Get Connected!
Internet For All Now
Forging Frontiers in Public Policy to Close the Digital Divide

California has made tremendous progress in connecting Californians to the Internet over the last eight years, gaining prominence as a national leader for innovations in advancing Digital Inclusion. This accomplishment is the result of the commitment of leaders in all facets of the public and private sectors to align resources and coordinate efforts to achieve shared goals. The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) is honored and privileged to work as a partner with the Governor’s Administration, Legislature, Congress, California Public Utilities Commission, Regional Consortia, Local Governments, Community Organizations, Industry, and Stakeholders to advance the public interest in getting all Californians connected so they can thrive in the Digital World. CETF has been and continues to be a vital catalyst to forge new approaches, promote big ideas, and spark bold action to close the Digital Divide. And, we are pleased to report that CETF is serving this role with focus, inclusion, transparency, efficiency, and accountability for results described in this Annual Report.

Yet, 25% of California households—nearly 10 million people—remain stuck on the other side of the Digital Divide without high-speed Internet access at home. They are residents in both remote rural communities without the necessary infrastructure to get online and disadvantaged urban neighborhoods without the means to pay for high-speed Internet access. And, they are being left behind at an accelerating pace.

That is why CETF has joined forces with more than 100 leadership groups in California and across the nation to urge policymakers to make securing affordable broadband for all low-income households a top priority—Internet For All Now is the banner for the ‘call to action’ that all of us have a responsibility to answer. At this time of new beginnings and new leadership in our State Government, let us all renew our commitment to finally close the Digital Divide.

“Dr. Barbara O’Connor Rich Motta
CETF Co-Chairman and Secretary
CETF Co-Chairman and Treasurer

Internet For All Now—A 21st Century Civil Right

‘The Digital Divide is just another manifestation of the Economic Divide and the Opportunity Divide.’ That profound observation by OCCUR Executive Director David Glover (whom we remember in this Annual Report along with other inspiring Digital Pioneers) is a sobering reminder that the quest to close the Digital Divide has to be an integral part of a deep commitment to tackle poverty and empower all Californians.

While the state has made significant progress in increasing home broadband use from 55% to 75% of all households, the sad news is that 25%—a full quarter of our population—remain stuck on the wrong side of the Digital Divide. These households are mostly in urban poor neighborhoods or remote rural areas. The last two statewide Annual Surveys have confirmed that these residents are up against the ‘wall of poverty’—inter-related factors and forces that constitute a huge barrier to overcome and escape—resulting in low-income households being left behind at an accelerating pace. Low-income families without home broadband (which requires a computing device and Digital Literacy) can’t apply for most jobs, take an online course to improve workforce skills, bank online, access online public services, or communicate with their child’s school. And, students without high-speed Internet access at home can’t complete homework, do research for assignments, or apply for college. Thus, the Digital Divide in our communities also contributes to the Achievement Gap in our schools.

That is why the California Emerging Technology Fund is so focused on driving to results with accountability. It is why CETF developed and launched School2Home, and why CETF has a strategic approach to reshaping public policy to incorporate technology into the solutions to all major societal challenges—education, workforce training, healthcare, infrastructure, economic development—concepts referred to as Digital Inclusion and Neighborhood Transformation.

It also is why CETF has urged federal and state regulators to seize the opportunity presented by pending corporate consolidations to ensure a widely-available affordable broadband rate that will enable all low-income households to be connected and empower all residents to participate in the Digital Economy. Internet For All Now is the public awareness and education mobilization that is being advanced by CETF and has been joined by more than 120 civic leadership and community organizations. Every elected official and policymaker—federal, state, local—must rise to the occasion and embrace Internet For All Now—it is a 21st Century Civil Right.

Sunne Wright McPeak
President and CEO
California Emerging Technology Fund

Dr. Barbara O’Connor
CETF Co-Chairman and Secretary

Rich More
CETF Co-Chairman and Treasurer
**Internet For All Now**

It takes a network of dedicated people to connect a family. Crystal Owings, an ambassador with the Chicana Latina Foundation, used to spend her school break from UC Santa Cruz teaching her mother how to find a new job online. From that experience, she developed the idea for recruiting Spanish-speaking UC students to give low-income families lessons in computing skills.

Crystal and other students visit schools and community centers to let families know that if they sign up for $10-a-month Internet, they become eligible for a free computer and training. She calls her program *Bridging the Digital Divide*.

