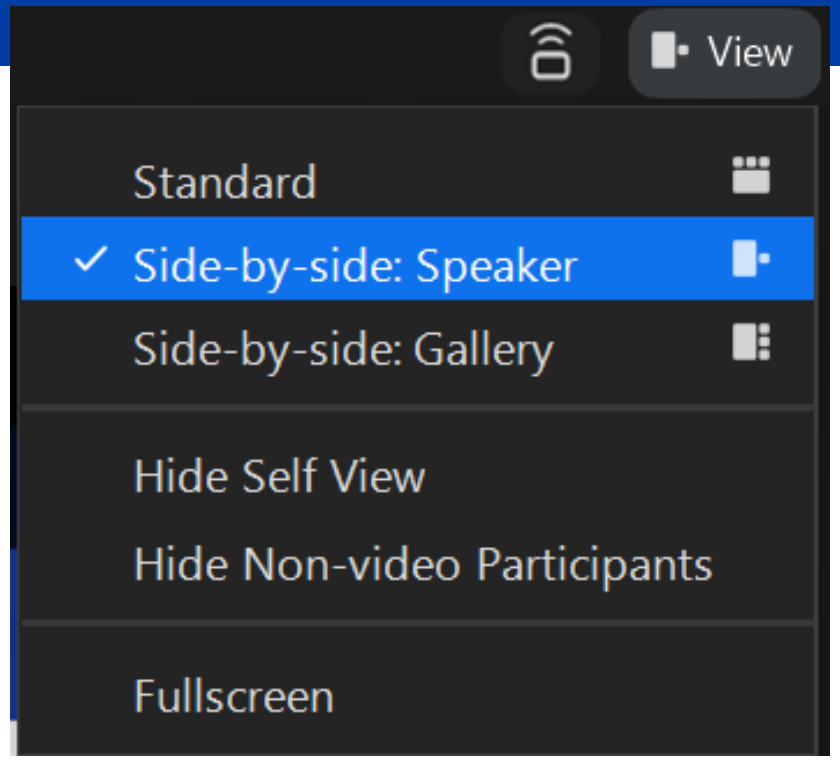
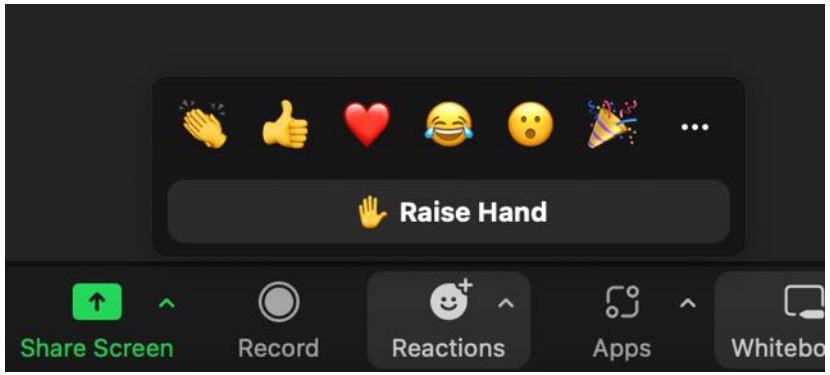
Tribal Outcome Area Working Group

Housekeeping

1. **ASL Interpreters** are in the spotlight along with the speakers, please make sure to view in Side-by-Side: Speakers Mode when the presentation slides are shared.
2. **Closed Captions** English closed captions are available. Choose “CC closed caption” on your toolbar and select "show subtitle".
3. **Chat** We invite everyone to introduce themselves in the chat! Share your name, pronouns, organization/title, and where you are joining us from. You should also use the chat to drop questions for our speakers, our staff will be monitoring the chat.
4. **Reactions** Raise Hand features





AGENDA

- Introduction to the State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) Process
- What is Digital Equity and Why is it Important?
- Community and Lived Experiences
- Calls to Action
- Next Steps and Close

Introduction to the State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) Process

Scott Adams
Deputy Director of Broadband and Digital Literacy
California Department of Technology

Access

Affordability

Adoption

Digital Literacy & Inclusion

Broadband Council (2010)

Executive Order N-73-20 (2020)

Broadband Action Plan (2020)

Senate Bill 156 (2021)

Middle Mile Broadband Initiative ↔ **Last Mile Programs**

Assembly Bill 2750 (2022)

IIJA Broadband Programs (2022)

