



Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Public Schools IT Digital Equity Collaborative

2022 Trailblazer Application - Indicator 3

Representatives of your local government participate in an open-access digital inclusion coalition.

Best Practices and Resources:

- [NDIA Digital Inclusion Coalition Guidebook](#)
- [FSG How to Lead Collective Impact Working Groups](#)
- [GARE Racial Equity Toolkit](#)

Checklist (Must meet 2 of 3):

- Staff or elected official of your local government serves on a leadership team of the digital inclusion coalition or collaboration.
- Staff or elected official of your local government participates, in an official capacity, in the local digital inclusion coalition.
- Your local government provides significant material support to the coalition, such as coordinating the meetings, providing meeting space, providing refreshments.

Required Supporting Documentation (Must meet 2 of 2):

1. Documentation of the coalition such as a website or meeting minutes.
2. List of organizations that participate in the coalition.

Documentation of the coalition such as a website or meeting minutes

The City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County and the Minneapolis Public Schools created the IT Digital Equity Collaborative.

Staff from the City, County and Schools have been meeting since April 2020.

In 2021 and 2022 the organizations received funding and began to formalize the collaboration by partnering or contracting with local non-profits, Internet Service Providers, computer hardware providers, and other stakeholders.

Accomplishments

- Staff connected with Internet Service Providers to seek support and resources
- Created recommendations to County, City and School leaders
- Regular meetings included Hennepin County Library staff to gather input and solve problems together
- Minneapolis Public Schools provided 18,000 computer devices and 3,500 internet hotspots to Minneapolis K-12 students, using school busses to distribute the equipment



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- School staff included Hennepin County flyers in school lunch bags delivered to homes to promote the library's online resources and education support services
- Coordinated advertising/promotion for Federal Emergency Broadband Benefit/Affordable Connectivity Program in our communities
- Hosted a digital equity roundtable discussion (*Refer to materials provided in Indicator 2*)
- Facilitated computer donations from Dell to PCs for People
- Facilitated partnership between US Internet and PCs for People
- City of Minneapolis continues to donate its end of lifecycle computers to PCs for People
- Applied for and received federal funds for digital equity
- Shared information with local foundations to invite them to participate (see enclosed one page announcement)
- Met with City staff from Tucson, Arizona to learn about fixed wireless technology and solutions for local government
- Provided funding and building/roof access to allow PCs for People's fixed wireless service to be broadcast to the community
- Exploring options to expand internet options for Minneapolis Public Housing residents.

[See more information and how to get involved](#)

[Digital Equity - City of Minneapolis \(minneapolismn.gov\)](https://www.minneapolis.gov/digital-equity)

City, County, and School staff also participate with Connected Minnesota.

[Learn more at Connected Minnesota](#)

List of organizations that participate in the coalition

Active members include

- City, County and School staff
- City Neighborhood and Community Relations staff
- City Communications staff
- PCs for People staff
- US Internet staff
- Comcast is involved through its Internet Essentials voucher program
- T-Mobile is involved through its partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools to provide internet hot spots for eligible families
- Dell



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