



GLR WEEK 2023 JULY 17-21

Bright Spots and Silver Linings

Digital Connectivity & Digital Equity in CGLR Communities

Room 1 Digital Connectivity



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Campaign for Grade-Level
Reading
Des Moines, IA



Digital Access for All

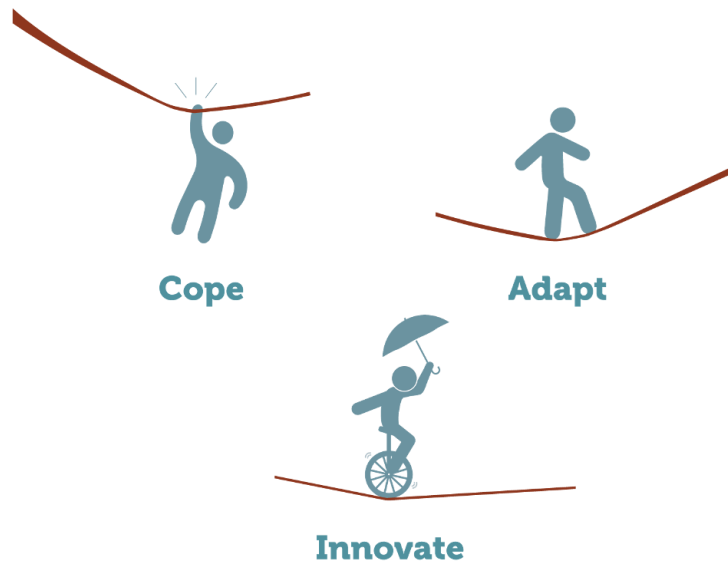


The Patterson Foundation GLR Week 2023 Digital Connectivity “What’s Working”

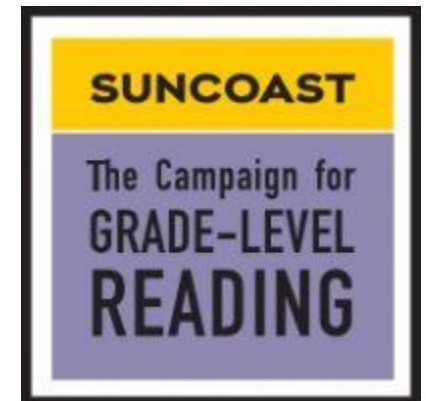
July 20, 2023

The Patterson Foundation Digital Access for All Initiative (DA4A)

