

BROADBAND FOR ALL

## Statewide Digital Equity Planning Group Meeting

April 26, 2023







### Welcome Liana Bailey-Crimmins Director

**California Department of Technology** 



## AGENDA

- Welcome
- General Update
- NTIA Update State Tables
- State Digital Equity and BEAD Planning Process Update
- Question and Answer
- Conclusion

### SDEP APPROACH Statewide Planning Group

The Statewide Planning Group advises the CDT on execution of the State Digital Equity Plan (SDEP) across the following plan components:

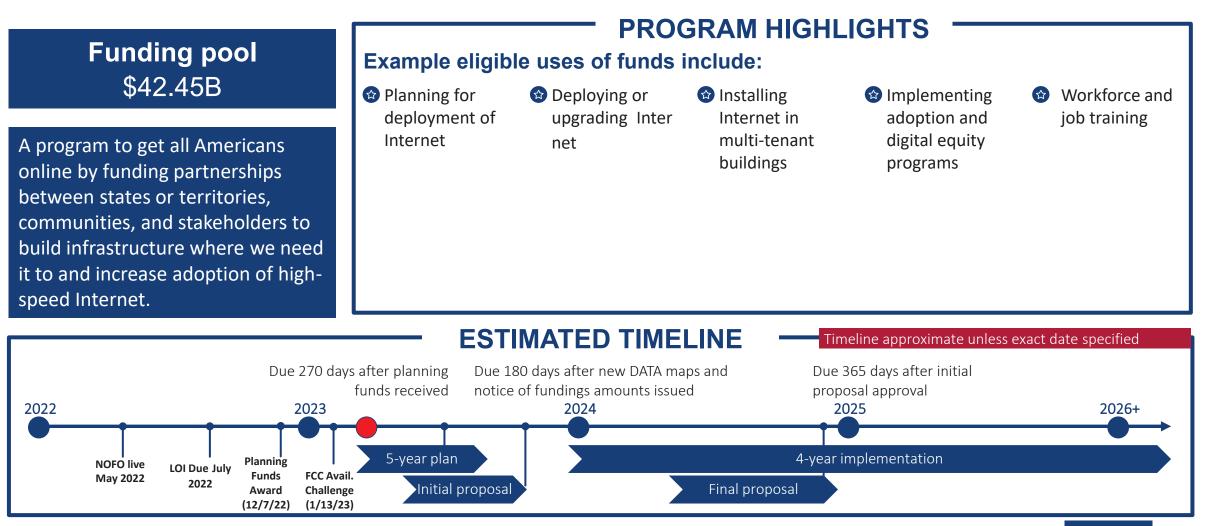
- Statewide Planning Group
- Outcome Area Working Groups
- California Digital Equity Survey and Asset Inventory
- Regional Planning Workshops
- Statewide Public Engagement





#### **Accomplishments to date:**

- 1. Two Statewide Planning Group (SPG) Meetings
- 2. Two rounds of six OAWG meetings
- 3. Launched Phone Survey
- 4. Launched DEEM tool for government, community organizations and ISPS
- 5. Developed the online public survey
- 6. Held three Regional Planning Workshops
- 7. Three monthly email updates
- 8. Engaged with over 4,200 stakeholders across California





### BEAD Rulemaking Process

#### The CPUC invites you to follow, and to participate in, the BEAD Rulemaking now opened for public participation.

- Opening comments for Rulemaking (R.) 23-02-016 filed on April 17
  - Reply comment period **extended**
  - Seeking input on 14 categories of questions, described in the <u>Order Instituting</u> <u>Rulemaking</u> (starting on page 5).
- Filing comments will enable you to become a party to the proceeding and will enable your input to be considered as part of the proceeding record
- For help becoming a party or filing comments, email **<u>public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov</u>**.
- Anyone who would like to formally participate in a CPUC proceeding must follow the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (<u>www.cpuc.ca.gov/Party\_to\_a\_Proceeding</u>).
- Any member of the public may separately submit public comments <u>here</u>, or by navigating to the docket card for R.23-02-016 and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab.
- Register to attend a Local-Regional Meeting by reviewing the list of events <u>here</u>.



