Broadband For All, Digital Equity, and BEAD Regional Planning Workshops
Summary of Recommended Strategies
Friday, April 14, 2023
San Joaquin Valley Workshop in Merced, Merced County
Merced College

	Covered Populations	Recommended Strategies
1	Covered Households (150% FPL)	- Provide free internet and increase eligibility. (21) - Deliver services to housing developments, including addressing barriers with permit process. (18) - Lead an initiative to contact non-profits to connect with households. (18) - Develop strategy to increase ACP enrollment. (12) - Lead an initiative to give equipment (computing devices) to graduates. (10) - Develop capacity to keep programs sustainable. (8) - Provide digital literacy training to all residents. (6) - Collaborate with higher education to come together with Counties and Cities for digital literacy training. (5) - Achieve action so government programs insure smaller providers have resources for access. - Achieve action to service equipment and troubleshoot (with truck rolls). - Develop capacity to partner with rideshare programs that access other services.
2	Aging Individuals	- Achieve action to increase cyber security awareness. (13) - Support strategies to visit aging individuals where they reside and teach age-appropriate and relevant digital literacy. (8) - Partner to sponsor technology days at senior centers. (6) - Secure increased funding for capacity building for libraries and community-based organizations (CBOs). (6) - Fund adaptive and assistive technology. (5) - Support sustainable face-to-face training, including computer centers. (5) - Support municipalities to provide transportation to attend training. (1) - Support groups such as Volunteer Corps to train on telehealth. (2) - Provide incentives for training, including free meals. - Teach people who are blind and deaf.
3	Incarcerated Individuals	- Provide transition assistance to prepare incarcerated individuals to enter the market for work and education, including literacy training. (12) - Achieve action to provide opportunities for workforce training for the formerly incarcerated. (8) - Develop partnerships with the State and Counties to ensure access. (1) - Provide access to digital literacy training while incarcerated. (3)
4	Veterans	- Partner with Veterans Administration to support homeless veterans, including access to mental health and telehealth services. (8) - Support programs to provide laptops and devices to veterans that are not being used by Cities and Counties. (8) - Work with the Veterans Administration to provide support to veterans. (5) - Engage younger veterans to train older veterans on digital literacy. (5) - Provide workforce development for veterans. (4) - Support digital literacy and access to telehealth. (4) - Achieve action to provide digital literacy for veterans through libraries. - Support interactive kiosks on digital literacy at Veterans Administration hospitals.
5	Individuals with Disabilities	- Ensure that devices are compatible for each specific disability. (12) - Support education programs that provide in-home visitation and are within existing care networks. (12) - Encourage ISPs and healthcare providers to ensure that broadband includes adaptive devices. (2) - Provide transportation services where needed for ACP enrollment. (2)