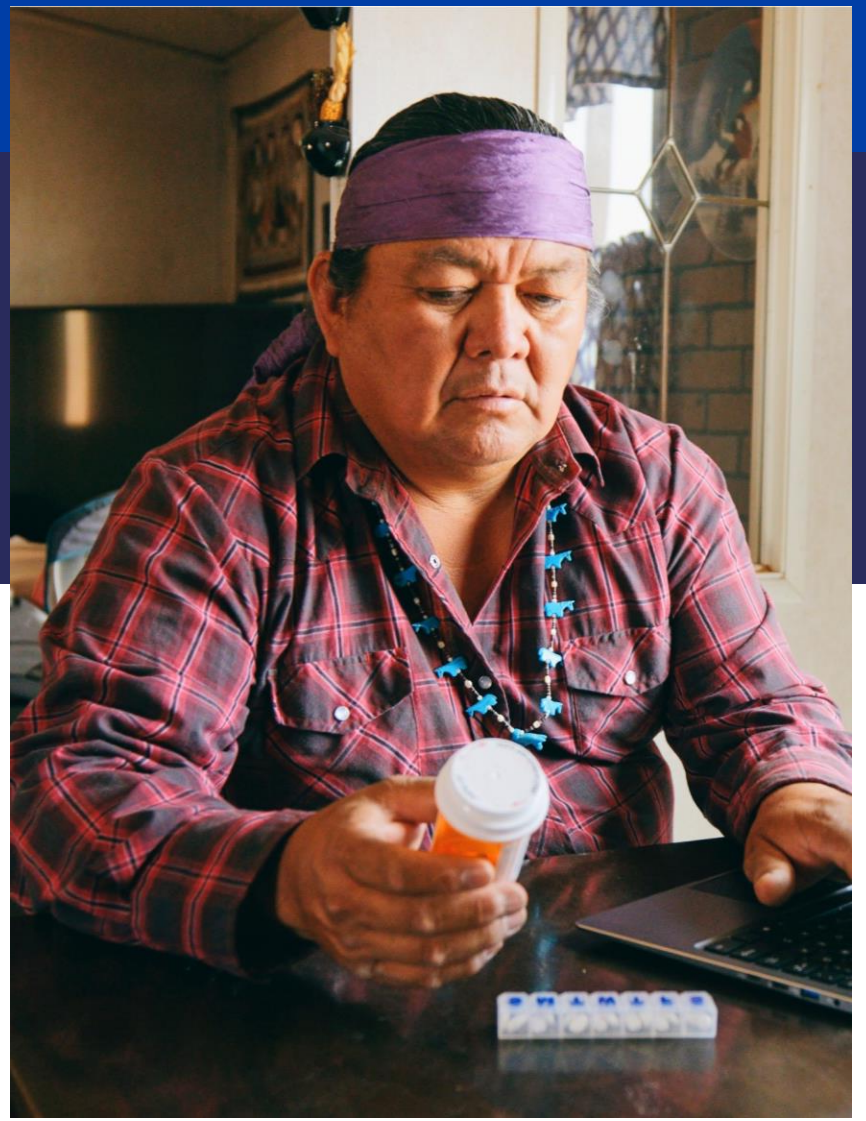
- Affordable Connectivity Program
- Digital Equity Act Programs
- Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment Program
- Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program
- USDA ReConnect Program

SDEP APPROACH

Planning Components

The State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) process will consist of five components:

- Statewide Planning Group (SPG)
- Outcome Area Working Groups
- California Digital Equity Survey(s)
- Regional - Local Outreach Events
- Statewide Public Engagement



SDEP APPROACH

Six Outcome Area Working Groups

1. **Education**
2. **Health**
3. **Digital Literacy and Inclusion**
4. **Essential Services, Accessibility and Civic Engagement**
5. **Workforce and Economic Development**
6. **Tribal Collaboration**

OAWG STAFF

Scott Adams, Cole Przybyla, Laura Sasaki, Anh Nguyen
Contractors + Graduate Student Assistants

SDEP PLAN REQUIREMENTS

Covered Populations

The Digital Equity Act prioritizes investments for eight "Covered Populations"

1

Individuals living in covered households
with an income at or below 150% Federal Poverty Level

2

Aging individuals
(60+)

3

Incarcerated individuals
other than individuals who are incarcerated in a Federal correctional facility

4

Veterans

5

Individuals with disabilities

6

Individuals with language barriers
including individuals who Are English learners; and have low levels of literacy

7

Members of a racial or ethnic minority group

8

Individuals who primarily reside in a rural area

SDEP APPROACH

Working Group Objectives

Outcome Area Working Groups will convene subject matter experts and practitioners together to develop strategies that align with SDEP priorities, through the lens of the digital equity barriers of the eight covered populations.

Working Group objectives:

1. Develop a statewide stakeholder map for each outcome area
2. Conduct an asset inventory of programs, plans, and services for each outcome area
3. Promote and encourage participation in the statewide digital equity survey
4. Conduct gap analyses for each outcome area
5. Develop recommendations to CDT for inclusion in the SDEP

What is Digital Equity?

Why is it Important?

Gladys Palpallatoc
Federal Program Officer
National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Abi Waldrupe
Digital Navigator Manager
National Digital Inclusion Alliance

Davida Delmar
Digital Inclusion Manager
AMERIND Critical Infrastructure

Matthew Rantanen
Senior Advisor, Tribal Broadband
Golden State Network / CENIC

What is Digital Equity? Why is it Important?

Discussion

Prompts:

1. What does digital equity mean to you?
2. Why is digital equity important for the specific communities you serve, including covered populations?