## National Telecommunication Information Administration (NTIA) Update and State Tables

**Gladys Palpallatoc** 

Federal Program Officer California US Department of Commerce, NTIA

## State Digital Equity and BEAD Planning Process Update





The Digital Equity Act prioritizes investments for eight "Covered Populations"



Specifically called out in the BEAD notice of funding opportunity

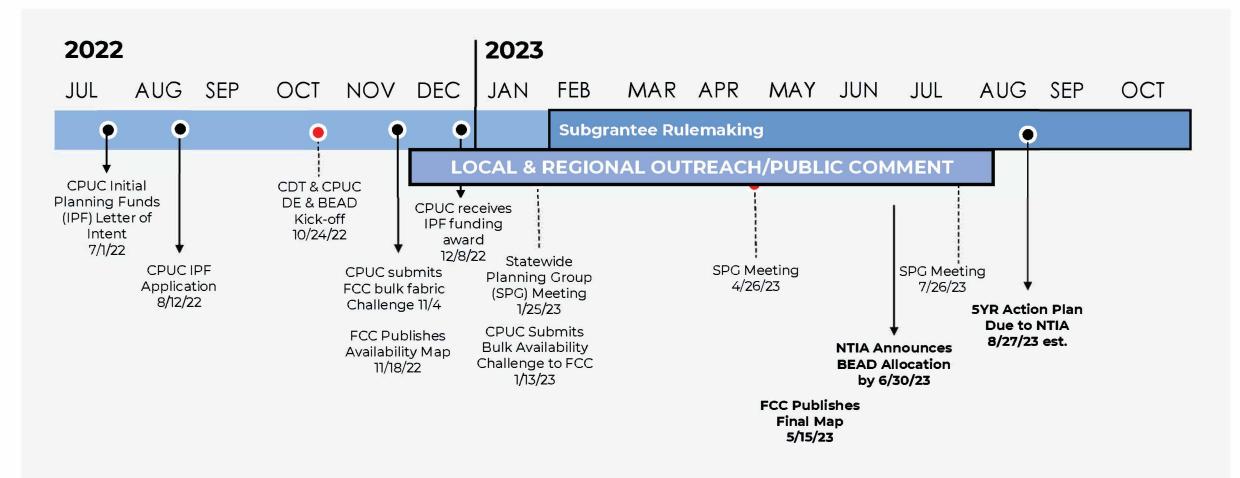
#### California State Digital Equity Planning (SDEP) Timeline

Important milestones for State Digital Equity Planning:

2022				2023												
JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV
Stake			Stakehold	der Mapping Survey & Ecosystem Mapping			bing	Draft Plan	Public Comment Period	Refine Plan						
		Data & Gap Analysis														
Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement																
	Regional – Local Outreach Events															

### California Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Timeline

Key milestones:





## **Outcome Area Working Group Meeting Takeaways**

#### oawg outcomes: Education February Meeting What we learned

- 1. Availability of ISPs
- 2. Adequate connectivity
- 3. Affordability of devices
- 4. Adoption of broadband
- 5. Digital literacy and digital skillsets for teachers and parents to ensure student access is critical



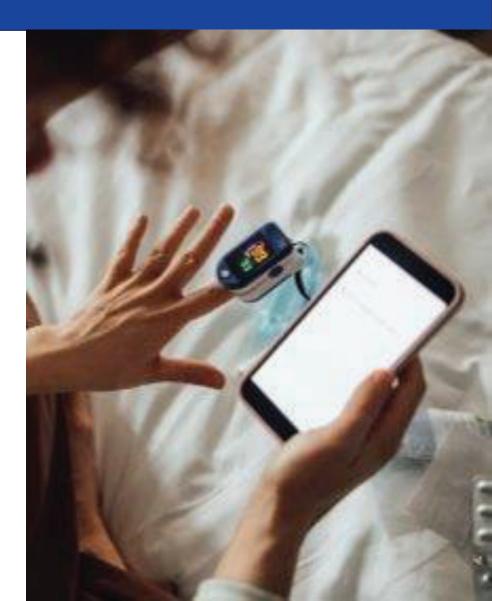
# OAWG OUTCOMES: EDUCATION March Meeting What we learned