**TPF Strengthens People, Organizations, and Communities
in ways that foster wide participation.**



- Charlotte
- DeSoto
- Manatee
- Sarasota

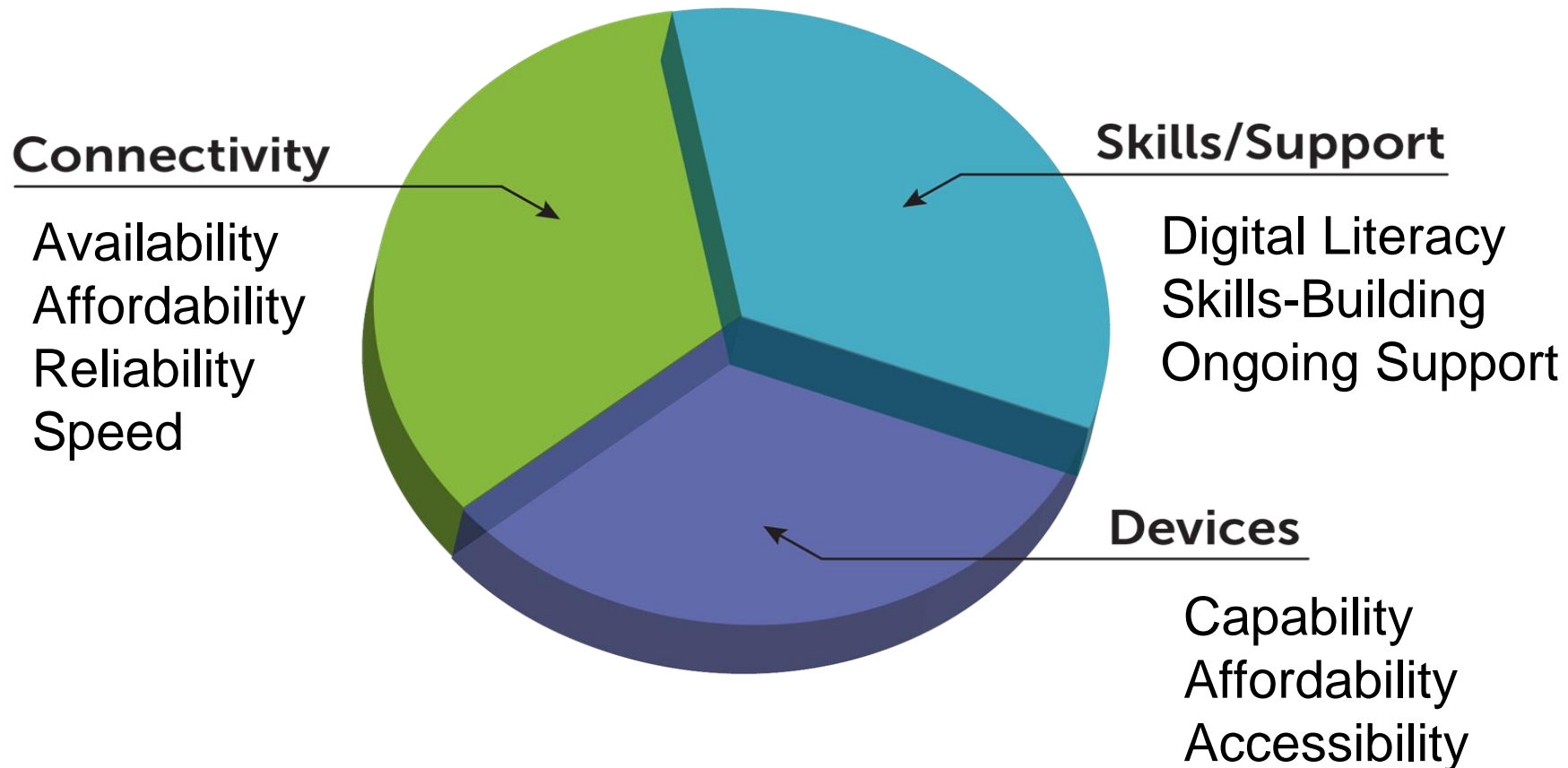


The DA4A Journey



- Exploration beginning June 2020
- Local/Regional/National Perspectives & Viewpoints
- Focus on ALICE Households
- Two Critical Questions:
 - “Who else cares?”
 - “What are the possibilities?”