What is Digital Equity? Why is it Important?

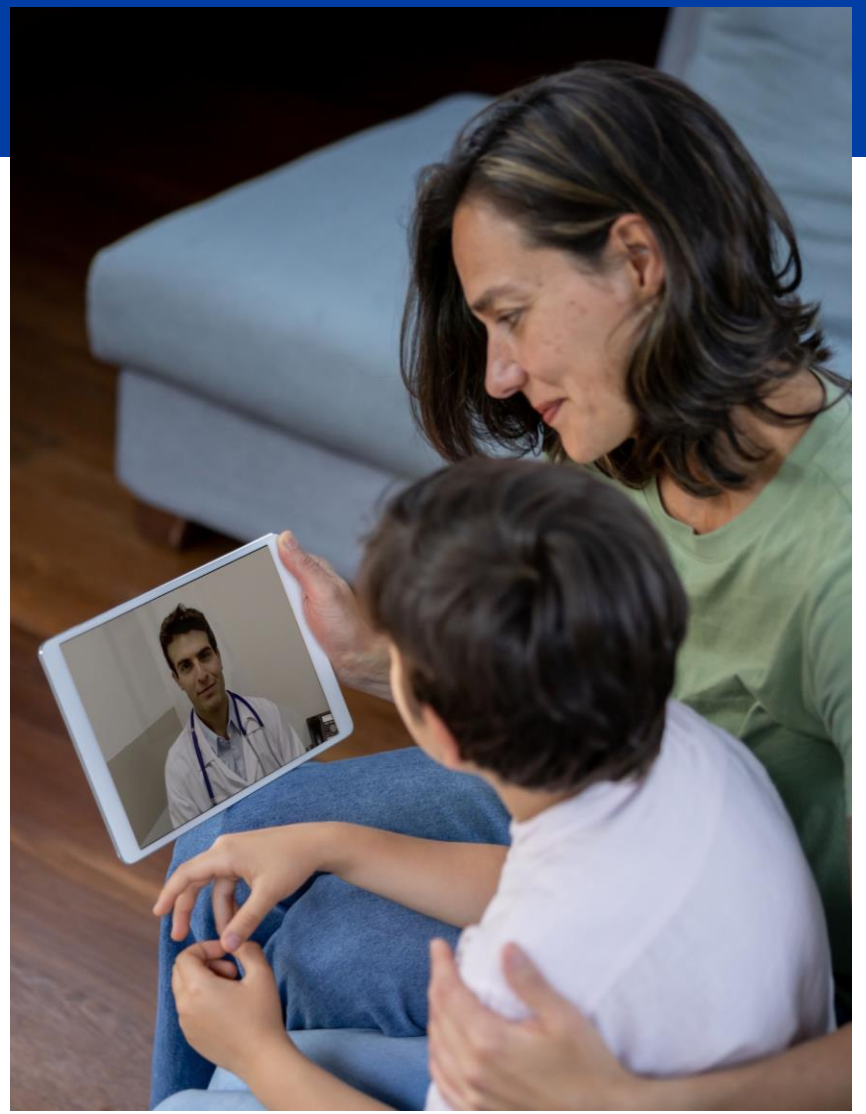
Definition

From the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA):

Digital Equity: The condition in which individuals and communities have the information technology capacity that is needed for full participation in the society and economy of the United States.

Digital Inclusion: The activities that are necessary to ensure that all individuals in the United States have access to, and the use of, affordable information and communication technologies, such as—

- Reliable fixed and wireless broadband internet service;
- Internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user; and
- Applications and online content designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation, and collaboration