- 1. Type of technology used
- 2. Lack of technology and connectivity at home due to socioeconomic status
- 3. Outset of pandemic, many families lacked access to:
  - Affordable devices
  - Connectivity
  - Support on how to best serve students
- 4. Lack of ISP options in an area
- 5. Concerns about ACP expiring and how sustainable it is for families



# OAWG OUTCOMES: Health February Meeting What we Learned

- 1. Defining Digital Equity: Accessibility to digital tools and services for all including underserved populations.
- 2. Health disparities exacerbated by lack of access to telehealth and virtual care.
- 3. Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and other subsidies can help improve access to digital health services.



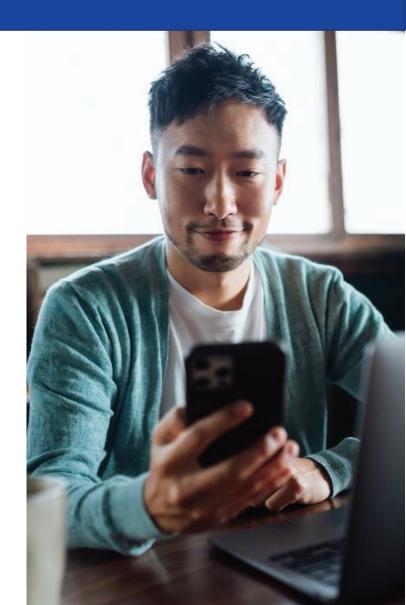
# OAWG OUTCOMES: Health March Meeting What we Learned

- 1. Digital inequities exacerbate health disparities
- 2. Focus must be on broadband access, access to technology, and education
- 3. Every population has unique needs and challenges
- 4. Stakeholders need to work together across sectors
- 5. Role of digital navigators in healthcare settings



#### OAWG OUTCOMES: DIGITAL LITERACY & INCLUSION February Meeting What we learned

- 1. Digital Equity must intersect all covered populations
- 2. Barriers include:
  - Lack of infrastructure
  - Lack of reliable broadband
  - Affordability and accessibility
  - Lack of awareness of ACP and government mistrust
- 3. Targeted outreach with trusted messengers can address language and awareness barriers
- 4. Capacity funding must be flexible and directed towards historically marginalized organizations



# oawg outcomes: digital literacy & inclusion March Meeting What we learned

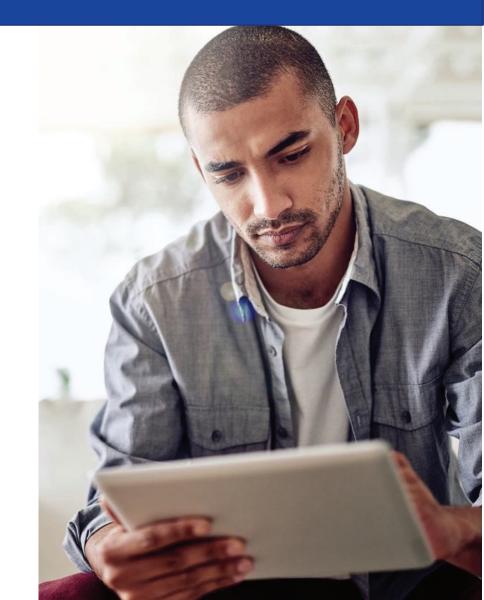
#### "The second language barrier is Digital Skills."

