

Broadband For All, Digital Equity, and BEAD Regional Planning Workshops
Summary of Recommended Strategies
Thursday, June 1, 2023
Pacific Coast Workshop in Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County
Veterans Memorial Hall Community Center

| Covered Populations | | Recommended Strategies |
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| 1 | Covered Households (150% FPL) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in and fund middle-mile projects. (43) • Deploy infrastructure to provide affordable connectivity and accessibility for Covered Households. (19) • Raise poverty-level eligibility and tie it to the geographical region. (13) • Establish grant programs to wire public housing and multifamily housing units. (10) • Develop relationships with Local Governments to identify who qualifies for and needs the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and support their needs. (10) • Promote and facilitate ACP enrollment. (8) • Advocate for a State-funded supplement to ACP. (5) • Fund digital literacy labs for Covered Households in publicly-subsidized housing communities. (2) • Utilize existing programs and services to reach Covered Populations. (2) • Support deployment of public WiFi networks or WiFi trucks. • Expand outreach to increase awareness about subsidized programs (such as ACP) and digital literacy training courses. |
| 2 | Aging Individuals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match seniors with college students for IT services. (31) • Use students as digital advocates for community services for class credit. (20) • Encourage education and outreach to small groups of seniors. (18) • Connect seniors with healthcare clinics and promoters to provide digital literacy education at home. (10) • Develop curricula customized for seniors. (6) • Provide computer and digital literacy classes in senior centers. (6) • Educate seniors about cybersecurity. (6) • Fund age-appropriate computing devices and equipment. (5) • Promote ACP outreach to aging individuals in senior communities. (2) • Collect data about aging individuals from senior communities. (1) • Increase availability of digital literacy trainings to reach aging individuals. (1) |
| 3 | Incarcerated Individuals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a 90-day-to-release bridge program with digital literacy trainings. (23) • Establish education programs that prioritize digital skills. (17) • Increase access to digital literacy training courses. (6) • Implement re-entry programs prior to release. (5) • Provide access to technical skills and job trainings for incarcerated individuals. (4) • Ensure support services are available post-release. (3) |
| 4 | Veterans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage existing programs and services to deliver digital literacy training. (31) • Establish mental health relationships with existing technology-using groups. (3) • Connect veterans with youth to provide digital literacy training and implement financial assistance opportunities. (3) • Engage and collaborate with organizations that serve veterans. (1) • Provide technology access and digital literacy training on personal devices. |
| 5 | Individuals with Disabilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide and educate on digitally-adaptive hardware. (41) • Fund assistive technology and ensure that it is part of computing devices. (7) • Implement policies requiring public agency websites to integrate assistive technology. (6) • Deliver digital literacy training and provide resources to individuals with disabilities with a digital perspective. (4) • Ensure proper access to trainings and tutorials for individuals with disabilities. (2) |

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| 6 | Individuals with Language Barriers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with trusted messengers to reach individuals with language barriers. (33) • Develop and fund a “virtual print shop” with customizable marketing materials that local community-based organizations (CBOs) can utilize. (10) • Engage promotores to reach individuals in-language and in-culture. (10) • Establish trainings in multiple indigenous languages. (4) • Train service providers about available resources so they can better assist the community with language barriers. (3) • Raise expectations and awareness among individuals with language barriers. (1) |
| 7 | Racial or Ethnic Minorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop content that is culturally-aligned and informed by the community. (23) • Leverage community members to provide grassroots outreach to build rapport and trusted relationships. (22) • Engage trusted community messengers. (14) • Promote affordability and access programs on television and radio. (8) • Allow for replacement of devices every 3 years with the ACP \$100 credit. (3) • Increase internet discount programs for minorities. (1) • Provide outreach materials that are accessible to all and ensure variety and diversity of media. |
| 8 | Individuals Who Reside in Rural Areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build middle-mile networks. (78) • Establish community centers in safe places that provide free access to the internet. (6) • Partner with local agencies to identify populations and individuals without access to broadband. (3) • Provide local in-person frequently-offered digital literacy training. (3) • Increase funding for rural infrastructure to achieve equity and justice. (2) • Ensure last-mile infrastructure connections to homes. |
| 9 | Women | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain donations from local businesses and foundations to provide low-cost devices for low-income women and trainings that they can attend. (21) • Organize and fund regional women-led technology support groups. (15) • Establish a low-cost device program directed to women. (9) • Develop and distribute educational materials in multiple languages. (1) • Engage in outreach to women through faith-based groups to provide digital literacy training and information about affordable plans. (1) • Provide information about affordable internet services where women gather. |
| 10 | LGBTQI+ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide education, training, and access in trusted spaces. (12) • Fund peer-to-peer digital education resources. (10) • Value voices and perspectives from LGBTQI+ community. (6) • Promote Internet safety for LGBTQI+ individuals. (5) |
| Outcome Areas | | Recommended Strategies |
| 1 | Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure computing devices in schools are modern updated technology. (15) • Fund programs to allow graduating students who are income-eligible to keep school-issued computing devices. (12) • Allocate more funding for all schools to implement training programs. (11) • Establish digital literacy training programs for parents. (11) • Provide devices to students with cellular connectivity. (6) • Train school stakeholders on cybersecurity. (4) • Connect all schools and community anchor institutions and build out networks from these organizations. (4) • Distribute hotspots to students. (4) • Ensure access for all. (3) • Appropriate State funding to purchase devices for all students. (2) • Adopt statewide standards and procedures for monitoring student devices for cybersecurity. (2) |
| 2 | Healthcare | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with outreach groups to inform communities about free and low-cost healthcare options and hire staff to train patients on using online systems. (38) • Provide rural communities with telehealth due to their limited access. (5) • Establish accessible healthcare hubs for use in the community. (2) • Offer financial incentives to medical providers to offer telehealth services and adopt digital check-ins for appointments. (2) |

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| 3 | Digital Literacy and Inclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish student loan re-education for those who teach digital literacy skills. (18) • Engage trusted community leaders to lead trainings and have youth paired with seniors at times that work for the community. (17) • Incentivize programs to teach digital literacy and technology. (12) • Fund bilingual digital literacy trainings in libraries. (9) • Treat access to digital skills as essential as a public utility. (7) • Offer trainings in multiple languages with different learning modalities. (5) • Develop mentoring programs to train Digital Navigators. (5) |
| 4 | Workforce and Economic Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish resource centers with technology access and training to support workforce and economic development. (20) • Promote current resources provided by workforce centers. (5) • Provide access to in-person and direct-contact trainings and ensure that these services are offered at convenient times. (4) • Improve access to computing devices and digital literacy services. (2) |
| 5 | Essential Services Accessibility, and Civic Engagement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat digital access as essential as a public utility. (43) • Partner CBOs with local funders to provide skills training and devices. (16) • Implement policy that increases interpretation within essential services staff to combat language barriers. (11) • Establish grant opportunities for existing trusted CBOs. (3) • Ensure access and awareness for all. (1) • Educate residents at the community level. (1) • Provide trainings based on the age of groups to normalize technology. (1) • Integrate multiple languages into online services. (1) |
| 6 | Tribal Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the “train-the-trainer” model to bring services to Tribal Communities. (22) • Build upon existing community knowledge to collaborate with Tribes. (16) • Engage trusted partners to collaborate and work at the grassroots level. (8) • Fund Tribal broadband youth camps. (4) • Identify and engage with community leaders and trusted voices. (3) • Tie services to what Tribal Communities need. (2) • Provide more funding to Tribal Organizations for technology assistance and capacity building. (1) • Fund community outreach liaisons to engage Tribal Leaders. (1) |

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