Welcome! As everyone arrives, please take a few minutes to complete an important survey using the QR code below or picking up a paper copy in the back!

LAWRENCEVILLE HAPPENINGS ON DIGITAL EQUITY

Thursday, August 10, 2023 – 6:30-8:00 PM

Goodwill
Southwestern Pennsylvania

LAWRENCEVILLE
CORPORATION

Sign in at bit.ly/LUSignIn if you're joining by Facebook Live or watching this as a recording

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Tonight's Agenda

1. **Welcome (10 minutes)**
   a.   Introduction
   b.   Accessibility & Community Agreements

2. **Digital Equity and Access Presentation & Community Conversation (70 minutes)**

3. **Upcoming Events & Closing (10 mins)**

About Lawrenceville United

- Mission: to improve and protect quality of life for all Lawrenceville residents

- Membership of over 800 residents

- Board comprised of all residents: elected by our membership

- Programs: Lawrenceville Farmers Market, supporting older adults, free food distributions, cleaning & greening, direct support & case management, advocacy, and more.

About Lawrenceville Corporation

- Mission: Driven by the Lawrenceville community, the Lawrenceville Corporation acts as the catalyst and conduit for responsible and sustainable growth.

- Membership: About 100, primarily business owners

- Board: Mostly comprised of residents, property owners, and business owners and elected by our membership - 16 members

- Programs: Business district management, policy and advocacy, community planning and development, real estate development, and communications and marketing

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Southwestern Pennsylvania
goodwill

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About Goodwill SWPA

- **Mission:** We strengthen communities, advance reuse and sustainability, and empower people to achieve their potential.

- Programs:

  - Education and Training (computer classes, IT training programs, GED and ESL classes)

  - Disability Services for youth and adults

  - Employment Services for youth and adults

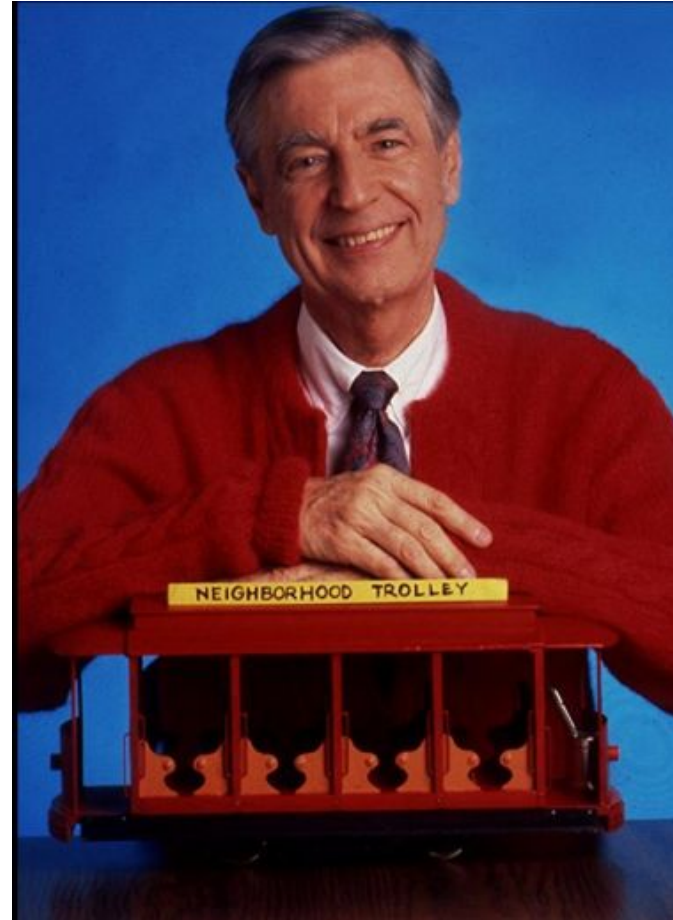 - Housing programs through Allegheny Link, and more.

Safety & Accessibility

- This meeting is being streamed on Zoom & Facebook.

  - We will be monitoring the Facebook & Zoom chat for questions and comments

- Please let us know your accessibility needs.

Community Agreements

Be neighborly.

