



### San Diego Promise Zone

## Digital Inclusion in the Promise Zone Workshop Series

### Access to Connectivity

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 | 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Via Zoom

Please provide feedback on this workshop through this [online feedback survey](#).

#### In Attendance

Access Youth Academy, AT&T, California Coast Credit Union, California Emerging Technology Fund, Central San Diego Black Chamber of Commerce, Chicano Federation, City of San Diego Council District 4, City of San Diego Council District 9, City of San Diego Corporate Partnerships, City of San Diego Economic Development, City of San Diego Governmental Affairs, City of San Diego Information Technology, City of San Diego Parks & Recreation, City of San Diego Planning, City of San Diego Public Libraries, City of San Diego Real Estate Assets, County of San Diego Health & Human Services, Cox Communications, CSA San Diego, Environmental Health Coalition, Falcon Strategies, Federal Communications Commission, Good Neighbor Project, Inner City Athletic Program, International Rescue Committee, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Logan Heights Community Development Corporation, National Conflict Resolution Center, Paving Great Futures, Pillars of the Community, Pro-Cal Lighting Inc., San Diego Association of Governments, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego Futures Foundation, San Diego Housing Commission, San Diego Parks Foundation, San Diego Unified School District, San Diego Workforce Partnership, SBCS, South County Economic Development Council, Southeastern San Diego Planning Group, The National Institutes of Health, The STEAM Collaborative, Yes, in God's Backyard.

#### Meeting Notes

##### **Access to Connectivity: Emergency Broadband Benefit**

Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa, [keyla.hernandez-ulloa@fcc.gov](mailto:keyla.hernandez-ulloa@fcc.gov), [Federal Communications Commission](#)

Laila Aziz, [laila@potcsd.org](mailto:laila@potcsd.org), [Pillars of the Community](#)

- **Emergency Broadband Benefit:** Offers up to \$50 discount per month off broadband service and associated equipment rental and a one-time discount up to \$100 for purchasing a device through a participating provider (note: consumer has to contribute \$10).

- Enrollment began on May 12, 2021 for this temporary program which will remain open until funds are exhausted (or 6 months after HHS declares its end). Participants must give household notice about the last date or billing cycle that the full benefit will apply; households will need to opt in. If they don't opt in, their broadband services will end.
- To enroll, contact a participating service provider by visiting [www.getmyemergencybroadband.org](http://www.getmyemergencybroadband.org).
- Households are eligible if any of the following apply to them: receives the Pell Grant, receives benefits under the free and reduced lunch program, experienced substantial financial loss, participating in the [Lifeline Program](#).
- Links:
  - [Emergency Broadband Benefit Outreach Toolkit](#)
  - [Universal Service Administrative Co](#)
  - [Get Emergency Broadband - How to Apply](#)
  - [Get Emergency Broadband](#)
  - [FCC Broadband Benefit](#)
  - [FCC Broadband Benefit Providers](#)
- **Community Outreach:**
  - Pillars of the Community is conducting community outreach now through mid-July. Outreach will be conducted throughout San Diego County at schools, job fairs, food banks, mosques, restaurants, community-based organizations, etc.
  - This outreach will also include help with applications, available in Spanish and English, and dissemination of information about the program.
  - Note: Families can receive benefits through children's eligibility with social security so all household members do not need documentation to benefit.
- **Q&A Discussion:**
  - Required Documents: Citizenship is not a requirement – you can apply with social security number or alternative identification documents (ex. driver license).
  - Eligibility: Anyone in the 50 states is available. Households living in Tijuana (or other cities in Mexico) are ineligible, even if their children attend U.S. school.
  - Tracking Enrollment: USAC will be tracking the enrollment data and may release information. However, the FCC does not process this information.
  - Partner Resources Shared:
    - Contact Ernesto Rivera, [Ernesto.Rivera@SDCOE.net](mailto:Ernesto.Rivera@SDCOE.net) for San Diego County Office of Education paid summer youth opportunities.
    - GRID Alternatives offers a [paid fellowship](#) for 17+ year-olds.
    - San Diego Unified is working on a \$20k scholarship opportunity to divert criminal justice/gang-impacted youth who are not engaged in schools.
    - Mental Health First Aid Training: [www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org](http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org)

## **SD Access4All Expansion & Principles**

Jonathan Benhke, [jpbehnke@sandiego.gov](mailto:jpbehnke@sandiego.gov), [City of San Diego Information Technology](#)

- **SD Access4All:**
  - Why: 53,000 San Diego households lack broadband internet services. Access to the internet is critical for services like e-government, civic engagement, telehealth, telebanking, distance learning, work, workforce development, building and maintaining a business, and social connections.
    - Resident Comment: Living in Logan Heights and paying \$89/ month for broadband access is an extreme financial burden.
  - Vision: Building a sustainable digital ecosystem including free public wi-fi hotspots, expanded partnerships with ISPs and non-profits, and creation of an internal Digital Equity Working Group.
  - Internet Access and Public Wi-Fi Questionnaire: [English Version](#) and [Spanish Version](#)
- **Discussion:**
  - Security measures must be taken when using hot spots for things like telebanking and telehealth. Further, communities are open to unknown security breaches and there needs to be safeties in place to protect residents from this.
  - Partner Resources:
    - San Diego Futures Foundation (SDFF) provides free computers and discounted printers for the San Diego Parks Foundation. The City collaborates with SDFF to help wipe computer RAMs clean.
    - Free public wi-fi is available at Horton Elementary and Cesar Chavez Elementary School.
    - [Lokket](#) installed free wi-fi at all San Diego recreation centers.

### **Digital Inclusion Asset Mapping**

Kelsey Baird, [KBaird@sandiego.gov](mailto:KBaird@sandiego.gov), [City of San Diego Information Technology](#)

- **Internet Access and Public Wi-Fi Questionnaire:** Feedback from this questionnaire will help the City understand community needs and develop a long-term strategy. Complete this online questionnaire ([English Version](#) and [Spanish Version](#) by June 14, 2021.
- **Discussion:**
  - The San Diego Housing Commission will be sending 2,000 surveys to people with pre-stamped responses.
  - As discussed in previous agenda items, the security of public hotspots is a major concern (ex. Hackers creating fake hotspots). Other concerns include the issue of conveying the usefulness of internet to residents and addressing fears around privacy and safety for residents.
  - Is there assistance for internet services for nonprofits? *[CPUC](#) is one option. However, even after reduced rate it can still be expensive for small nonprofits*
  - Partner Resources:
    - San Diego Futures Foundation offers free internet safety webinars.

- Cox Communications regularly patches hotspots.
- **Asset Mapping Survey**
  - The goal of this asset mapping is to capture and share out digital ecosystem and identify gaps in digital inclusion services and programming.
  - This will result in public directory which will be shared on SD Access4All.
  - The City is hiring NDIA to help to implement the [Digital Navigator Model](#).
  - Partners include San Diego Continuing Education, San Diego Futures Foundation, Pillars of the Community, and more!

**Next Meeting: Promise Zone All-Partner Meeting**

Thursday, June 17, 2021 via Zoom