		• Require ISPs to offer lower affordable rates. (1) • Support training for CBOs to assist population including device accessibility and training. (1) • Provide funding to ensure that all websites incorporate accessibility. • Advocate for access and wireless devices availability for people with disabilities. • Fund digital literacy training for people who are blind.
6	Individuals with Language Barriers	• Support better understanding of languages and dialects for training materials (beyond direct translation and interpretation), including developing videos. (25) • Integrate outreach by promotoras with digital literacy training. (13) • Work with ISPs to address language barriers so people understand the services to which they are subscribing. (4) • Partner with health organizations to ensure effective communications with farm workers. (2) • Secure increased funding for translations services when needed for proper communications. (2) • Fund personalized training. (2) • Provide conference and workshops fully in other languages. (2) • Develop capacity to understand semantics to provide correct translations. (2) • Build capacity within communities for "peer" digital literacy training. (1) • Support access to language translation software for CBOs as trusted messengers.
7	Racial or Ethnic Minorities	• Provide free and/or affordable access to services. (11) • Support the delivery of communications from a trusted messenger in the community and meet people where they are to establish trust. (16) • Work with employers to develop partnerships to provide digital literacy training to employees. (5) • Work with ISPs to ensure technologies are respectful of different cultures. (2) • Adopt a practice of listening to communities.
8	Individuals Who Reside in Rural Areas	• Increase competition among ISPs on deployment. (18) • Secure increased funding for the San Joaquin Valley for deployment and technical assistance and training. (7) • Work with the energy utilities to deploy technology and explore the use of alternative technologies, including solar. (6) • Advance public policy so that the voices of rural communities are heard by Legislators. (6) • Foster awareness of the need for agriculture communities to have fast broadband infrastructure and Internet access in the fields (AgTech). (5) • Support redundancy of infrastructure, especially for emergency response. (4) • Fund the deployment of high-speed broadband to anchor institutions. (4) • Provide digital literacy training for women outside of working hours in rural areas.
9	Women	• Support programs to hire and prepare women to provide digital literacy training to low-income households and other Covered Populations. (13) • Fund CBOs to provide tree childcare during digital literacy training. (10) • Sponsor programs in high school to encourage women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). (5) • Propose programs where mothers can stay at their child's school after drop off for digital literacy training. (3) • Support funding for online education opportunities for women and LGBTQ. (2) • Advocate for the visibility of women in media and advertising supporting key issues. (3) • Support training for women in technology careers, including service and infrastructure. (1) • Adopt a practice of bringing training to where women gather and work.
10	LGBTQI+	• Advocate for safe places and health centers that respect privacy to provide mental health support. (8) • Adopt a practice of intentional outreach to the LGBTQI+ population. (8) • Support economic centers to provide computers and support for LGBTQI+ individuals.

Outcome Areas	Recommended Strategies
1 Education	- Provide digital literacy training workshops at different sites including schools and community centers at various hours. (18) - Provide devices for students. (6) - Collaborate with State Agencies for the statewide promotion of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). (5) - Support the continuation of the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). (3) - Support the standardization of certificate programs and training. (1) - Fund curricula that include digital literacy and internet navigation skills. (1) - Support training for educators on content delivery. (2) - Inform higher education that Pell Grant recipients are eligible for ACP. (1)
2 Healthcare	- Ensure sustainable broadband infrastructure to provide high-speed, low-cost services for telehealth. (18) - Lead an initiative to make portals for training available at community centers. (6) - Increase access to technology for telemedicine. (4)
3 Digital Literacy and Inclusion	- Lead an initiative for grassroots training that is hands-on and in-language. (19) - Secure increased funding to support increasing hours for libraries to become digital hubs including weekends and increased hours. (17) - Support Regional Broadband Consortia to support Digital Navigators in communities for all age groups and languages. (14) - Foster a "train-the-trainers" model for CBOs and partners in digital literacy. (10) - Provide online safety training in communities. (6) - Achieve action to provide culturally-relevant curriculum and training. (3)
4 Workforce and Economic Development	- Support entrepreneurship opportunities to move from training to workforce development. (13) - Engage providers to increase focus on broadband infrastructure deployment to economically-disadvantaged areas. (8) - Fund internships and hands-on learning in high schools and colleges, including AgTech. (6) - Support pop-up workshops at civic centers within communities to train people where they are doing other things in daily living. (4) - Foster policies to establish incentives for employers to upscale workers. (1) - Fund digital literacy centers within communities. (3) - Fund small business incubator sites for training and website development. - Support computer collection events near retail stores so donations can be made.
5 Essential Services Accessibility, and Civic Engagement	- Achieve action to bundle high-speed access with other essential services (such as SNAP and other public benefits and services). (23) - Integrate outreach and training within the community to meet people where they are doing other activities in daily living. (5) - Ensure government services websites, and applications are easy to understand.
6 Tribal Collaboration	- Adopt a practice of providing the same information to Tribal Communities and increase collaboration by inviting Tribal Leaders to the table. (13) - Promote the use of federally-qualified healthcare facilities (FQHCs) for telehealth services and digital literacy training. (3) - Encourage Tribes to take advantage of digital literacy training for members. (2) - Assist Tribal Communities in understanding the benefits of broadband. (1) - Advocate for Tribes to identify champions and secure permits. (1) - Advance policy to support federal recognition of all Tribes.

Note: Numbers following Recommended Strategies represent the "votes" by participants at the Workshop.