- Eduardo Gonzalez, Interim Executive Director at California State University

- 1. Vulnerable individuals can't participate in the digital era
- 2. Need for multilingual comprehensive tech support

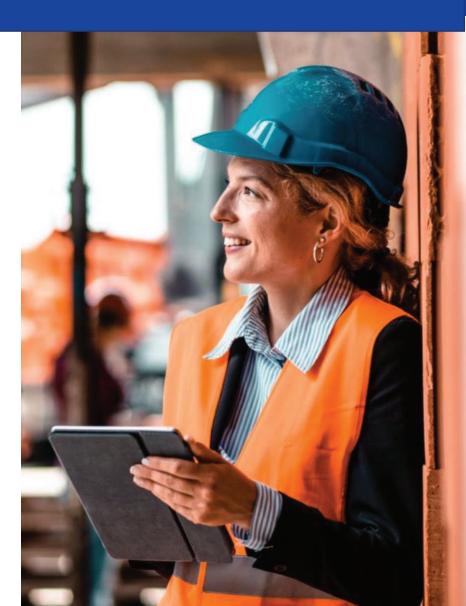
#### Solutions:

- 1. Partnerships with philanthropy and state agencies
- 2. Community, Digital Navigator and Digital Literacy trainings



#### OAWG OUTCOMES: WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT February Meeting What we learned

- 1. Lack of infrastructure limits accessibility
- 2. Barriers related to language and culture
- 3. Cross-entity coordination
- 4. Pathway programs' connection to jobs and industry



#### oawg outcomes: workforce and economic development March Meeting What we learned

- 1. Need for workforce development programs to be available in multiple languages
- 2. Collaboration and partnerships are essential
- 3. Education entities including community colleges, labor unions and non-profits can play a pivotal role
- 4. Emphasis on the human element in technology adoption and digital literacy
- 5. Need for organizations to work together to transform identities and engage the populations they serve



oawg outcomes: essential services, accessibility, & civic engagement February Meeting What we learned

- 1. Definition of digital equity
- 2. Common digital equity barriers
- 3. Strategies and solutions



#### oawg outcomes: essential services, accessibility, & civic engagement March Meeting What we learned

- 1. Definition of essential services
- 2. Definition of civic engagement
- 3. Disparate outcomes



### oawg outcomes: tribal collaboration February Meeting What we learned

- 1. Access and infrastructure (supporting infrastructure (e.g., roads))
- 2. Broadband access should be clearly linked to the outcomes it enables
- 3. Affordability and device access
- 4. Digital literacy includes overcoming fear
- 5. Trust and persistent poverty remain barriers to digital equity
- 6. Capacity is limited



# oawg outcomes: TRIBAL COLLABORATION March Meeting What we learned

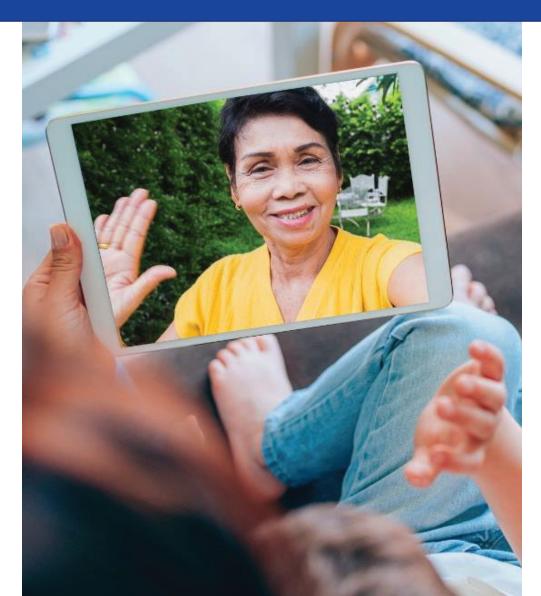
- 1. Disparate education, health, and economic outcomes are apparent
  - Stories of adoption are also ubiquitous
- 2. Partnerships must include comprehensive engagement
- 3. The challenges of funding access require the understanding of need to evolve
- 4. The current moment is unique in terms of the investment to bridge the digital divide