For her creativity and hard work, she was awarded a $10,000 scholarship last year to expand the computer mentoring program. Shortly after, Crystal met Jose Gonzalez, who needed a computer so he could study to take the high school diploma equivalency test, which is now only offered online.

Larry Strickling, who heads up broadband adoption programs at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), had visited the Chicana Latina Foundation. After learning of its work, he made a personal contribution to the computer fund.

Thanks to Larry Strickling’s generosity, Crystal successfully secured a computer for Jose. This is just one personal story of the power behind our quest to secure *Internet For All Now*.

"Access to computers and the Internet is no longer a luxury—it's an absolute necessity in today’s digital economy. It’s exciting to see first-hand the impact that CETF and its partners are having in their communities by helping residents get access to the equipment and training they need to be competitive."

Larry Strickling
NTIA Administrator
Get Connected!

Equal Access to Opportunity for All Californians

In Silicon Valley, parents drive their children to the library so they can get online access to do their homework. In Los Angeles, low-income job hunters take long bus rides to a job-training center to submit their resumes online, otherwise employers won’t accept them. In Fresno, migrant families spend all of their income on rent and food, leaving nothing to pay for a computer and Internet service.

This is unacceptable in a state at the center of the technology revolution. The solution: California and America need affordable high-speed Internet at home for all low-income residents. The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) knows first-hand from being in the trenches that the most disadvantaged populations and impoverished neighborhoods are up against a “wall of poverty” that demands action from elected officials, regulators and policymakers at all levels. CETF has ramped up local, state and national public education initiatives to promote policies that give everyone equal access to opportunity.

Highlights from the Year

CETF Launches Internet For All Now: The public education initiative and mobilization effort, called Internet For All Now, resulted in more than 170,000 written communications to the FCC and its Commissioners to urge new public policy to expand affordable Internet access to those who cannot afford it. In addition, forums in Los Angeles and Sacramento drew civic, business and government leaders. Young adults in the YMCA of Greater Long Beach Youth Institute social enterprise, Change Agents, produced a video that captures the “call to action” for Internet For All Now.

School2Home Gets National Attention: Two FCC Commissioners, Mignon Clyburn and Ajit Pai, separately visited schools that are implementing School2Home, a CETF initiative to close both the Digital Divide and Achievement Gap by integrating technology into teaching and learning with significant parent engagement.

Tribal Leaders Are Consulted: CETF, CENIC (Corporation for Education Networks in California), and Judge Cynthia Gomez, the Governor’s Tribal Advisor, conducted consultations throughout California to engage Tribal Leaders in identifying broadband needs and funding opportunities.

CETF Promotes Broadband as a Green Strategy: CETF and Valley Vision partnered to compile research documenting the benefits of broadband deployment and adoption to reduce impacts on the environment. CETF worked with energy utilities to help low-income customers sign up for affordable Internet at home and obtain a low-cost computing device so these consumers can go online from home. In Los Angeles, CETF provided funding for a city initiative, OurCycle LA, to give refurbished government computers to low-income households.

CETF Get Connected! 3.0 Grants Produce Results: CETF is investing $6.5 million with more than two dozen partners. To date, they have signed up 10,000 households for affordable high-speed Internet at home.
A Record of Progress

CETF was established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with the mission to close the Digital Divide by accelerating the deployment and adoption of broadband to the state’s underserved and unserved communities and advancing public policy solutions. In 2008, California’s statewide adoption rate for broadband use at home was 55%. In 2014, it stood at 75%, including 8% who access the Internet only with a smartphone.

Between 2008 and 2014, adoptions for low-income households earning under $20,000 are up 20 percentage points (from 33% to 53%); Latino household adoptions are up 29 percentage points (from 34% to 63%); and broadband adoptions by people with disabilities are up 23 percentage points (from 36% to 59%).

Progress has been made because of unified leadership: Governor and State Agencies, Legislature, California Congressional Delegation, CPUC, CETF, regional civic leaders, and community partners. CETF concludes that success will require more effective federal and state public policies coupled with the dedication of additional resources.

“I think we’re at a fork in the road. The question is: Whose Internet is it? It is important to deal with the long-term future of what the relationship of the American people will be with their broadband network that is so essential.”