Tribal Collaboration OAWG Meeting

February 17, 2023

NATIONAL DIGITAL INCLUSION ALLIANCE

AMERIND Critical Infrastructure

digitalinclusion.org | @netinclusion

PRESENTERS

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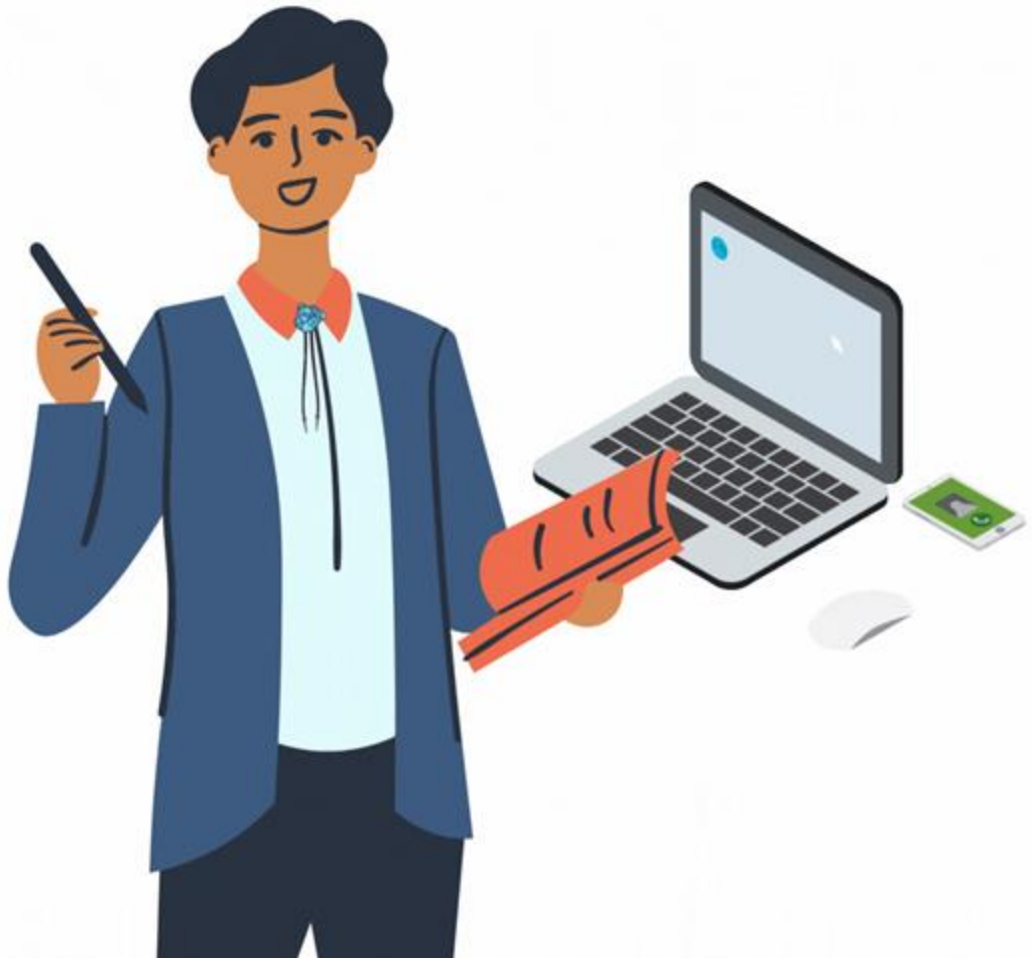
Digital Equity: The Goal

A condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy.

Digital divide is the issue.
Digital inclusion is the work.
Digital equity is the goal.



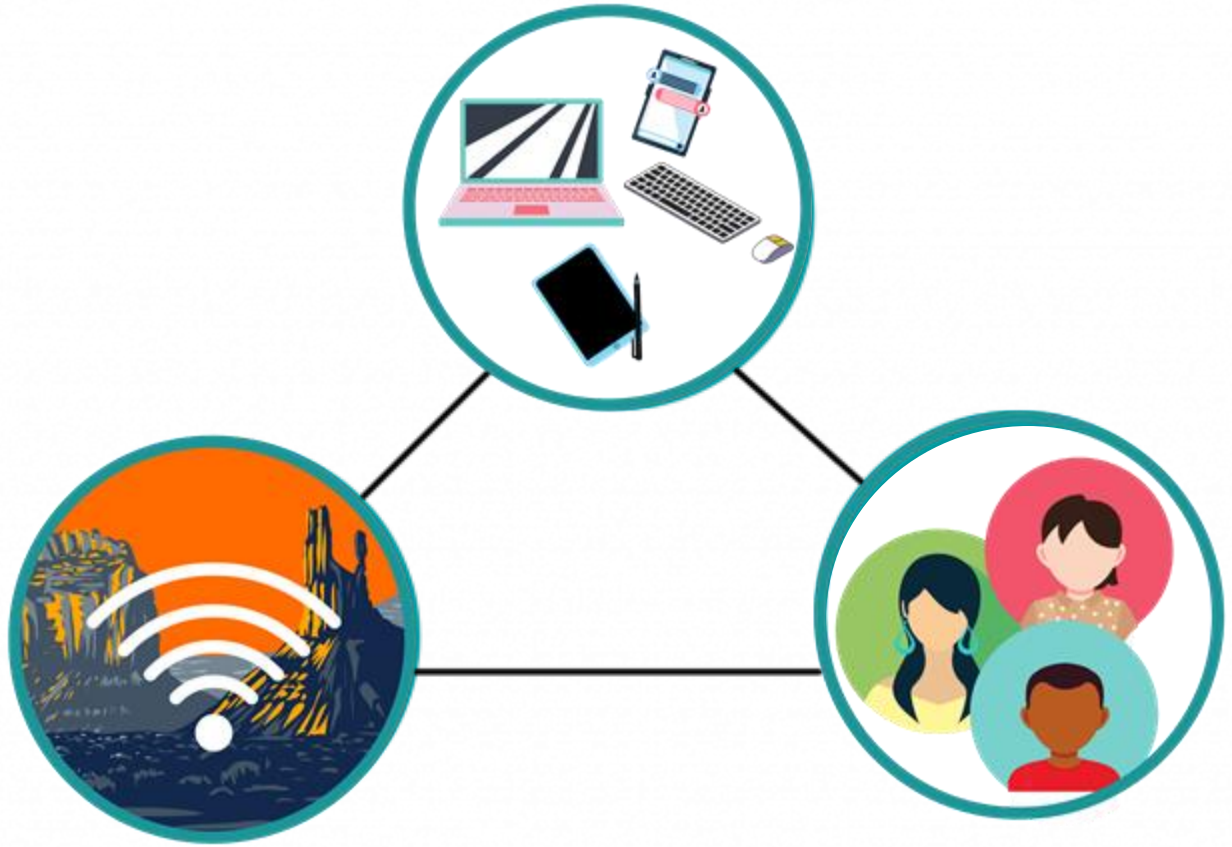
Digital Divide: The Issue

The gap between those who have affordable access, skills and support to effectively engage online and those who do not.

