Digital Equity Asset Map Survey Responses

The following is a summary of existing digital equity resources in Chicago, based on responses to the Digital Equity Asset Map Survey in August 2022, and confirmations to post online from partners. While this list captures just a portion of the great work happening around Chicago, it serves as a representation of Chicago's strong network of digital equity providers, and a foundation to build off of as we implement the Digital Equity Plan recommendations.

Organization Name	Sector	Offerings to Close the Digital Divide	Communities Served
Access Living	Community/Civic Sector	We are doing a pilot program to improve digital access and literacy for people with disabilities.	People with a range of disabilities
AR Designs	Private Sector	Making quality high speed internet access affordable	South and West Sides of Chicago
Astound Broadband	Private Sector	We participate in the government ACP program as well as working with the Chicago Connected initiative for the public grade school and city college families	We are serving the lower income families that were not able to access home data services through greatly discounted rates funded by Chicago Connected or ACP. We service families in the Chicago Cable Franchise Areas 1, 5 and portions of 2.
AT&T	Private Sector	The best technology for the future is fiber and the best choice of fiber broadband provider is AT&T. AT&T believes in being ready for future demands and is now deploying best in class multi-gigabit symmetrical fiber-to-the premises service capable of 5 Gbps service today and scalable to 10 Gbps. The faster speeds and increased bandwidth mean customers can connect multiple devices to work and learn from home. AT&T has the latest technology and the most experience. In fact, we have over 140 years of experience in designing, deploying and operating communications networks all over the world and in Illinois. We have over 3.1 million strand miles of fiber deployed in Illinois as part of our fiber network that reaches over 16 million locations across 21 states. More than 675,000 U.S. business	AT&T is committed to bridging the digital divide through investments in network upgrades and fiber deployment where feasible, and by participating in federal programs to increase affordability and community-based initiatives that foster greater digital adoption. We've made a $2B commitment from 2021-2023 to bridge the digital divide. This renewed commitment to the communities we serve combines AT&T's low-cost broadband service offerings with charitable contributions through the AT&T Connected Learning initiative. We opened two AT&T Connected Learning Centers in Chicago providing free high-speed internet, devices and educational resources, and we have deployed AT&T Fiber to neighborhoods across the city, including numerous predominantly Black neighborhoods on the south and west sides of Chicago. In Cook County, AT&T invested nearly $1.4 billion in our wired and wireless

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		buildings are lit with fiber from AT&T, enabling high-speed fiber connections to more than 2.75 million U.S. business customer locations. Nationwide, more than 9.5 million business customer locations are on or within 1,000 feet of AT&T fiber. We have thousands of highly trained engineers and technicians to operate, maintain, and service the network and support customers at the local and national levels. We monitor our network 24/7 and are ready to respond to any manmade or natural disaster to ensure your community stays connected. AT&T has been recognized for our market leading customer experience (J.D. Power) and were the CNET pick for Best Overall in Fiber Internet service of 2021. Note: The more than 2.75 million U.S. business customer locations are included within the 9.5+ million U.S. business customer locations on or within 1,000 feet of AT&T fiber. May 6, 2022	networks from 2019 through 2021. Across our 21-state footprint, our fiber deployment is equitable across households with different demographics and income levels. Low-income populations: To serve low-income populations, we are driving down the cost of home internet for eligible households to $0 per month. This free option is made possible by combining our Access from AT&T program with federal benefits from the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). All households that qualify for ACP will also qualify for our Access from AT&T program. In areas where we deploy AT&T Fiber, Access from AT&T customers can take advantage of our newest speed tier, symmetrical 100Mbps FTTP service at just $30/month or FREE after applying ACP. In addition, there's no cap on data usage with the new $30 Access from AT&T plan. Access Plans 10Mbps and below have data allowances. Customers who exceed those allowances may incur a $10 fee. Populations that Lack Digital Skills: Public Library Association partnership In collaboration with the Public Library Association, we've launched a curated series of free online digital literacy courses that teach technology basics and online safety skills. These courses are available online to everyone and will be offered at AT&T Connected Learning Centers and in public libraries nationwide. Digital Literacy tools: We believe that advancing digital literacy is a key part of helping to close the digital divide. That's why we're offering free digital literacy, safety and parenting resources for parents and caregivers to support their student's distance learning and to help them take advantage of the opportunities and benefits of the internet, especially as the world's reliance on connectivity grows.