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission

CETF and partners meet with FCC Commissioners to urge them to improve and expand affordable Internet programs for all low-income households. Left to Right: Former FCC Commissioner and CETF Outside Special Counsel Rachelle Chong, CETF President and CEO Sunne Wright McPeak and partners Olga Talamante of Chicana Latina Foundation, Zach Leverenz of EveryoneOn, Josh Kirschenbaum of PolicyLink, and Hugo Morales of Radio Bilingüe.
Goals for Success: 98% Deployment and 80% Adoption

CETF is providing leadership to close the Digital Divide by setting goals for success: deployment to 98% of state households and adoption by 80% of households. CETF is performance-driven and outcomes-focused. The CETF Strategic Action Plan is based on research and fact finding about “what works” and sets forth the overall approach and strategies to close the Digital Divide, including the metrics for accountability that provide the disciplined focus on results. CETF has identified 3 priority consumer communities for grantmaking: Rural and Remote Areas; Urban Disadvantaged Neighborhoods; and People with Disabilities. CETF has adopted the following goals and has projected a target date for achieving success by 2017—10 years after CETF began operations.

Supply – Deployment
- Access for At Least 98% of Households
- Robust Rural-Urban California Telehealth Network (CTN)
- All Tribal Lands Connected and Part of CTN

Demand – Adoption
- Overall Statewide Adoption 80% by 2017 and 90% by 2020
- Adoption in All Regions and Socioeconomic Groups At Least 70%
- Increased Overall Accessibility and Universal Design

California a Global Leader in Deployment and Adoption
- Sufficient Speeds for Consumer Applications that Drive Adoption
- Increased Economic Productivity
- Reduced Environmental Impacts

CETF Partner Southeast Community Development Corporation (Los Angeles County) sponsors a summer academy for middle-school students to learn science and math and bone their computer skills.
To achieve the optimal impact and a higher return on investment of the original $60 million seed capital, CETF uses 5 overarching strategies:

1. **Civic Leader Engagement**

2. **Venture Philanthropy Grantmaking**

3. **Public Policy Initiatives**

4. **Public Awareness and Education**

5. **Strategic Partnerships**

These strategies are inter-related and mutually reinforcing as outlined on the next two pages.
5 Overarching Strategies to Close the Digital Divide:

1 Civic Leader Engagement
Engage and mobilize a “critical mass” of regional and local leaders to sustain a focus on closing the Digital Divide and to integrate Digital Inclusion into key strategies to promote the regional economies and address local challenges.

- Rural Regional Aggregation Demand Projects
- Urban Regional Roundtables
- 15 Regional Consortia with Funding from California Advanced Services Fund

2 Venture Philanthropy Grantmaking
Establish and support a network of “trusted messengers” and “honest brokers” to reach priority consumer groups in target communities.

- $31M in Grants to More Than 100 Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Public Agencies – Leveraging More Than $102M in Matching Funds
  - CETF 1.0: $21.9M to 57 CBOs
  - CETF 2.0: $2.6M to Match $14.3 in 2 ARRA NTIA Grants for 20 CBOs and Their Partners
  - CETF 3.0: $6.5M Get Connected! Fund to Increase Broadband Adoption for 26 CBOs and Their Partners
- Capacity Building and Learning Communities
- Accountability for Performance and Results: Meeting and Exceeding Outcome Goals

Achieve 98% Deployment and 80% Adoption
3 Public Policy Initiatives

Provide a positive public policy environment to optimize the impact of grants and to accelerate broadband adoption.

- Digital Literacy: Executive Order and Action Plan; Workforce Training Policy; Career Pathways
- School2Home: Technology and Parent Engagement Integrated into Teaching and Learning for Low-Performing Middle Schools as Centerpiece for Neighborhood Transformation
- California Telehealth Network: Medically-Underserved Rural and Urban Communities Connected to Medical Centers for Access, Quality of Care and Cost Savings
- Smart Housing: State and Federal Policy to Connect All Publicly-Supported Housing; Smart Housing Pilot Partnership with Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles
- Smart Communities: Smart Infrastructure Policy; Resource Guide for Local and Regional Government Leaders; Broadband as a Green Strategy

4 Public Awareness and Education

Increase overall awareness among priority consumer communities about the benefits of broadband as a foundation and support for all other strategic actions.

- Get Connected! Public Awareness and Education Program
  - GetConnectedToday.com Website (Online Basic Digital Literacy in 4 Languages)
  - Community Connect Fairs
  - Multilingual Public Information Media Messages Based on Research
- Internet For All Now Public Education and Mobilization Initiative

5 Strategic Partnerships

Forge collaboration and shared funding with governments, foundations and employers to joint venture investments on major initiatives to sustain focus and efforts to close the Digital Divide.

