



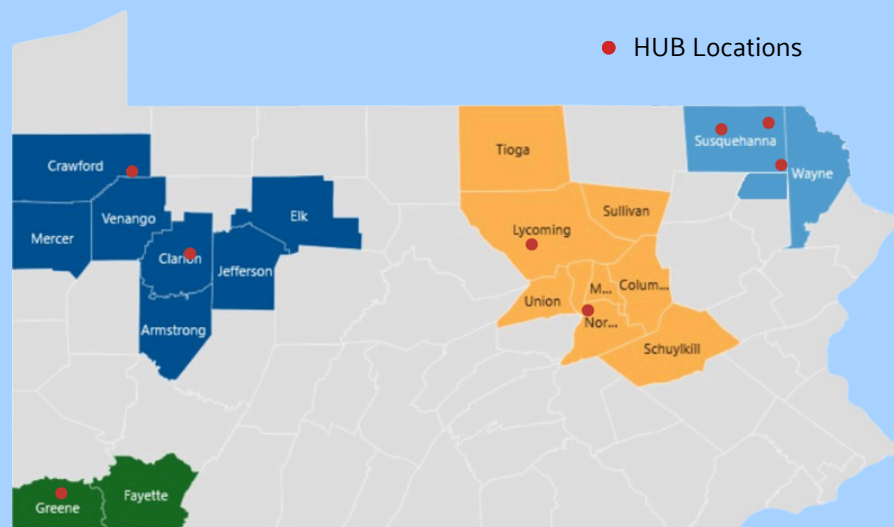
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Pennsylvania

VISION

United Way of Pennsylvania (UWP) Digital Equity Consulting Corps (DECC) aims to bridge the digital divide by promoting access to digital literacy and broadband adoption for underserved populations. This project targets low-income individuals, seniors, people with disabilities, criminal justice involved individuals, ALICE households, and rural residents to fully participate in the digital economy by addressing barriers such as broadband access, affordability, and digital literacy.

Covered Populations:

- Rural Residents
- Low-Income Households:
- Seniors
- People with Disabilities
- Non-English Speakers:
- Veterans,
- Homeless individuals,
- Formerly Incarcerated
- ALICE households



Southwest Hub: Greene and Fayette Counties.

Northwest Hub: Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Clarion, Armstrong, Jefferson, and Elk Counties.

Northeast Hub: Susquehanna, Wayne, and Lackawanna Counties.

Northeast/Central Hub: Lycoming, Sullivan, Tioga, Union, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Schuylkill, and Northern Lackawanna Counties.



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GOALS

Economic Stability, Including Workforce Development and Employment Opportunities

Increase digital literacy and job-related digital skills among underserved populations, enabling them to access online job search platforms, apply for remote work opportunities, and improve financial literacy through online tools. This will improve workforce readiness and increase the variety of potential employment opportunities resulting in economic stability for low-income households, seniors, and other covered populations.

Access to Quality Education

Strengthen existing and create new nonprofit programs to integrate digital education tools that enhance learning opportunities for covered populations. By embedding digital literacy in educational programs, participants will gain essential digital skills, supporting lifelong learning and access to further educational resources, including upskilling opportunities for better employment prospects.

Access to Healthcare

Improve digital literacy in covered populations to enhance access to telehealth services, allowing participants to utilize online health resources, schedule medical appointments, and confidently manage their healthcare needs remotely. This access will help participants to reduce healthcare access barriers, particularly for seniors and rural communities.

Social & Civic Engagement

Foster digital inclusion to promote greater social and civic participation among underserved populations. By increasing confidence in their digital skills, participants will be empowered to engage with their communities and peers online, connect with social services, stay informed about local issues, and participate in civic activities like voting and advocacy.

Community Access to the Benefits of Internet Technology

Build digital equity by ensuring that underserved communities can effectively use the internet for everyday tasks, including accessing public services, financial tools, and educational opportunities. The consulting corps will ensure nonprofits integrate digital access into their programs, reducing digital divides and ensuring that all community members benefit from modern internet technology through informational programs about affordable access to Broadband Equity and Access Deployment Program (BEAD) funded infrastructure and technology investments in their community.



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PARTNERSHIPS & TIMELINES

The Digital Equity Consulting Corps (DECC) is designed to create a sustainable, long-term impact on digital equity and inclusion by embedding digital literacy and broadband access strategies within community-based organizations (CBOs) and building local capacity for ongoing digital support. The project focuses on systemic change, capacity-building, and partnerships that will extend beyond the life of the grant.

Partnerships:

- Blueprints
- Community Action Association of PA
- Lycoming County United Way
- PA Association for Area Agencies on Aging
- PA Workforce Development Association
- Susquehanna County Interfaith
- Susquehanna Valley United Way
- United Way of Clarion County
- United Way of Venango County

Timeline:

Month 1-9 Planning & Set Up Phase

- Hire Key Staff
- Establish Advisory Committee
- Develop CBO Application Process
- Coordinate with Statewide Organizations

Month 3-9 Consultant Recruitment & Training

- Recruit Regional Digital Equity Consultants
- Develop Consultant Training Program

Month 10 - 48 Program Implementation Phase

- CBO Application & Eligibility Assessment
- Deploy Consultants to CBOs
- Establish Regional Hubs
- Community Engagement & Awareness Campaigns

Month 12-48 Ongoing Monitoring & Evaluation

- Pre- and Post-Project Evaluations
- Regular Check-ins and Reporting
- Data Collection and Long-term Impact





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SUSTAINABILITY

- 01 BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY:** Train CBOs to deliver ongoing digital literacy, maintain ISP partnerships for affordable broadband, and provide tech support.
- 02 DIGITAL EQUITY RESOURCE HUB (Connect-PA):** Launch a statewide hub offering accessible, updated digital literacy resources and affordable broadband options.
- 03 LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS:** Forge lasting connections with ISPs, schools, libraries, and other stakeholders to sustain broadband access, device availability, and regular digital equity forums.
- 04 TAILORED DIGITAL EQUITY PROGRAMS:** Co-create programs for targeted groups (low-income, seniors, disabled, non-English speakers) focused on practical, impactful digital skills.
- 05 EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT:** Use feedback and data to refine programs, share best practices, and ensure continuous progress.
- 06 ADDRESSING STRUCTURAL BARRIERS:** Focus on affordable internet, accessible devices, and culturally relevant resources to bridge digital gaps for underserved communities.
- 07 LONG-TERM FUNDING:** Pursue funding from governments, foundations, and corporations to support lasting digital literacy and inclusion efforts across Pennsylvania.

GET INVOLVED

United Way of Pennsylvania welcomes new and potential partners, sponsors, and supporters of the Digital Equity Consulting Corps to contact us:

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