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			The Achievery The Achievery, created by AT&T, is a free digital learning platform designed to make online learning more entertaining, engaging and inspiring for K-12 students everywhere they learn -- at home, in the community and in the classroom. The platform can help engage students in an enriching online learning experience and help them make the most of their connectivity, demonstrating the opportunities for learning and economic success that await them. Connected Learning Centers We're working at the local level to help bridge the digital divide and homework gap for people in their communities. That's why we're opening 50 AT&T Connected Learning Centers across the U.S. to provide underserved students and families with free access to high-speed internet and computers, as well as education and mentoring resources all under one roof. The centers will be housed within established non-profit and community organizations with a proven track record of supporting underserved populations, including some of our nation's most vulnerable students and families. Chicago South and West Side Neighborhoods In Chicago, we opened two AT&T Connected Learning Centers where we are providing free high-speed internet, devices and educational resources. In June, we opened an AT&T Connected Learning Center on the west side, at Marillac St. Vincent Family Services, and in September, we opened another Chicago AT&T Connected Learning Center at New Life Centers on the south side. In addition, we have deployed AT&T Fiber to numerous predominantly Black neighborhoods on the south and west sides.
Center for Changing Lives	Community/Civic Sector	The Employment Team at the Center for Changing Lives trains our industry-specific members to	Participants enrolled in both our Office Career Training program and Black and Latinx In Tech (BLIT) program are primarily from

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- Workforce Development Program		become Microsoft Office Specialists in Word and Excel. This globally recognized certificate is achieved over the course of 6 months as it advances an individual's computer skills and technical expertise - in preparation for a new career pathway.	underrepresented communities (BIPOC: Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and confront significant financial hardships
Chi Hack Night	Community/Civic Sector	Chi Hack Night is a free, weekly event in Chicago to build, share and learn about civic technology. We strive to be an open and inclusive space for anyone interested in learning new tech and data skills, volunteering on tech projects, and transitioning to technology careers.	Chi Hack Night strives to increase diversity, equity and inclusion in Chicago's tech sector. We promote presenters from underrepresented groups in tech and hold spaces for anti-racism discussions and projects. Here are our goals from 2021 outlining these efforts.
Chicago Housing Authority	Public Sector	CHA is dedicated to bringing digital inclusion services and resources to our residents by providing access to low-cost Internet services, free or low-cost devices, and digital skills training. In addition, CHA offers digital inclusion services in nine Digital Resources Centers located in CHA's developments and community centers where residents can receive one-on-one assistance.	Our organization serves low-income families who reside in the Chicago Housing Authority.
Chicago Public Library	Public Sector	CPL provides access to desktop computers at 80 locations across the city along with Wi-Fi at library locations. The library also loans Wi-Fi hotspots and Chromebooks in communities most impacted by the digital divide. CPL has developed courses such as Get a Job with IllinoisWorknet for local residents, along with other courses for computer beginners. In select locations, CPL provides computer tutors to assist patrons.	CPL has 80 locations across the city some of which include historically excluded communities. Each location is equipped with an Adesso Luminous keyboard. Our central location offers the Assistive Resource Center for patrons with limited vision or limited mobility.
Chicago State University	Public Sector	Through its library, instruction, and outreach, CSU works to teach digital literacy to its students. We also provide laptops to entering Freshmen. We are	CSU students are predominately Black, female, and non-traditionally aged for undergraduate students. CSU is in a predominately Black area of the far South Side.