- Partnership with National Non-Profit EveryoneOn to Increase Broadband Adoption
- Collaboration with Power Utilities to Get Low-Income Consumers Online
1. Civic Leader Engagement

Engagement of civic leaders in stakeholder organizations is the first and foremost strategy to leverage the $60 million seed capital. It is a powerful fulcrum to optimize impact in all other strategies to close the Digital Divide in a state as large and diverse as California. CETF initially convened civic leaders in rural counties and funded the formation of Rural Regional Consortia to implement Rural Regional Aggregation Demand Projects to identify needs, aggregate demand, and map assets to encourage broadband deployment. CETF then convened civic leaders around Urban Regional Roundtables, making a modest matching seed contribution, to outline action plans to integrate broadband applications into initiatives to address local priority challenges, such as economic development, education, workforce training, and healthcare.

The original 13 Regional Consortia evolved from these CETF investments and are currently funded by the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) administered by the CPUC. The CPUC approved 2 additional Regional Consortia in 2014—the Pacific Coast Broadband Consortium and North Bay/Coast Broadband Consortium. The Gold Country Consortium also received augmented funding for the Tahoe Basin Project. The Regional Consortia are responsible for engaging elected representatives, public officials, service providers, and leaders from counties, cities, business, labor, and the community to develop and implement regional action plans. For example, Redwood Coast Connect and the Humboldt State University California Center for Rural Policy are fostering cooperation among the rural Regional Consortia to seek federal funding for broadband deployment. East Bay Broadband Consortium is assisting CETF to engage local government and school leaders to promote Digital Inclusion and Neighborhood Transformation. Central Sierra Connect Broadband Consortium mobilized the most residents of any region to complete surveys for the CPUC to document lack of adequate broadband. Eastern Sierra Connect Regional Broadband Consortium convened forums with local civic leaders to discuss how to leverage the extraordinary asset of Digital 395.
2. Venture Philanthropy Grantmaking

CETF regards grants as “investments” for which there must be measureable returns and tangible results—referred to as “venture philanthropy” grantmaking. Grantees are selected because of their capacity to deliver outcomes and their credibility as “trusted messengers and honest brokers” for the priority consumer communities. In addition to meeting their performance requirements for specific deliverables and outcomes, grantees are engaged as partners in driving to the statewide goals for closing the Digital Divide. CETF also facilitates collaboration among grantees through “learning communities” to enhance their effectiveness and expand their capacity. Since 2007 CETF has committed more than $31 million in grants to more than 100 non-profit community-based organizations (CBOs) and public agencies (see a list of all grantee partners on pages 20–21 and visit the CETF website for Final Reports).

In 2010, CETF also received 2 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grants from the U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) totaling $14.3 million to increase broadband adoption in California. The 2 grants supported the work of 20 CBOs. The ARRA funding built upon the initial round of CETF grantmaking and the investment in development of the Get Connected! Public Awareness and Education Program, allowing the federal government to better leverage funds for greater impact. The grants were completed in 2013.

The first round of grantmaking is referred to as “CETF 1.0” because it coalesced a critical mass of partner CBOs as a foundation for reaching a sufficient number of Californians to close the Digital Divide. Leveraging CETF funds with the ARRA grants is referred to as “CETF 2.0” because it built on that foundation and takes collaboration to the next level of impact. The current round of grantmaking is referred to as “CETF 3.0” because it relies on the “lessons learned” from the first two phases and focuses integrated efforts on increasing broadband adoptions in the poorest communities. It also is the last round of grantmaking using the original CETF seed capital and is intended to forge Strategic Partnerships that will promote neighborhood transformation as a platform for future investment.
3. Public Policy Initiatives

The pace at which the Digital Divide can be closed is significantly determined by the policy environment in which grantmaking and other strategies are employed. CETF has launched major policy initiatives to accelerate broadband adoption. The following summarizes each major policy initiative and the milestone accomplishments to date. In 2011, CETF convened a Policymakers’ Roundtable in Sacramento which identified several policy and program opportunities to accelerate broadband deployment and adoption. Today, the California Broadband Council serves as the official forum for continued promotion and oversight of public policies to accelerate broadband deployment and adoption.