- Be respectful of all participants & hosts
- Don't denigrate groups of people
- Give space for all to participate

Ground Rules

- **Hold all questions/comments until the end of the presentation** (you can drop in the chat if you're joining by Zoom / Facebook Live).
- **Raise your hand to make a question/comment.** Please identify yourself and your relationship to the project.
- **Be respectful of all speakers.**
- **Limit questions/comments to 2 minutes each, with 1 clarification question/comment.**
- **If time permits, we will call on individuals who'd like to ask or make a second question/comment.**
- **Use the "feedback form" to ask more questions and give us your input**
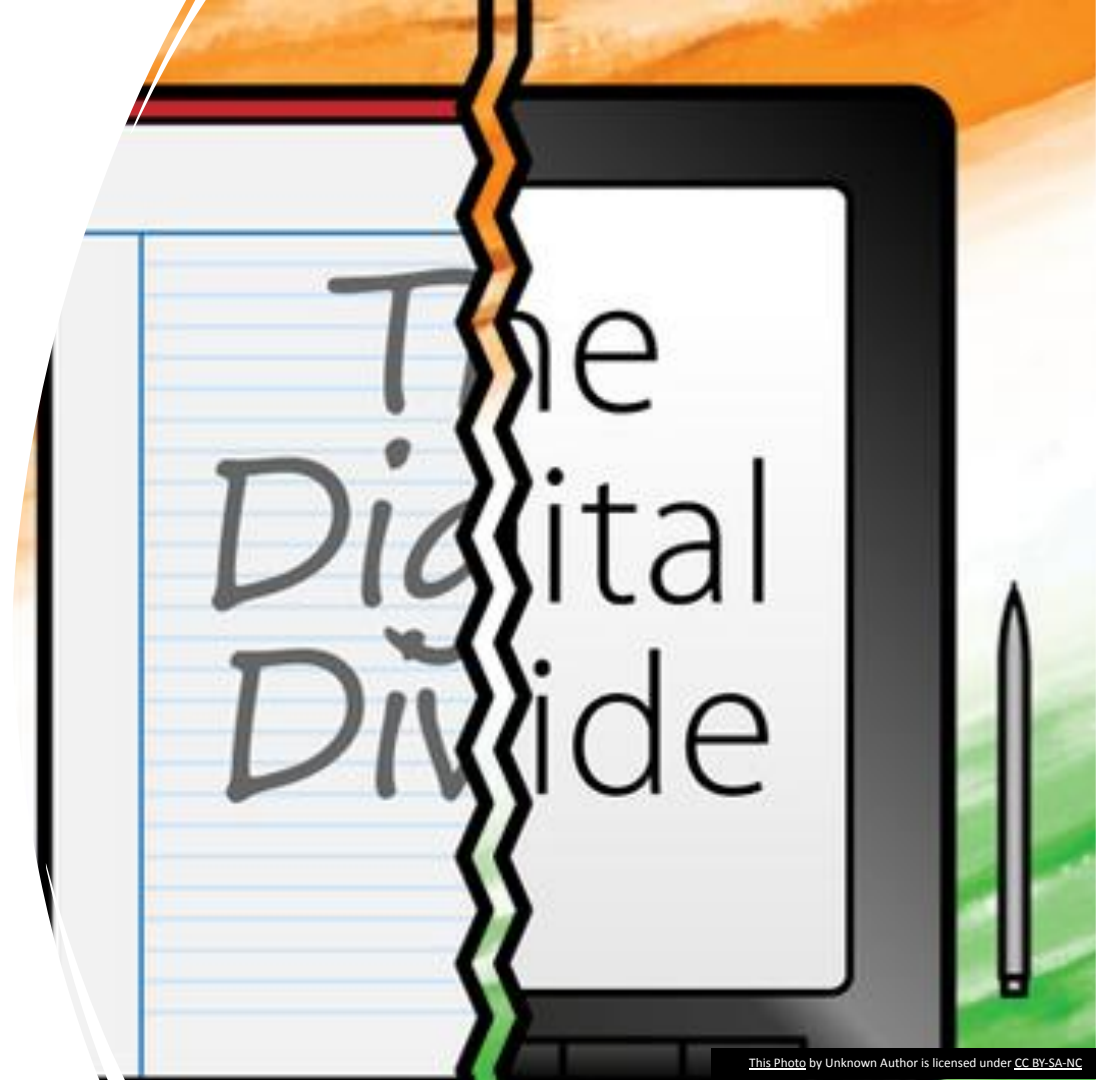- **If ground rules are violated, we will ask you to leave. If it continues, we will end the meeting.**

Digital Equity

Why Are We Talking About Internet Now?