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		also part of the State of Illinois digital literacy grants and are developing a program to use student navigators to assist in community digital equity training.	
ChiCommons LWCA	Community/Civic Sector	BlockShare: A communications platform run by neighbors to empower and connect neighbors. A neighborhood-scale communications platform built, owned, operated, and trusted by its stakeholders that provides solidarity, shared benefits, and digital equity.	South Shore, Greater Grand Crossing and other under-served communities
City Colleges of Chicago	Public Sector	City Colleges offers free Wi-Fi to eligible students through the Chicago Connected program, free laptops through the Learn to Own Laptop program, and is building more digital literacy opportunities through its digital equity strategy.	City Colleges of Chicago serves students as diverse as the city itself. Many students are the first in their family to attend college. Three-quarters of students are Black or Latinx. A pre-pandemic student survey found that of students who responded, 60% self-identified as recently housing or food insecure.
Claretian Associates	Community/Civic Sector	By providing digital literacy trainings and education regarding digital literacy	South Chicago
Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community (CBCAC)	Community/Civic Sector	Bilingual service/Find more resources/Help community members develop digital skills for people looking for employment	Our organization seeks to bridge systemic gaps that immigrants in the local Chinese diasporic community face. Our community members often complain about lack of bandwidth within their neighborhoods and the language hurdles they face when it comes to getting in touch with a service representative. Their challenges and concerns go beyond infrastructure shortcomings. Most residents are using their phone as their primary device and need additional computer help to complete longer tasks such as applying for jobs, receiving online job trainings, or submitting official documents.
Comcast	Private Sector	Project UP is Comcast's comprehensive initiative to advance digital equity and help build a future of unlimited possibilities. Project UP encompasses the company's programs and community partnerships that connect people to the Internet, advance	Comcast's network infrastructure passes over 99% of residential addresses across Chicago's 77 neighborhoods and provides the same suite of residential services to households regardless of zip code. This ensures families across the city are able to access and apply their ACP credit toward any of our service tiers, from Internet

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		economic mobility, and open doors for the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, storytellers, and creators. Below is an overview of how these initiatives come together in Chicago. Internet Essentials - Internet Essentials is the nation's largest and most comprehensive high-speed internet adoption program for income-constrained households and was first launched in Chicago more than ten years ago. Internet Essentials provides low-cost internet service to eligible low-income students, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, public housing residents, and others enrolled in government assistance programs, ranging from Medicaid and SSI to SNAP. Participating Internet Service Provider in the Affordable Connectivity Program - Comcast also participates in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides qualified households with a credit of up to $30 a month toward the cost of their Internet and/or mobile service. The ACP covers the full cost of Internet Essentials and Internet Essentials Plus, making them free to ACP participants. Lift Zones - Lift Zones are WiFi-enabled safe spaces in community organizations where students and families can get online for remote learning, to build digital skills, access government and other services, and search for employment. Digital Navigators w/ YMCA of Metro Chicago: Comcast recently	Essentials to our highest tier, which provides download speeds up to 1.2 Gbps. Our Lift Zones provide service, resources and support in Chicago's under-resourced neighborhoods.

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		announced a major investment and partnership to support the launch and scale of a Digital Navigator program spanning six YMCA locations in the city. Digital Navigators are individuals affiliated with trusted community organizations, like the YMCA, that are trained to help people connect to the Internet.	
Community As A Campus	Community/Civic Sector	Taking advantage of community events especially the back to school bashes to help widen the pool of participants.	Spanish speakers and low income families, who have historically been excluded in this city.
Compudopt	Community/Civic Sector	Compupdopt is a national 501c(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2007, on the belief that every child deserves equal access to education and opportunity. By forging meaningful partnerships and delivering community-informed, best-in-class service, we are able to rapidly get free computers to kids and families who otherwise don't have access. We also provide workforce-aligned technology education programs, digital literacy classes, and internet connectivity solutions that empower youth and their communities. These programs and services make Compudopt the only national nonprofit providing a full digital equity solution.	We serve families without access to devices and digital literacy training, students needing quality out-of-school-time technology enrichment education, and low-income communities who do not have internet connectivity in their homes. 100% of our clients served come from economically disadvantaged households. To date, we have distributed computers in 18+ Chicago neighborhoods and suburbs. Some examples include Englewood, North Lawndale, Roseland, Austin, Back of the Yards, Elgin, and South Chicago.
Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Parent Universities	Public Sector	All Parent Universities provide a hub for parents to access internet, devices, and classes.	We service the entire city
Crown Castle	Private Sector	Crown Castle is the nation's largest provider of shared communications infrastructure including cell towers, small cells and fiber networks. Taken together, our assets comprise the most	Crown Castle builds shared infrastructure for use by the wireless carriers. Our company has communications infrastructure assets in all 50 City of Chicago wards. While many of these assets have been deployed in the Chicago Central Business District, we have new