The Three Essential Elements

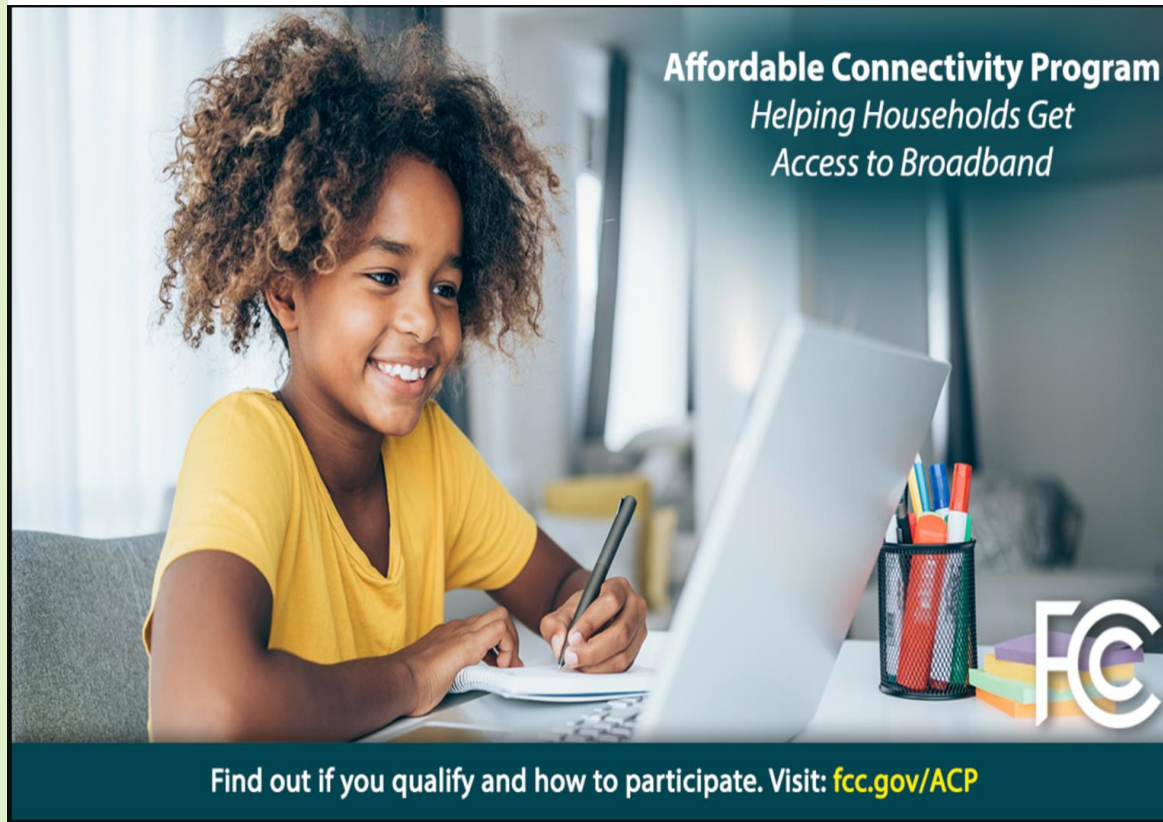


Digital Access for All Initiative 2020 - 2023 Milestones



- **42+ blog posts** on digital access
- **35 DA4A newsletters**
- **38 digital access articles** from aspirations to action
- **38+ presentations** to national and regional organizations
- **90+ interviews** with county, city and community leaders
- **12 webversations** with partners in our 4-county area
- **26 presentations** to local, national and regional audiences
- **170+ research reports** and resources collected and curated

Support – Programs in place Affordable Connectivity Program



2 Steps to Enroll:

- Go to ACPBenefit.org to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
- Contact your preferred participating provider to select a plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Suncoast Digital Navigator Network & The GAP



- A custom training course developed and delivered through the sponsorship of TPF
- 3 cohorts completed 8 nonprofit organizations certified
 - ✓ 28 Digital Navigators certified in the 4-County region
 - ✓ Digital Navigators assist with ACP enrollment, devices & skills training referrals, but are located at their own organizations in other jobs.
- The GAP includes ACP Engagers who are trained SCGLR Engagement Team Members that assist with intake assessment screening for appointments with Digital Navigators

Recent DA4A Alignment with Suncoast Remake Learning Days



2023 – over 25,000 Participants

10-Day Learning Festival – 206 events

- Arts
- Maker
- Outdoor Learning
- Science
- **Technology**
- Youth Voice
- Professional Development



Digital Access & Equity Realities



- By 2030, half of the workforce in the U.S. will be working remotely.
- While the government will make one of the largest investments in nationwide broadband, \$1.2 trillion-dollar Bipartisan Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2021, the investment will not fully fund new, innovative, experimental, and sustainable connectivity needs.
- Until 2020, .04% of overall philanthropic dollars in the U.S. were invested in Digital Access.
- Regardless of a foundation's mission, addressing the pressing concerns of digital access and inclusion will touch everything we do as a society.

DA4A

National Philanthropy Scan



Purpose:

- Unearth where funders are invested in Digital Access and gain perspective on their strategies, approaches, successes, and challenges.

Approach:

- Interviewed 48 funders & organizations about their work in Digital Access, Equity, and Inclusion, conducted 8 national workshops in their work to close the Digital Divide sharing insight to local, regional, national & international funder audiences with co-host the Campaign for Grade Level-reading.

Sharing Knowledge:

- Sharing knowledge far and wide to strengthen people, organizations, and communities is a core tenet to TPF's approach and work. The insight TPF gained from these workshops has shaped how our team approaches Digital Access. A final report will be published in August.



Digital Access for All



Thank You!