- The Federal government is about to make a $45 billion investment into improving the internet for everyone

- Pennsylvania is currently writing their plan for how they will spend more than $1 billion in these efforts

- States are being given five years in order to accomplish their plans

Digital Equity and Inclusion: Three Key Areas

Reliable, Affordable Internet

Device Access

Digital Skills

Affordable, Reliable Internet

Community Activity: Internet Cost

- On the sticky note, write the following information:
  - Price you pay for internet
  - Internet Service Provider (ISP)
  - Internet Speed, if known

How much speed to you really need?

- You will often need less internet than you think

- For a family of 6, 200 megabits per second (Mbps) is sufficient

- Internet plans can always be upgraded at a later time if downloading content is taking a long time

Which internet provider should I choose?

- Internet providers use different types of wires to provide service. Here's how the options stack up:
  - DSL – Uses telephone lines, low speed, low cost
  - Cable – Uses cable TV lines, medium speed, medium cost
  - Fiber-optic – Uses fiber wires, high speed, high cost
- Options will vary by location

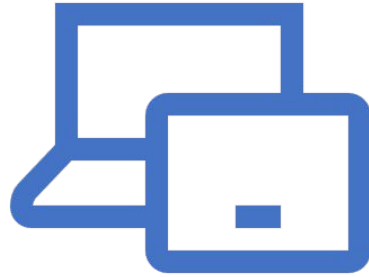# Affordable Connectivity Program

- With the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), you can save on your bill and may be able to get high-speed internet for free.
  - Service discount up to $30/month
  - Device discount up to $100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than $10 but less than $50)
- How can I qualify?
  - You, or your child or dependent are enrolled in government programs like Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, or others, or,
  - Based on your household income
- How do I apply?
  - Visit www.affordableconnectivity.gov

Lifeline

- Lifeline is a federal program dedicated to making phone and internet service more affordable for low-income households. This benefit provides eligible consumers with a monthly discount of up to $9.25.
- You can get Lifeline if you (or someone in your household) participate in one of these programs:
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
  - Medicaid
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
  - Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Some providers may include a low-cost or free smartphone with select plans
- Sign up by visiting https://www.lifelinesupport.org/

Device Access

Community Question

What devices do you have access to on a regular basis?

Computer Hardware Terms

- **Central Processing Unit (CPU)**: How fast the computer can read instructions
  - Intel Core
    - Higher the core, more powerful the device
  - AMD
    - Athlon – Low-end power
    - Ryzen – High-end power
- **Memory (RAM)**: Space for the computer to temporarily remember information
  - Measured in Gigabytes (GB)
  - More memory allows more programs to run at the same time
- **Hard Drive (HDD)/Solid State Drive (SSD)**: Storage space
  - Measured in Gigabytes (GB) or Terabytes (TB)
- **Monitor**
  - Measured diagonally
  - Options:
    - LCD -> lower quality, lower cost
    - LED -> Higher quality, higher cost

Computer Reach

- Computer Reach gives free Desktop Computer Bundles to people in the Greater Pittsburgh Area through a weekly lottery system.

- All bundles are distributed at no cost to the recipient. Winners must be able to pick up their bundle from the Computer Reach Headquarters in Homewood.

- To sign up for the lottery, visit https://www.computerreach.org/computer-lottery-program/

Digital Skills

Community Question

What digital skills would you like to learn or become more proficient?

Finding Training and Resources

The Greater Pittsburgh Digital Inclusion Alliance is a regional organization committed to closing the digital divide.

Many of these organizations provide opportunities to improve computer skills through in-person classes, webinars, and one-on-one support.

With a variety of options, choose the method that best works for you to improve your confidence using electronic devices.

Digital Equity

Further Community Conversation and Q&A

Next steps

→ **Make sure you signed in**

◆ Facebook Live: bit.ly/LUSignIn

→ **Complete the survey!!**

◆ **https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PA_BCDA**

→ **Meeting video/presentations will be shared on LU's website at** www.LUnited.org

→ **Contact LU with any other questions/input**

◆ 412-802-7220 | info@LUnited.org

- ➔ **Farmer's Market** - Tuesdays at Bay 41

- ➔ **Coffee and Tea Business Networking** - 8/16, 9-11 am @ LV Market House (4600 Butler)

- ➔ **Enameling Workshop** *for AdvantAGE Members* - 8/16, 6-8 PM @ Contemporary Craft

- ➔ **Duncan Park Workday** - 8/28, 5-7 PM @ Duncan Park

- ➔ **LIVE! In Lawrenceville** - 10/7, 12-4 PM @ Bay 41 (41st & Willow)

Thank you!

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