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		comprehensive portfolio of wireless communications infrastructure in the nation. Across Chicago, wireless connectivity plays a critical role in expanding access to broadband for underserved communities. Digital equity allows for the community to have access to information technology allowing for full civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning and access to essential services.	contracts with our wireless customers to deploy in Chicago's south, west and northwest side neighborhoods; something we are very excited about.
Discovery Partners Institute	Public Sector	Led by the University of Illinois System in partnership with top research universities, DPI does three things: train people for high-demand tech jobs, conduct applied R&D, and launch and build businesses to grow Chicago's tech ecosystem.	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion are a core foundation of our programs not an afterthought. In 2019, the U of I computer science, computer engineering, and data science programs graduated 3,476 people systemwide. But just 59, or 1.6%, were Black. And just 183, or 5%, were Hispanic. We must do better. DPI's tech talent development programs are going to help fix this.
Harris Pickens Resource Community Agency LLC	Unsure	I am spreading information to people that are not in tune to be accessible to computers, libraries, or other resources. I let people use my desktop, laptop, & my cellphones to make calls, or set up appointments & applications online.	5500 South Damen-5900 South Damen
Hughes Who Technologies Studio	Community/Civic Sector	We help level the playing field among black and brown youth interested in a career in gaming and interactive media by offering game development workshops. And exposing them to emerging technology so they can be set on a Pathway toward working in the industry.	Underserved middle schoolers to young adults in low income areas, but also offer programs for students 3rd grade and up.
I AM ABLE	Community/Civic Sector	I AM ABLE has worked within the community to assist and develop technological literacy with its citizens. I AM ABLE connects residents with related resources and advocate for supports that close the digital divide. Cohesion within the community.	North Lawndale, African Americans

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Illinois Broadband Lab	Public Sector	The Illinois Broadband Lab is a collaborative effort among the Illinois Office of Broadband, the University of Illinois, and the Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, to advance shared interests in broadband data and research, explore various aspects of the digital divide, and provide thoughtful analysis of the Connect Illinois capital investment and related programming. The Lab will measure, monitor, and tell the story of broadband investments—whether in mapping, infrastructure, digital inclusion, or community planning and engagement.	The Illinois Broadband Lab ultimately serves the entire state, helping to assist community leaders and key stakeholders with closing broadband access, adoption, and use gaps. In its digital equity efforts, the Illinois Broadband Lab will prioritize covered populations identified in the Digital Equity Act.
Internet Equity Initiative	Research/Higher Education	Produces innovative research on Internet performance in Chicago; Collaborates with community partners working to increase access to quality Internet service, quality devices, digital literacy. More information is available at internetequity.uchicago.edu	Research focus on Chicago's South Side
Latinx Digital Leaders Now	Community/Civic Sector	We are developing a Digital Leaders Academy in two high schools to increase tech career pathways; helping families apply to receive affordable internet access; and offering digital literacy workshops	Latino/x/a community and from the southwest side of the city of Chicago
North Lawndale Employment Network	Community/Civic Sector	North Lawndale Employment Network offers Job Readiness Training, Digital Learning Workshops, Financial Workshops, Resume Assistance, Energy Assistance, and Resource Supports.	We service the North Lawndale community and surrounding areas
Northwest Center	Community/Civic Sector	We are providing 1:1 coaching in a beginner's computer basics course. As supplies allow, we provide participants with a device upon completion of the course. We also support families eligible for Chicago Connected and the Affordable	Minority groups including Hispanics and African Americans.

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		Connectivity Program to receive internet service for free or at a lower cost. We also have additional workshops for personal, career, professional, and digital advancement.	
PCs for People	Non-Profit	We go to neighborhoods in Chicago and distribute free or low cost computers and internet service.	We have been distributing computers to low-income individuals and families in Chicago neighborhoods including East Garfield Park, Englewood, Ford City, and South Shore. We are always looking for partners who can help us reach low-income individuals who are in need of computers and/or internet service.
Phalanx Family Services	Community/Civic Sector	Phalanx Family Services is a premier Southside One-Stop Social Service Agency providing a wide array of services to the community. We offer industry specific training, workforce development solutions and Youth reconnection services. We provide opportunities for Digital literacy both in-person and virtual. Our on-site walk in service offers opportunities for the community to inquire about services and to get their questions addressed.	We are located in the West Pullman community and our primary service areas include: Pullman, Roseland, Morgan Park, and Washington Heights. We also serve the entire City of Chicago and neighboring suburban communities.
Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP)	Community/Civic Sector	At SWOP, we connect CPS families to internet through the Chicago Connected program. We also provide Digital Learning courses through NorthStar Digital Literacy, in English and Spanish.	SWOP is located in the Southwest side of Chicago, the excluded population that we serve are Spanish speaking community members, we primarily serve the Chicago Lawn / Gage Park / West Lawn / West Eldon / Ashburn communities
Teamwork Englewood	Community/Civic Sector	Provides resources to Chicago Connected for quality internet services to the community, advocate to help community acquire devices and organize digital literacy classes	The Englewood community residents which consists mostly of low-income families does not have access to quality internet services and/ or quality devices. This community is often overlooked because of its financial stature and families are opted out of a lot of resources, in particularly, affordable, high quality internet and digital technology devices.