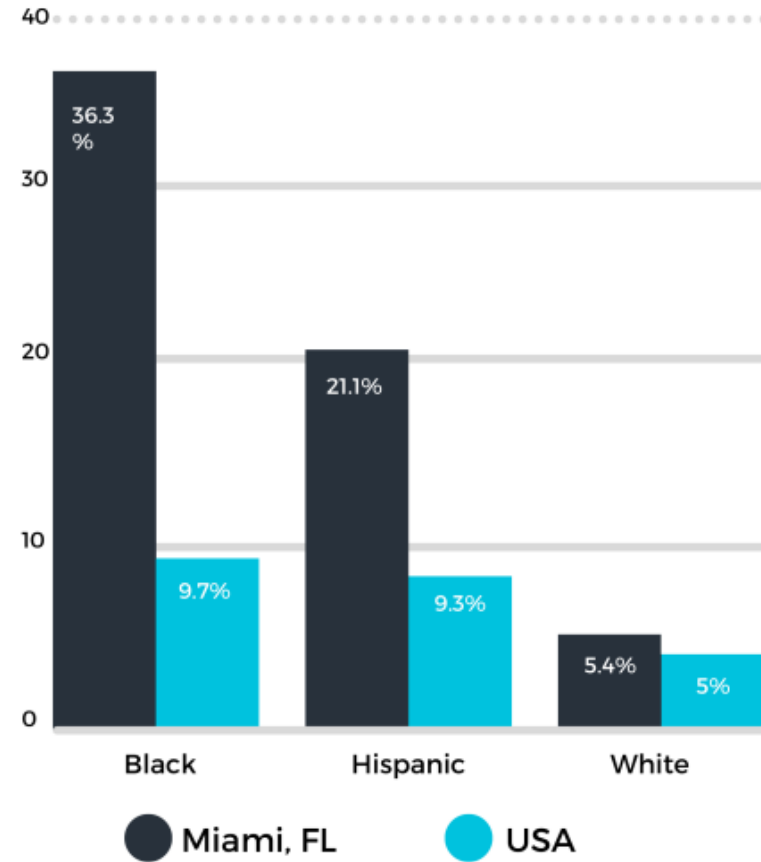


MIAMI
CONNECTED

JULY 2023

OUR WHY

- ✓ Currently, more than one in five Miami-Dade County residents are disconnected from the internet.
- ✓ Miami is the second least-connected large city in the United States.
- ✓ Low-income students of color are more affected.



% of children without broadband internet access

OUR WHAT

- ✓ Miami Connected is a 3-year collective impact initiative.
- ✓ Represents a unified effort to make Miami-Dade the most technologically inclusive county in the nation.

THE INTERNET IS AN ENGINE OF

Education

Engagement

Opportunity

OUR MISSION

Miami Connected is a program that offers free internet, digital literacy training, and career opportunities in technology to youth and families throughout Miami-Dade.