The digital divide disproportionately affects people of color, Tribal lands, households with low incomes, people with disabilities, people in rural areas and older adults.

Digital Inclusion: The Work

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).



Digital Inclusion: 5 Elements

1. Affordable, robust **broadband** internet service
2. Internet-enabled **devices** that meets the needs of the user
3. Access to **digital literacy** training
4. Quality **technical support**
5. **Applications and online content** designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation, and collaboration

Digital Inclusion Ecosystem

A **digital inclusion ecosystem** is a combination of programs and policies that meet a geographic community's unique and diverse needs. Coordinating entities work together in an ecosystem to address all aspects of the digital divide, including affordable broadband, devices, and skills.

Digital Navigators

Digital navigators are trusted guides who address the whole digital inclusion process — home connectivity, devices, and digital skills — with community members through repeated interactions.

Find resources: **digitalinclusion.org/dn**

EXAMPLES IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Digital Connect,

- Digital literacy focused on Telehealth
- Assisting Digital Transformation for Veterans & Serving Military
- Monthly Digital Skills trainings

Other Examples:

- Language preservation for all Tribal citizens.
- Safety initiatives that help emergency initiatives, like MMIW

Tribal Nations Working Towards Digital Equity

Broadband & Wireless access in Tribal lands

- Building capacity - local ISPs, Tribal libraries, workforce development, etc.

Digital equity ecosystem

- Impact of the Tribal community working together, i.e., health access, skill building, elder isolation, cultural preservation
- Tribal leaders engage with community leaders to understand needs.

AMERIND
Critical Infrastructure

Join a community of practitioners.

NDIA Community

Community of digital inclusion practitioners, researchers, and academics. Active listserv and monthly calls.

digitalinclusion.org/join

Indigenous Digital Inclusion Working Group

Community of digital inclusion practitioners in Indian Country. Monthly meeting and developing communication methods.

Email
ddelmar@amerind.com

What is Digital Equity?

Why is it Important?

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Community and Lived Experiences