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The Community Builder's Inc	Community/Civic Sector	We have formed a steering Committee with community members as well as other stakeholders such as libraries, schools, internet providers.	We serve the Southside community in Bronzeville where we have 2000 units of affordable and mixed income housing
The Quilt Corporation	Community/Civic Sector	Raising awareness of the time value of Broadband Adoption (the longer we wait the further behind we leave the unconnected). Building collaborations with communities, public, private, and philanthropic partners.	Austin, Garfield Park, Lawndale, Little Village, Pilsen, Grand Boulevard, Washington Park, South Shore, Woodlawn, Englewood, Auburn Gresham, Greater Grand Crossing, Chatham, Humboldt Park.
T-Mobile	Private Sector	T-Mobiles Project 10 Million program provides eligible households a free hotspot and 100GB of free internet access each year for five years. Assurance Wireless, T-Mobiles primary Lifelife Assistance brand, participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program. (ACP) allows customers to receive a free phone with unlimited data, texts, and minutes along with 10GB of hotspot data, all on the power of T-Mobiles nationwide network. The Emergency Connectivity Fund Program reimburses schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and broadband connections used to help students, staff, and patrons who otherwise lack access to engage in remote learning.	ACP participants are eligible if they participate in programs like SNAP, WIC or Medicaid, or have an income up to 200% of the federal poverty level.
UCAN	Non-Profit	Computers	North Lawndale, low income areas, Black & Brown communities
Verizon	Private Sector	Verizon is committed to digital inclusion, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to realize the benefits of technology and participate in the digital economy. Our digital inclusion work is focused on three key areas: affordability, adoption, and access. Verizon promotes affordability through the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) which offers a $30 monthly discount to qualified	Below is a sampling of our partnerships: • Together with P33, Verizon co-founded TechRise to advance and support Chicagoland's BIPOC and Women tech entrepreneurs. TechRise delivers early stage, non-dilutive capital through a series of weekly pitch competitions, provides mentorship and workshops to help founders scale their ventures, and grows a sense of community among the BIPOC tech ecosystem in Chicago. • Verizon's investment in Code Nation, a STEM organization with

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		participants on either home or mobile internet service. Verizon promotes adoption and access through our partnerships with community-based organizations and hyper-local investments in Chicago.	school-based programming that teaches coding skills to youth on the South and West side of Chicago, enabled high school students to learn coding and apply their skills to build websites in a Hackathon. • Verizon and UnidosUS developed Latinx@Work, an innovative digital literacy program and job readiness training program based on culturally relevant curricula. After completing the program, participants in Chicago and other cities receive support in obtaining employment or additional education. • Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership serves all of Cook County by providing job training and placement services, particularly for growing industries like tech. Verizon's investment supported the digitization of the Partnership's curriculum and training modules as well as the opening of the Southside workforce center and tech labs in the Chatham community. • Verizon's support of YWCA Metro Chicago's Small Business Development Center's micro-grant program has helped Southside small businesses to become digitally enabled. One grant recipient, a popular dessert shop, can now take online orders and ship goods across the county.
Women's Business Development Center	Non-Profit	Technical Assistance and Programming developed for all start-up and established small businesses	The WBDC helps all entrepreneurs but focuses on women, minorities, veterans and other underserved populations
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago	Community/Civic Sector	The YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago bilingual community helpdesk where community members can call and get help with tech and digital needs either via email, over the phone or through an in-person appointment. We also have 3 Tech Hubs that serve as community computer labs and are open 20 hours a week, free of cost to community members. There is a digital navigator on-site that is	The communities that our lab are in currently are Little Village/Pilsen, West Humboldt Park, and Woodlawn. We will be expanding labs into the Lakeview, Irving Park, and Logan Square communities. The community helpdesk is open to all of Chicago-land.

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		available for assistance and questions during open times. We are anticipating upgrading and expanding to 6 total Tech Hubs in 2023.	