Why



What



How



Who



When



More

MIAMI CONNECTED STRATEGY



Internet Access



Digital Skills



Careers in Tech



Why



What



How



Who



When

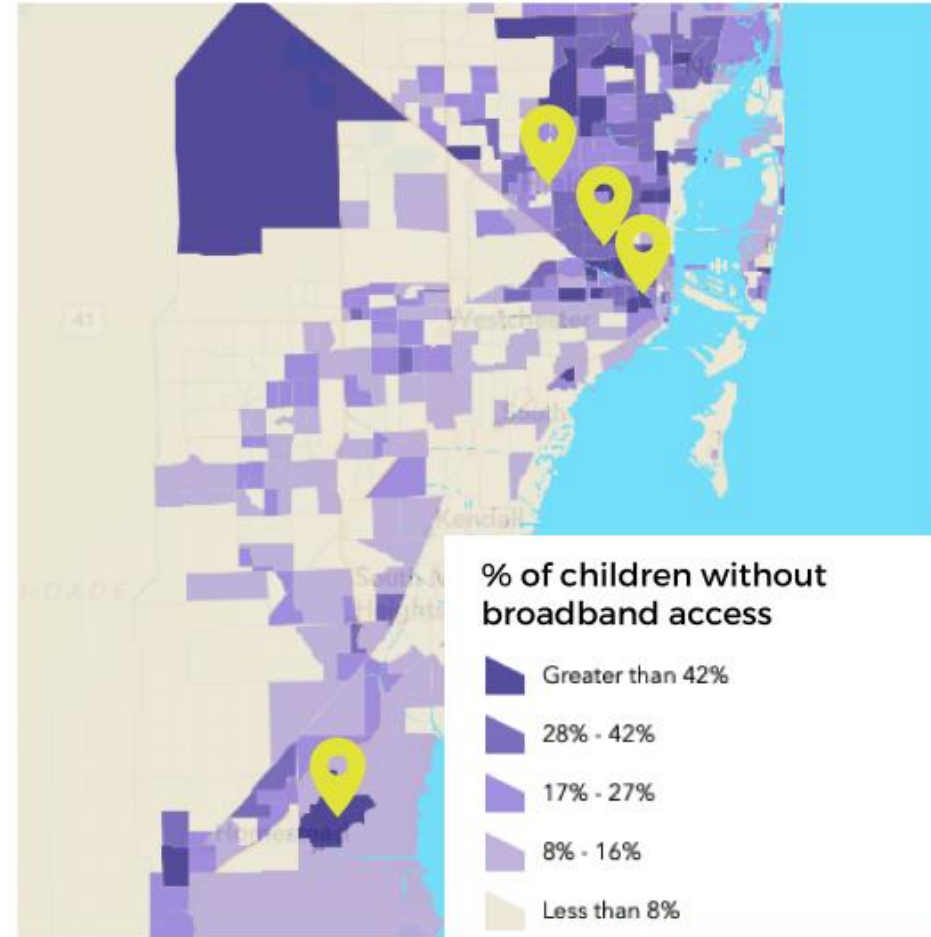


More

MIAMI CONNECTED STRATEGY

Internet Access

- ✓ Offering qualifying families internet at no cost, or with a discount.
- ✓ Programs: Federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) or the Miami Connected community-funded sponsorship program.
- ✓ Most families in Miami-Dade County qualify.



Why



What



How



Who



When



More

MIAMI CONNECTED STRATEGY

Digital Skills

- ✓ Miami Connected is partnering with **Northstar Digital Literacy** to provide families with the opportunity to strengthen their core digital skills online.
- ✓ This platform is being made available at no cost.
- ✓ Includes training on topics ranging from basic computer usage, to preparing documents and even career search.



Ethics & AI: Equal Access and AI Bias



Aloe Blacc explains Digital Compression



Why



What



How



Who



When



More

MIAMI CONNECTED STRATEGY

Careers in Tech

- ✓ Miami Connected is working with stakeholders across Miami-Dade to connect families with existing resources and opportunities to support successful careers in tech.
- ✓ As gaps in resources and opportunities are identified, we work with partners to help fill them.



Why



What



How



Who



When



More

WHO DO WE SERVE

- ✓ Miami-Dade County residents and families who are participating in certain government programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, WIC, Lifeline, or other related programs;
- ✓ And/or with students receiving free or reduced lunch, a Pell Grant, or attending a Title I school.



Why



What



How



Who



When



More



“Thank you so much! This opportunity has helped my son and grandchildren in so many ways. I can't express my gratitude enough. God bless you and your team.”

Jeanette Gutierrez | Resident of Miami-Dade County

IMPACT

98,061
FAMILIES
CONNECTED



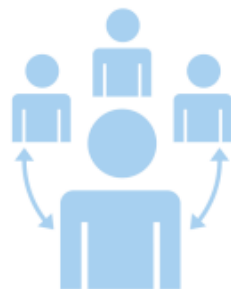
1,449

Families Served
under Digital
Literacy Program



13

Grant Partners



\$450K

Allocated to our
Grant Partners



Why



What



How



Who



When



More



QUESTIONS



THANK YOU!



MIAMICONNECTED.ORG



1-305-204-6184

MIAMI
CONNECTED

Reflections from the Field:
What's Working in
Communities?
Digital Equity in Grinnell, IA