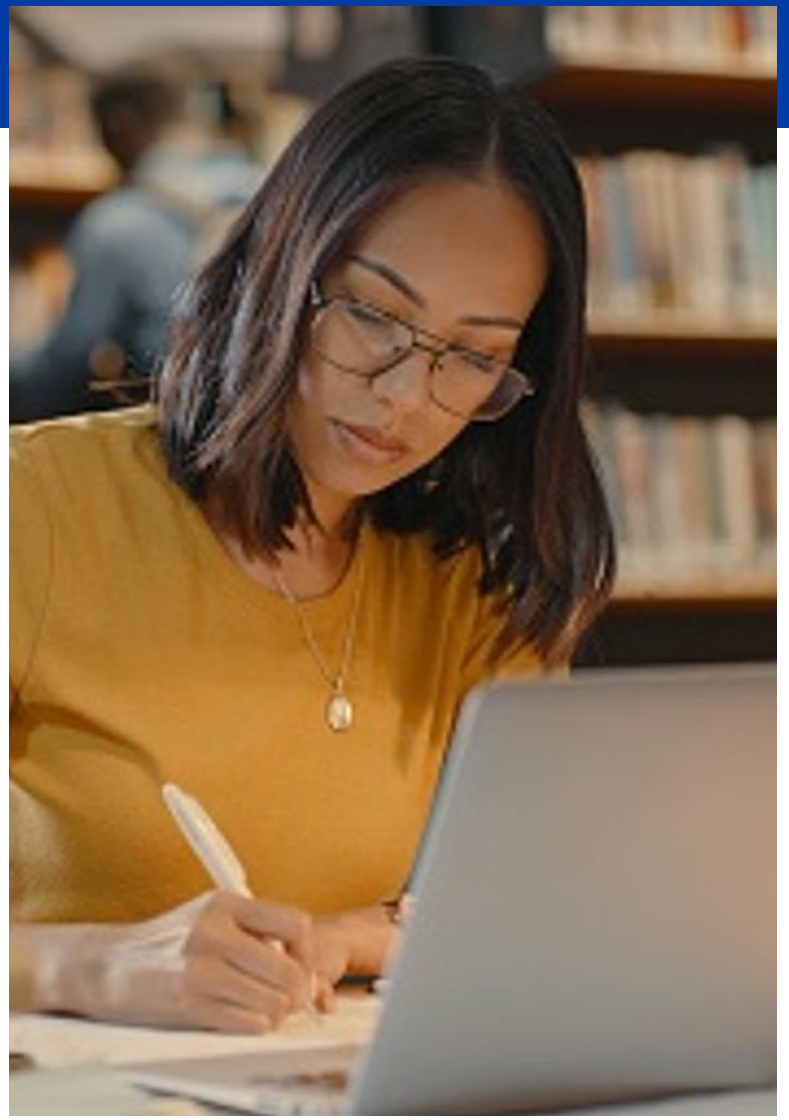
Tribal Collaboration

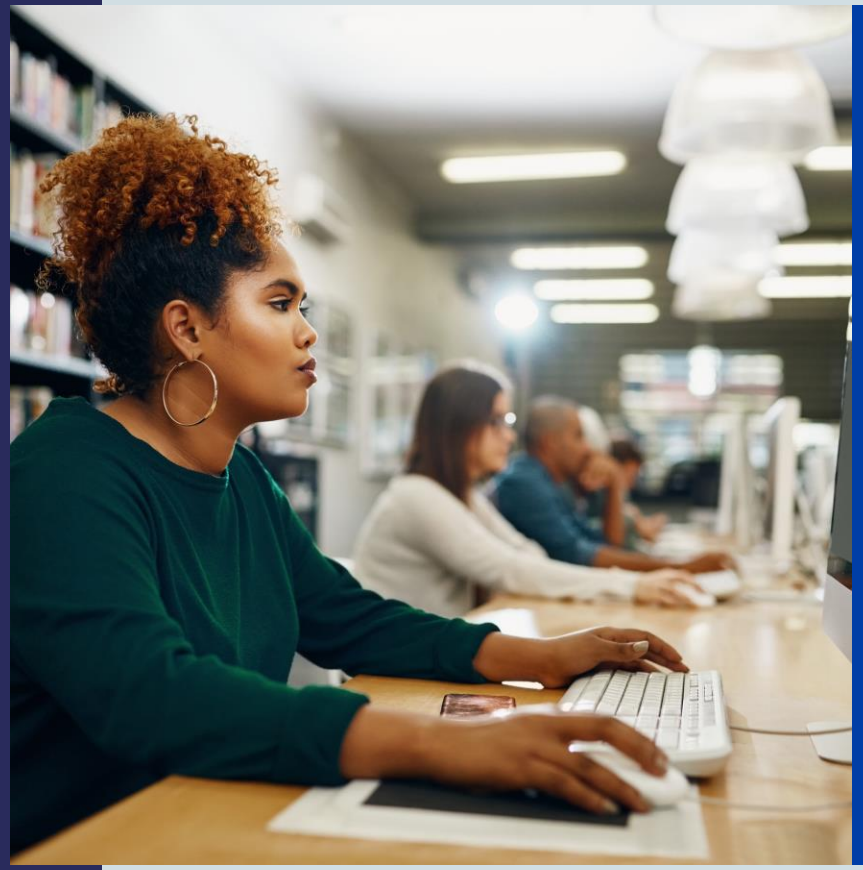
Community and Lived Experience Discussion

Prompts

Please share what you can about what your tribal community is facing in terms of achieving digital equity.

1. What digital equity barriers do your tribal communities and/or those you serve experience? How do those barriers affect educational, health, economic, and social outcomes for Tribal members and communities?
2. What are example of effective approaches that you know of or have worked on that address digital equity barriers for tribal communities?
3. Please share any reflections you might have about our discussion today, topics we have not mentioned, or digital equity in general.





How to Take Action

Tribal Collaboration

NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) Tool

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How to Take Action

Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping

Take Action: Use the DEEM tool

The Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping tool tracks **all Digital Equity** programs and resources throughout California and will inform how grant resources may be distributed. The mapping tool will help identify:

- What programs are being offered, where they're being offered and to whom, and what is missing in each region.
- Barriers to achieving digital equity in every California county.