# COVERED POPULATIONS Digital Equity Barriers What we learned

#### **Examples of digital equity barriers faced by covered populations:**

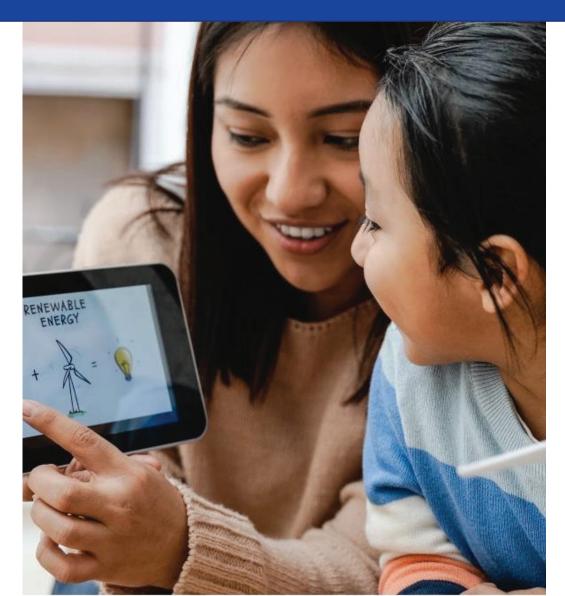
- 1. Diverse topography, large lots, low density neighborhoods
- 2. Older adults with disabilities and limited income face multiple barriers to accessing the internet.
- 3. Incarcerated facilities lack Wi-Fi connectivity
- 4. Lack of trust



# COVERED POPULATIONS Digital Equity Programs What we learned

# Digital equity programs and services for covered populations:

- 1. The middle mile and last mile, loans and grants
- 2. Partnerships with trusted community organizations.
- 3. CDCR program
- 4. Trusted community messengers



#### **DIGITAL EQUITY PHONE SURVEY**

#### **Overall Plan (<3% Margin of Error):**

- 1,650 HHs RDD
- 1,550 Oversampling of Covered Populations, Including Rural Counties
- Strategic Plan for Oversampling

#### **Milestones**

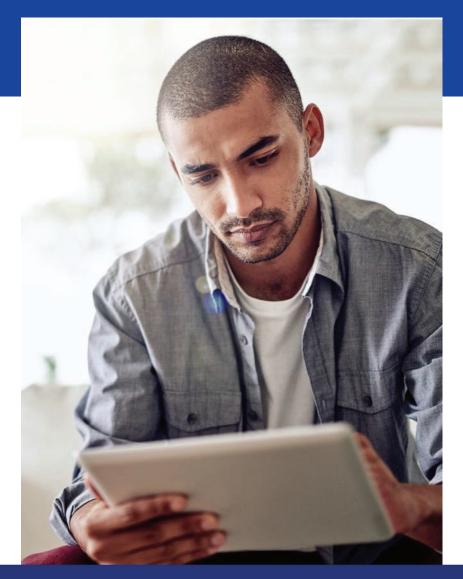
- Completed 987 phone surveys as of 4/24 (1,000 by end of week)
- Increased Percentage of Non-English Versions
- Higher Percentages of Covered Populations Want Digital Literacy Training

<b>92</b> %	Connected
90%	People with Disabilities
<b>89</b> %	Older Residents
<b>87</b> %	Latino
<b>85</b> %	Low-Income
<b>67</b> %	ACP-Eligible HHs That Are Not Aware of the Benefit
<b>32</b> %	Low-Income Households with Children in School are
	Aware of ACP
<b>31</b> %	Low-Income Households are Aware of ACP
1%	Underconnected

## **Digital Equity Online Survey**

- Mobile-friendly
- 14 languages
- Built-in audio functionality to accommodate communities with limited English and literacy proficiency

The survey captures information about internet access, internet affordability, and internet adoption for residents in California households.



**Broadband for All** 

#### COMING SOON: Q2 2023



### HOW TO TAKE ACTION Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) Tool

#### THE DEEM TOOL IS LIVE!

The Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) tool tracks **Digital Equity** programs, plans, services, and resources throughout California. The mapping tool identifies:

• What programs are being offered, where they're being offered and to whom, and what is missing in each region.