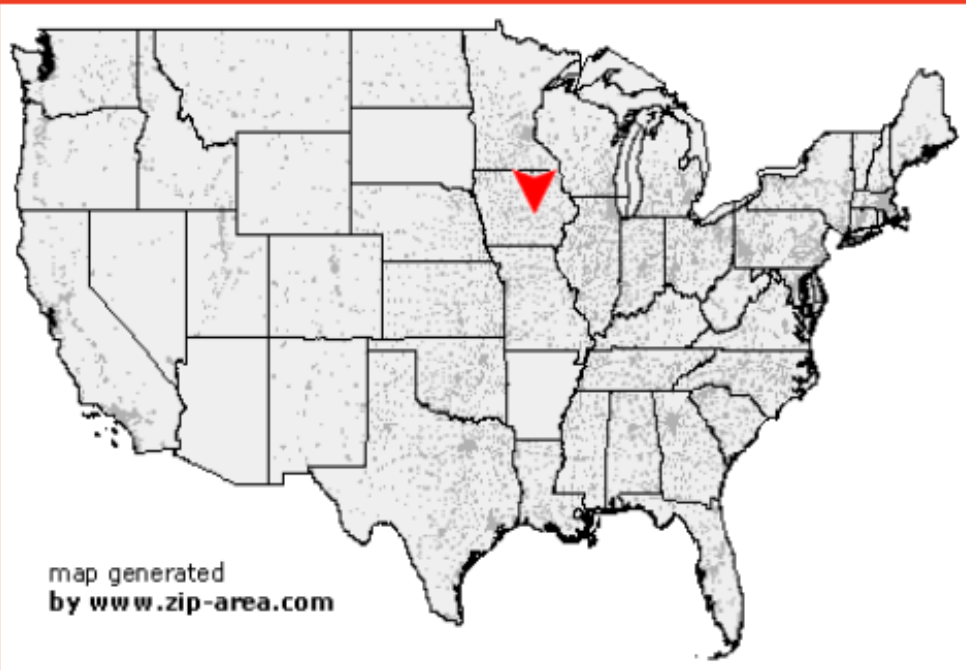
Thursday, July 20, 2023

Digital Connectivity Overview

- ✓ What are we doing
- ✓ How we did it
- ✓ Lessons learned



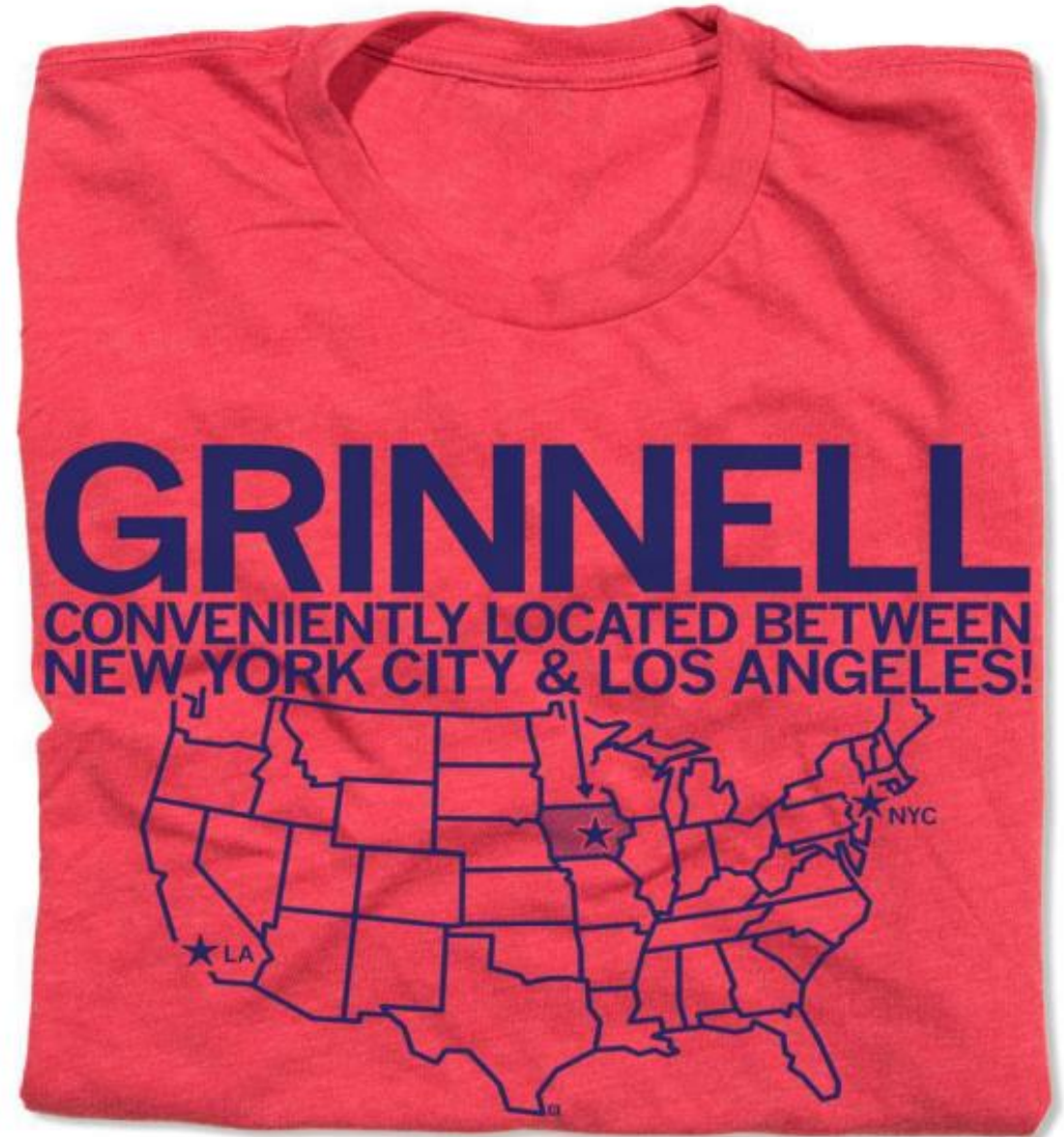
About Grinnell



- Rural, Central Iowa Town (Interstate 80)
- Grinnell population: 9,513
(U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, 2021)
- Major Employers:
 - Bayer Crop Science (Agriculture)
 - Grinnell Mutual (Insurance)
 - Grinnell College (Higher Ed)
 - Mahaska Communication Group (Internet Provider)
- Two Colleges:
 - Grinnell College (4-year private, liberal arts)
 - Iowa Valley Community College
- One School District:
 - Grinnell-Newburg Community School District

Grinnell-Newburg Community School District (GNCSD)

- 1460 students
- 224 square miles
- 1:1





What we are
doing to
connect families
in Grinnell, Iowa

Digital Connectivity Timeline



2020

2021

2022

2023

- Digital connectivity imperative to mitigate learning loss
- GNSF started partnerships to address K-12 student connectivity needs
- Sought funding to offer free hot spots
- GNSF issued hot spots to students and teachers

- Collaboration with cross sector partners
- GNSF engages GEP for capacity building (people power)
- Together, began outreach to connect families with free WIFI
- Renewed hot spot plans

- ACP launched
- Learned more about ACP to determine if fit for Grinnell
- Convening partners for ACP for support and local roll-out
- Broad outreach via community partners and events
- Began signing up families for ACP

- ITG application submitted and accepted
- More than 100 families signed up for ACP
- Empower Rural Iowa Grant Program opens

