RAISE Texas Summit 2023
MAR 2 - 3
at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
CONNECT TO EFFECT: BUILDING AN EQUITABLE FINANCIAL ECOSYSTEM FOR TEXANS
Connecting Texans with Digital Equity

Plenary Session – March 3rd
seven million

TEXANS IN THREE MILLION HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS THE STATE DO NOT HAVE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS.

Texas Office of Broadband Development
Digital equity is an integral component of broadband access and adoption strategies statewide.

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examples of broadband access challenges

- inequitable deployment
- digital discrimination
- inaccurate data
- gaps in oversight
- reactive broadband policies
known obstacles to broadband adoption

- cost-prohibitive service options
- intermittent subscriptions/access
- underresourced Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) outreach
- lack of community-based partners (libraries, nonprofits, etc.)
- language and training barriers
Household Impact

- The lack of broadband adoption is concentrated among low-income households nationwide.
- Native American, Black/African American, and Hispanic/Latino American households lack broadband adoption at substantially higher rates.
- Adults who do not have broadband internet access at home are more likely to be unemployed or out of the labor force.
- People without broadband adoption are more likely to be uninsured, even after controlling for income, race, age, and geography.

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"Measuring Broadband Should No Longer Be Binary" explains why the data collection model used to determine whether a household had a landline phone cannot adequately measure broadband access in the 21st century.

"Digital Divide Estimates Rarely Account for Its Ripple Effect on Communities" illustrates the lesser-known impact on communities in Michigan.
Economic Consequences and Generational Impact of the Digital Divide is a report focusing on the nationwide impact of deficient broadband access and adoption strategies.

“Will Dreams for Equality Be Deferred by Gaps in Technology?” highlights some of the household-level economic disadvantages that accompany digital inequities.
ONE HOUR?
ONE DAY?
ONE WEEK?
Dallas is ranked #6 in the country and #1 in Texas of urban cities with families lacking internet access.
29% of low-income households do not own a smartphone
17% of Black workers and 32% of Latino workers have NO digital skills.
A DIGITAL CONNECTION FOR ALL

CONNECTIVITY

DEVICES

DIGITAL SKILLS
Cornerstone Kitchen and the State Fair of Texas

- Connected with Pastor Simmons
- Fair Park residents were not able to apply for SFOT seasonal job fair
  - No access to computers or a phone number
- CBP assisted 237 guests with the SFOT seasonal job fair applications, and many were accepted
- 32% of CBP guests in 2019 did not own a cellphone and, without it, could not apply for jobs
  - Inspiration for CARDBoard Connect
Our mission is to connect the digitally disconnected and provide a digital connection for all.

Our recent accomplishments include:

• 2020 Workforce Solution Partner Award
• 2-Year United Way Digital Divide Grant
• 3-Year United Way Community Impact Award
• City of Dallas World Education Services Skilled Immigrant Integration Program
WHO WE SERVE

• Unhoused population
• Justice-impacted Communities
• Residents of Digital Deserts
• Foster age out / Family courts
• Veterans
• Unemployed / under-employed
• Seekers of self-sufficiency
2022 INCOMING CBP GUEST STATISTICS

- Highest Level of Education Attained:
  - 40% - High School Diploma or Equivalent
  - 27% - Some High School
  - 16% - Some College

- 64% are unemployed
- 60% are seeking employment
- 23% have no access to wifi at home
- 49% have a bank account
- 64% use mobile banking
- 23% know their credit score
10-STEP ROADMAP
SUCCESS STORY: ISAIAH K.

Intake Profile
Name: Isaiah K.
Age: 17
Residency: Motel Resident
Education Level: 8th Grade

Primary Challenges:
- No Digital Access
- No HS Diploma
- No Work History or Training

Goals:
- Attain HS Equivalent Certification
- Vocational Training:
  - Machine Operation
  - Mechanics Certification

Outcomes:
- Obtained HS Equivalency
- Received Forklift Certification
- Began April 20, 2021 Target Supplies Logistics
  - Forklift Operator $15/hr

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Digital Skills Training sessions with a focus on various communities:

- Justice Impacted Communities
- Foster Age Out with the Family Courts
- Veterans and Military Families
- Spanish Speaking
- Young Adults / Teens
MULTIGENERATIONAL DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM

• Google Suite Literacy Classes
• Families are also provided:
  • Laptops and hotspots
  • Digital backpack with program materials
  • 10-Step Roadmap Intake Assessment
• Financial literacy training

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JUSTICE IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

• Working with criminal courts, family courts, and foster age-out groups
• Support in reducing recidivism
• Device Loan Program
  • Access to digital equipment to complete court-mandated programming
  • Learn It, Earn It, Keep It
  • 89% of participants do not own a device aside from their phone
Eligible households can receive up to $100 to offset the costs of a computer or tablet.
Texas ACP Adoption
4,185,034 eligible households

- Adoption Rate: 35%
- Eligible Households: 234,800
- Enrolled Households: 81,406
- Eligible Unconnected Households: 102,803

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP) ADOPTION RATES
BUILDING YOUR NP ECOSYSTEM

- Identify digital deserts
- Collaborate with your city
- Support local public libraries and additional local systems
- Create outdoor mobile pop-ups
(EM)POWERMENT POP-UPS
with Dallas Innovation Alliance

• Supply high-speed wifi and on-site assistance at community events

• Assist guests navigating through state and federal programs like the FCC ACP and Free COVID-19 Testing

• Connect guests to community resources that they have available to them
PROMOTING THE ACP

• Collaborate with your city and assist with ACP registration
• Ensure guests know what documents are needed for ACP registration
• Use the FCC Social Media Kit provided online
Thank You

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• Francella Ochillo
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