Timeline: Launch Q1 2023

How to Take Action

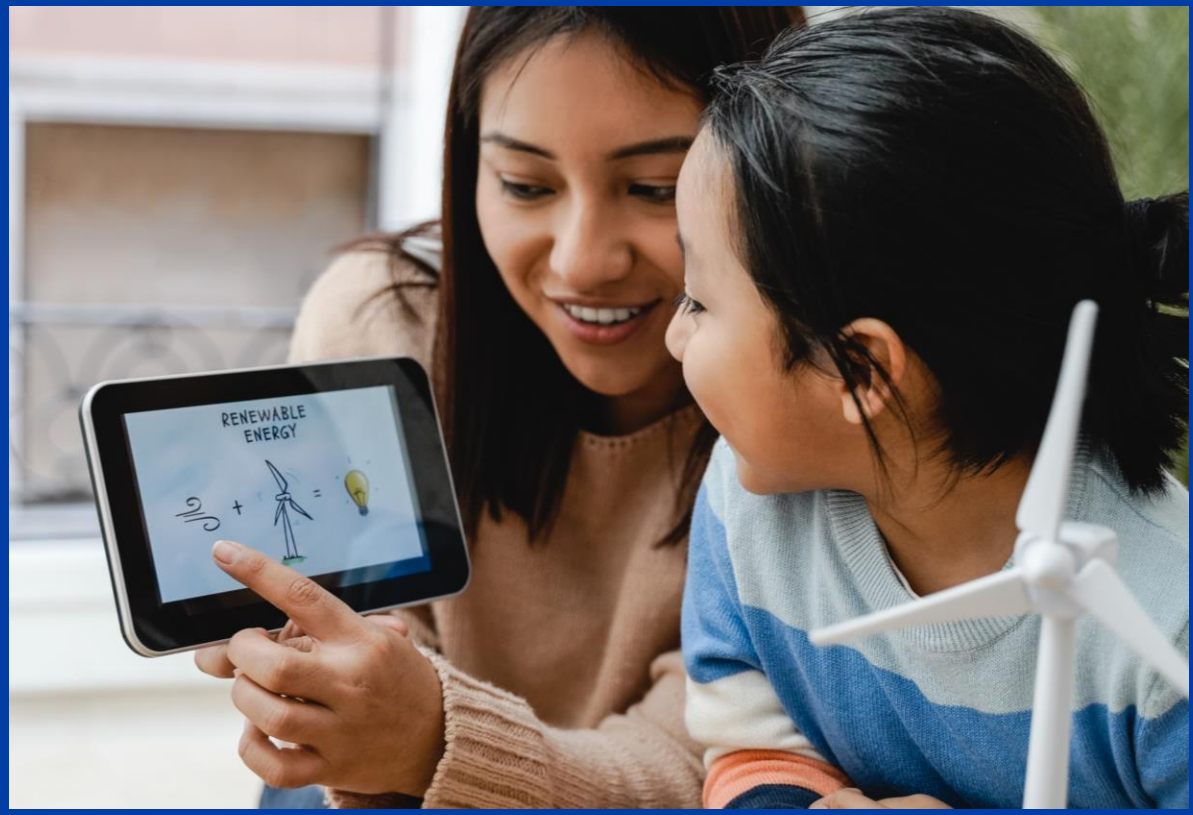
Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping

Who should participate in DEEM?

All entities, coalitions, practitioners, and funders with existing and planned programs and services that provide access to digital equity resources in communities throughout California.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Digital Equity Survey



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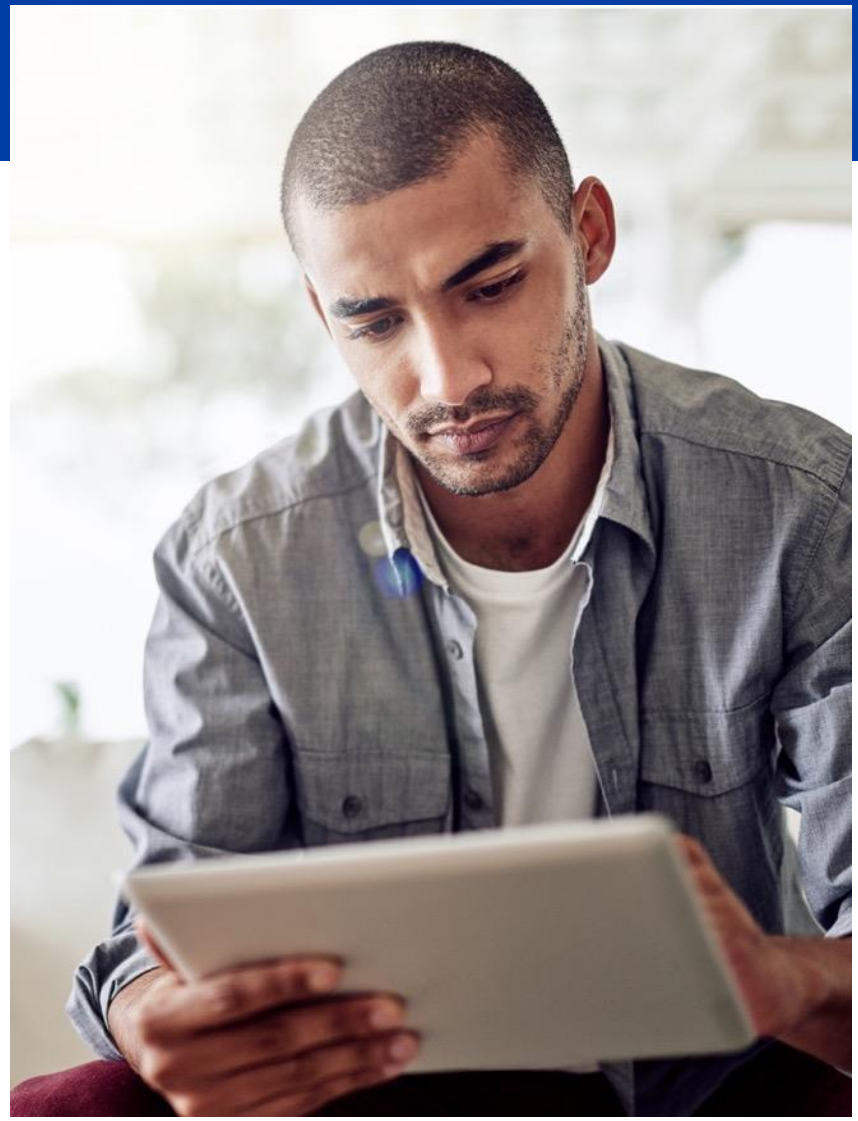
How to Take Action