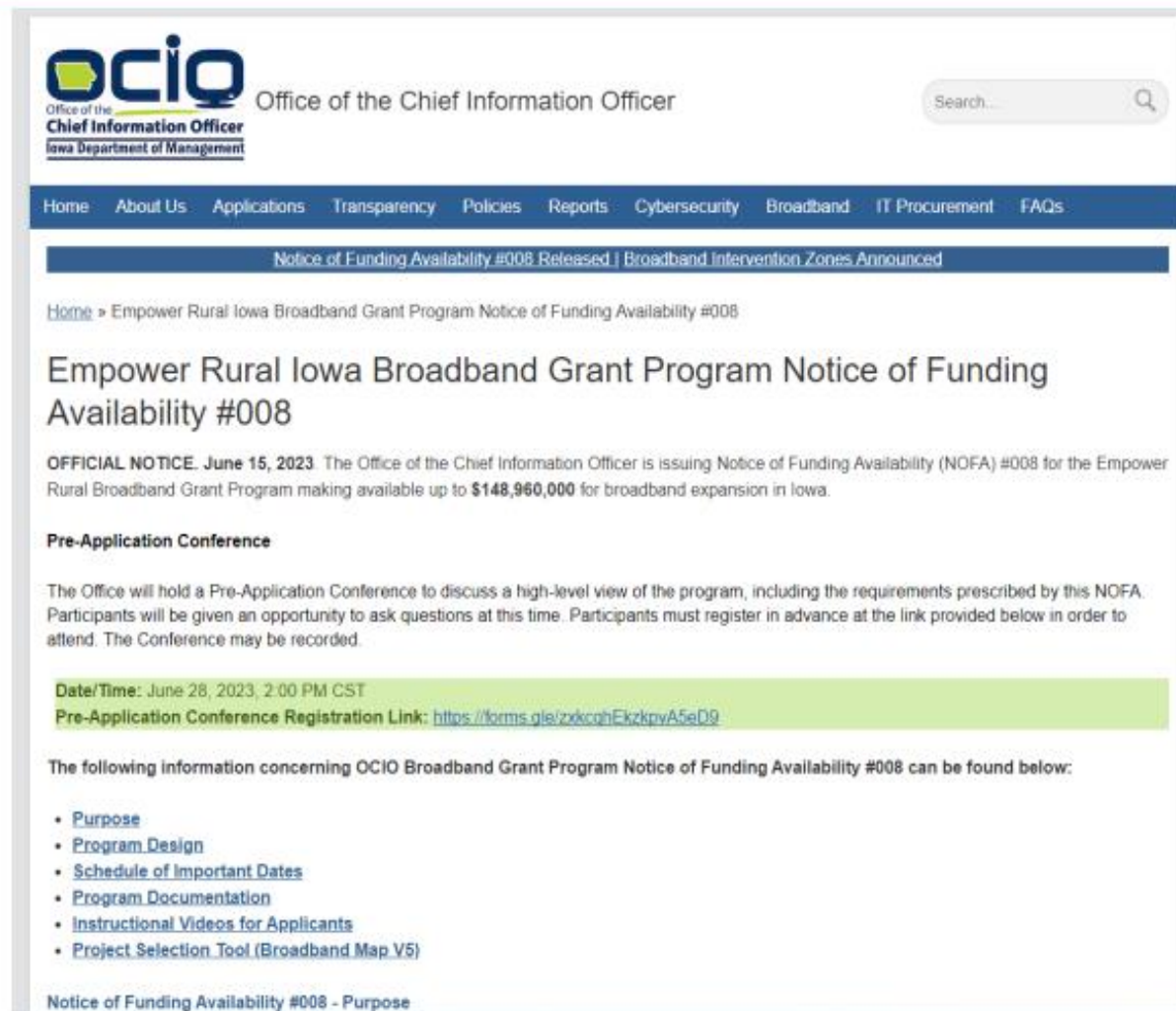


- The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) helps families connect to the Internet from home by providing a monthly benefit to help pay for an internet service plan.
- FCC benefit program
- \$30/month discount (\$75 on tribal lands)
- <https://www.fcc.gov/acp>



Empower Rural Iowa Broadband

- GNCSD Applied for Invitation to Qualify (ITQ)
- ITQ successfully accepted
- Funding application in process



The screenshot shows the OCIO (Office of the Chief Information Officer) website. The page title is "Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability #008". The page content includes:

- OCIO Logo:** Office of the Chief Information Officer, Iowa Department of Management.
- Navigation Menu:** Home, About Us, Applications, Transparency, Policies, Reports, Cybersecurity, Broadband, IT Procurement, FAQs.
- Header:** Notice of Funding Availability #008 Released | Broadband Intervention Zones Announced.
- Breadcrumbs:** Home > Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability #008.
- Title:** Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability #008.
- Official Notice:** June 15, 2023. The Office of the Chief Information Officer is issuing Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) #008 for the Empower Rural Broadband Grant Program making available up to \$148,960,000 for broadband expansion in Iowa.
- Pre-Application Conference:** The Office will hold a Pre-Application Conference to discuss a high-level view of the program, including the requirements prescribed by this NOFA. Participants will be given an opportunity to ask questions at this time. Participants must register in advance at the link provided below in order to attend. The Conference may be recorded.
- Date/Time:** June 28, 2023, 2:00 PM CST.
- Pre-Application Conference Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/zdxcqhEkzkpvA5eD9>
- Information:** The following information concerning OCIO Broadband Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability #008 can be found below:
 - [Purpose](#)
 - [Program Design](#)
 - [Schedule of Important Dates](#)
 - [Program Documentation](#)
 - [Instructional Videos for Applicants](#)
 - [Project Selection Tool \(Broadband Map V5\)](#)
- Footer:** Notice of Funding Availability #008 - Purpose

How to find funding in your state

[National Telecommunications and Information Administration \(NTIA\)](#)

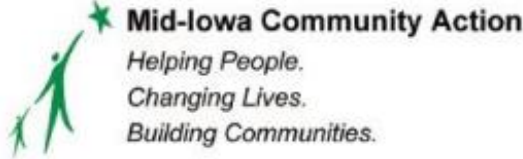
[Internet for All](#)





How we are
tackling digital
connectivity

Partner Collaboration





Lessons
learned

Takeaways

- Doesn't happen overnight!
- Partnerships are key
- Trust building
- Limited staffing capacity
- Rural areas are tricky
- Sustainable funding
- Work in progress



Visit our website

www.grinnelleducationpartnership.org

And Follow us on
Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/GrinnellEducationPartnership>



We will be using Padlet to share our stories and collaborate with all of you in cultivating your experiences.

Please use this link to access our Padlet:

<https://padlet.com/mamfahrdigital-connectivity-in-communities-fde5jus2yz7ev7s9>