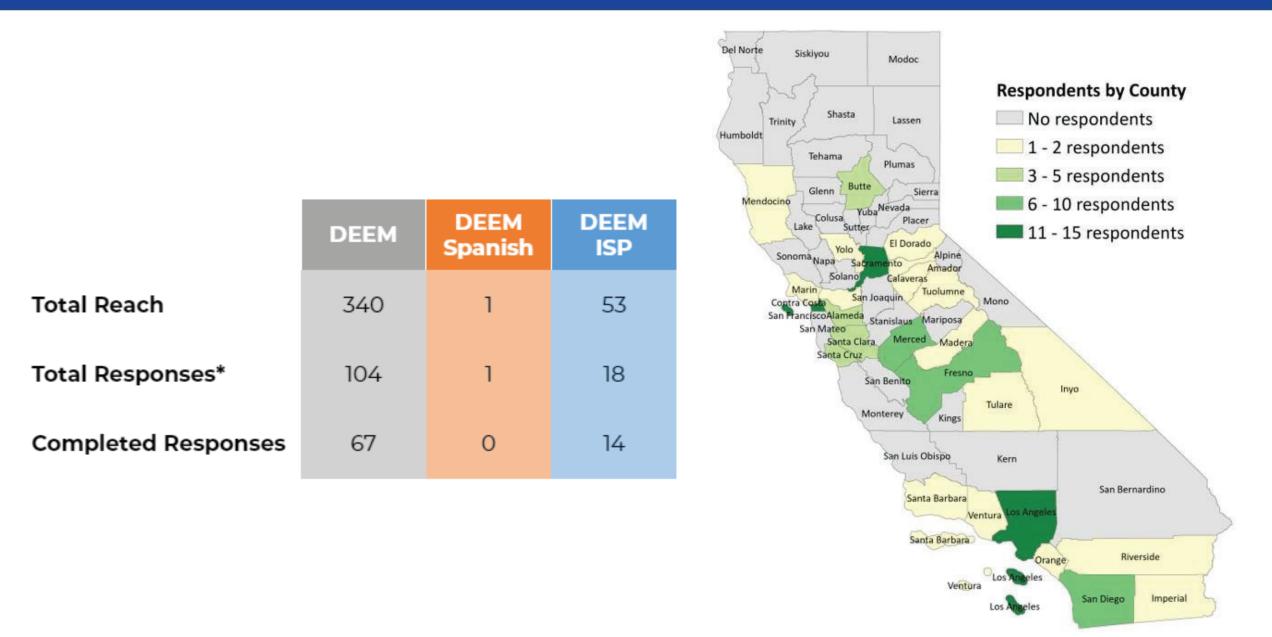




Scan the QR code using your mobile device or visit us at **bit.ly/DEEMSurvey** 

**Broadband for All** 

#### **DIGITAL EQUITY ECOSYSTEM MAPPING**



### CALL TO ACTION Digital Equity Ecosystem Mapping (DEEM) Tool

#### **Get Involved: Share the DEEM Tool**

To create a plan that helps close the digital divide in California, we need **everyone's** help!

Help us spread the word by sharing the DEEM Tool with others who help your community get connected.

Access The DEEM Partner Toolkit: <u>Bit.ly/DEEMToolkit</u>

Bit.ly/DEEM-ES (Spanish Version)

Bit./Iy/DEEM-ISP (DEEM for ISPs)



#### BROADBAND FOR ALL, DIGITAL EQUITY AND BEAD REGIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOPS





## **Broadband for All, Digital Equity and BEAD Regional Planning Workshops**

#### **Upcoming Workshops**

- Thursday, April 27, Chico
- Friday, April 28, Santa Rosa
- Wednesday, May 3, Eureka
- Friday, May 5, San Jose
- Thursday, May 11, Sacramento •
- Friday, May 12, Grass Valley

- Tuesday, May 16, Inland Empire
- Friday, May 19, Los Angeles
- Tuesday, May 30, Tuolumne
- Thursday, June 1, Santa Maria
- Friday, June 2, Seaside
- Thursday, June 8, Oakland

Scan the QR code using your mobile device or visit us at **bit.ly/CADigitalEquityPlanEvents** 



**Broadband for All** 



#### CALL TO ACTION **SDEP Landing Page**

**Resources and assets to support partners to** engage with communities and residents

Learn How to Get Involved: Visit the State Digital Equity Plan landing page for step-by-step instructions on how to get involved.

