The 2019 Secretary’s Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships

The Cleveland Foundation

Digital Inclusion for All

Cleveland, Ohio

Challenge

Roughly one in three Cleveland residents lack fixed broadband internet access. The digital divide largely impacts lower income residents, those receiving housing vouchers, and those living in public housing estates. Cleveland is the fifth-least connected city in America.

Innovation

The Cleveland Foundation’s digital inclusion model includes hotspot lending administered by the city and the county libraries, equitably priced refurbished computers, and advocacy and awareness campaigns run by the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Cleveland Housing Network.

Overview

The Cleveland Foundation and its partners serve more than 100,000 Northeast Ohio residents. Digital Inclusion for All has been able to provide unlimited hotspots around the libraries, timed hotspots around neighborhoods, and close to 500 computers to qualifying residents.

Partners

Cleveland Public Library, Cuyahoga Public Library, Mobile Beacon, PCs for People, Huntington Bank, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, and the Cleveland Housing Network.

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