Digital Equity Public Survey

CDT will distribute a statewide **Digital Equity Public Survey** to residents of California as a civic engagement tool to identify barriers to digital equity, especially for Covered Populations.

The survey is intended to capture information about internet access, internet affordability, and internet adoption for residents in California households.

Timeline: Launch Q1 2023



How to Take Action

Digital Equity Public Survey

Scope

Two versions of the survey will be shared in **all 58 counties** and will oversample for the **eight covered populations:**

- Online survey
- Phone survey

How to Take Action

Other Ways to Get Involved

Members of the public interested in helping inform the State Digital Equity Plan can also:

1. Sign up for updates on the Broadband For All Portal (https://broadbandforall.cdt.ca.gov/state-digital-equity-plan/)
2. Attend a local event near you
3. Complete and share the Digital Equity Public Survey with your friends and family and your networks

Next Steps

Tribal Collaboration

Outcome Area Working Group

Next Steps

Next steps for Working Group will include:

1. Develop strategies that align with SDEP priorities
2. Conduct gap analysis
3. Conduct research, evaluate assets, and develop recommendations for CDT within their assigned Outcome Area for inclusion in the SDEP

Outcome Area Working Group

Future Meeting Topics

Upcoming OAWG Monthly Meetings Will Address:

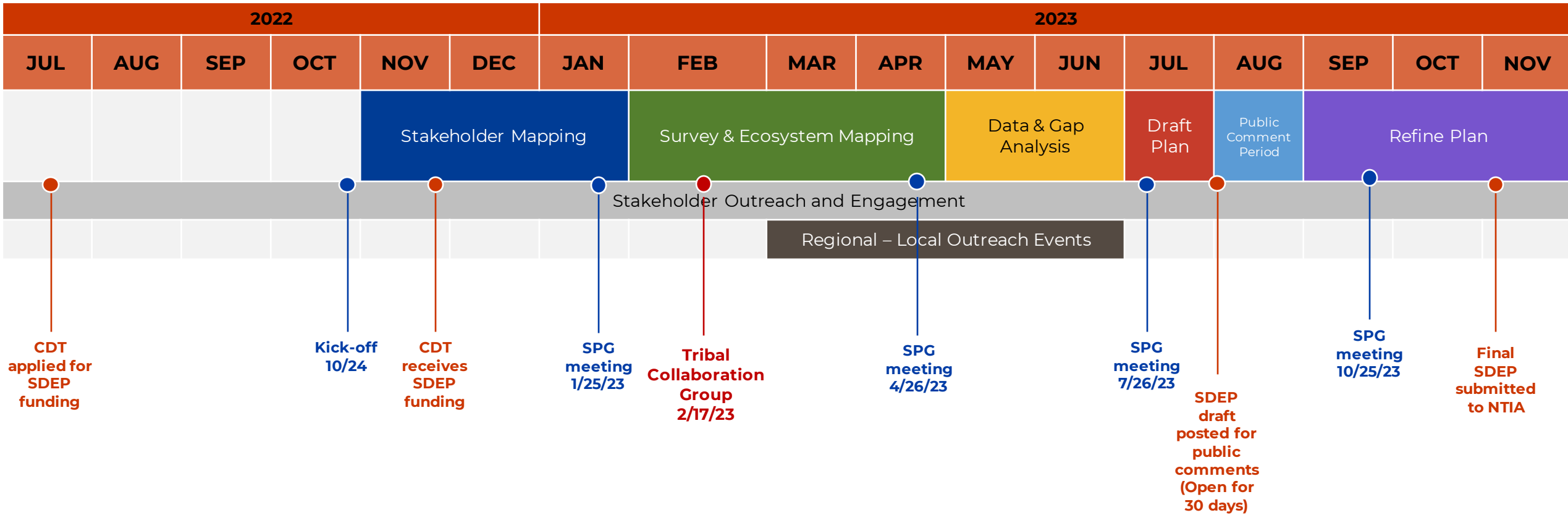
- **March**: How does digital inequity create social, economic, educational, and health disparities for tribal members?
- **May:** What digital equity programs are currently working well in your community? What's missing?
- **June:** Using the Public Survey and DEEM data to shape SDEP priorities.

Next Steps

SDEP Timeline

California State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) Timeline

Important milestones for State Digital Equity Planning:



Contact Us

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Thank You

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