#### BroadbandforAll.cdt.ca.gov/State-Digital-**Equity-Plan**

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#### State Digital Equity Plan **Closing California's Digital Divide**

Help Your Community

Distribute the online Digital Equity

Survey (available in 13 languages) to

help your community succeed in the

Get Online

digital age.

Coming soon!



Having the internet is critical to getting a better education, landing a job, accessing healthcare and essential services and increasing civic participation. Yet millions of Californians don't have access to the internet devices or the skills and training to use them. Our state is creating a plan to ensure vulnerable communities and covered populations in California have the access they need to succeed in the digital age. Learn how to get involved now

#### Organizations

The State of California wants to partner with state and local agencies, tribes, schools, libraries, nonprofits, labor groups, faithbased groups and philanthropic and private sector organizations all over California to make digital equity a reality. Make your voice heard, help your community get connected and help California close the Digital Divide.



#### Join the Conversation

Make your voice heard and attend a virtual meeting. Your participation helps our state identify programs and solutions to close the digital divide in your community

#### Attend a Regional Planning Workshop

State agencies and local organizations are hosting 20 in-person Planning Workshops in every economic region in the state. Partner with us by participating a workshop in your region.

oin A Meeting



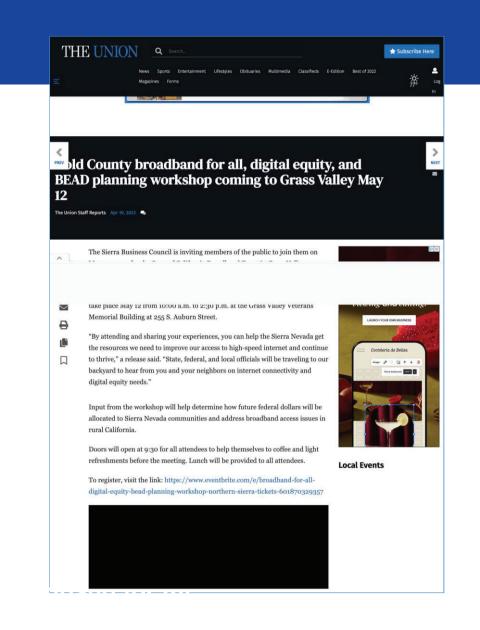
# CALL TO ACTION Partner Toolkits

- **Partner Toolkits:** Toolkit materials make it simple to invite communities to take action. <u>**Bit.ly/SDEPToolkits**</u>
  - 165 Social media assets, printable handouts, flyers, Invitation letters, template newsletter articles, PowerPoint slides, media outreach materials and more
    - In-language translations: Spanish, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog and Hmong.



# CALL TO ACTION Media Outreach

- Outreach to 700+ Regional, hyperlocal, business, technology and ethnic media outlets throughout California.
  - Television, radio, print, online, blogs, magazines, newsletters.
  - Press outreach materials also provided as part of partner toolkits.



## Upcoming State Digital Equity Planning & BEAD Virtual Events



#### **Statewide Digital Planning Group Meeting**

- Wednesday, July 26, 2023
- Wednesday, October 25, 2023

#### **Outcome Area Working Group Meetings**

- May 16 Education
- May 16 Tribal Collaboration
- May 17 Digital Literacy & Inclusion
- May 17 Workforce and Economic Development
- May 18 Health
- May 18 Essential Services, Accessibility, and Civic Engagement

To RSVP, visit bit.ly/CADigitalEquityPlanEvents





- Please use Zoom Hand Raise to be spotlight and unmuted
- If you cannot unmute yourself, please email <u>digitalequity@state.ca.gov</u>
- More information about the State Digital Equity Plan can be found here: <u>broadbandforall.cdt.ca.gov/stat</u> <u>e-digital-equity-plan</u> or by scanning the QR code below



# THANK YOU!