Digital Literacy

Digital Literacy is defined as using digital technologies, communications tools, and/or networks to access, manage, integrate, evaluate, create and communicate information in order to function in a knowledge society. Digital Literacy is essential both to drive demand for broadband adoption and to ensure that broadband adoption is sustainable. Today, the ability to access employment, education, healthcare, and financial resources is dependent on skills in operating digital devices. Digital Literacy is required for workforce readiness because almost every job requires use of some type of digital technology. Most job applications and all unemployment applications must be filed online. In education, the shift to Common Core Standards curricula and computer adaptive assessments requires K-12 students to be familiar with using computers to do their homework and take tests.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- CETF facilitated an initiative with the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) and the California Workforce Association (CWA) to continue a webinar and workshop series focused on integrating Digital Literacy and information and communications technologies (ICT) career pathways and expanded the partnership to include workforce funders.
- CETF organized a half-day forum with leading Southern Californian librarians and Susan Hildreth, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, to discuss how to expand the pivotal role libraries play in providing online access and Digital Literacy training.
- CETF co-sponsored events promoting digital citizenship during the inaugural Digital Citizenship Week at Los Angeles Unified School District and highlighting ways to stay safe online at a Sacramento public awareness event organized by the National Cyber Security Alliance.

“Our workforce now needs to be digitally literate and students are expected to do homework online, yet nearly 10 million Californians do not have access to home high-speed Internet. The work of CETF and non-profits to expand online access is critical to preparing all Californians for the 21st Century economy.”

Assemblyman Anthony Rendon
Chairman
Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
School2Home

School2Home is an innovative cost-effective program that is tackling two of California’s most critical and related challenges: closing both the Achievement Gap and the Digital Divide by integrating computing and broadband technologies into teaching and learning in low-performing middle schools and providing a unique focus on parent engagement. School2Home provides the essential framework anchored in best practices, formulated around 10 Core Components, to improve student achievement at low-performing middle schools and provide the requisite platform to help students master competencies under the Common Core Standards. Once School2Home has been fully implemented in all grades, rooting the culture of using technology to engage parents and drive education improvement, schools show significant gains in academic performance that outpace comparable schools and statewide averages.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- School2Home currently is being implemented in 12 schools in 6 districts, reaching 298 teachers and more than 6,400 students and their parents in high-poverty communities: Los Angeles Unified School District; Riverside Unified School District; Oakland Unified School District; Winters Joint Unified School District; West Contra Costa Unified School District; and Inglewood Unified School District.

- Responses from 1,410 students in School2Home showed: 76% increased computer and Internet use at home to support learning; 76% used technology in writing assignments, up from 60% a year earlier; and 86% accessed the Internet for research assignments, up from 68% a year earlier. Home broadband adoption increased for Spanish-speakimg parents by 50%.

- CETF is providing input to state and federal education policy based on the success of School2Home. Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson has endorsed School2Home, encouraging funders to invest in the program.

“School2Home is an innovative program for integrating computing and broadband technology in the classroom and at home, giving students from low-performing middle schools equal access to the wealth of online learning resources. The focus on parent engagement not only helps students prepare for academic and career success, but can also benefit their parents.”

CETF Board Member Milton Chen
Senior Fellow and Director Emeritus
The George Lucas Educational Foundation
Telehealth – Telemedicine

Telehealth-Telemedicine is the ability to promote healthy behavior and provide medical care remotely using broadband connectivity between facilities, thus expanding access to vital services and improving the quality of care by linking critical expertise to medically-underserved communities. It also has the potential to help control costs. CETF was a key partner working with the University of California (UC) and a consortium of State agencies, providers, and funders to found the California Telehealth Network (CTN) with a robust vision of a statewide system “at scale.” CETF provided $3.6 million to match a grant of $22.1 million from the FCC to build the network by connecting more than 700 sites. CETF contributed another $1 million in operating seed capital and provided pro bono administrative and management support services to CTN for the first year of operation as an independent non-profit in order to ensure success and stability in standing up a new organization. CETF also helped fund UC Merced to recruit and connect initial telemedicine sites in the San Joaquin Valley.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- CTN has installed direct connections to 277 healthcare sites, with interconnections to an additional 768 sites under the FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP).
- HealthFusion’s MediTouch Electronic Health Records partnered with CTN, becoming the network’s first electronic health records partner.
- UnitedHealth committed another $1.5 million for CTN and Kaiser Permanente became a new investor member of the CTN Board of Directors with a $1 million grant. CTN also received a $480,000 grant from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) program.

“California is on the leading edge of healthcare reform and innovation, including getting more people insured and making life-saving breakthroughs. To be a smart health consumer today requires online access and the skills to navigate the healthcare ecosystem.”

CETF Director Barb Johnston
CEO, HealthLinkNow Inc.
**Smart Housing**

Smart Housing received a major endorsement from the Legislature and Governor with the passage of AB 1299 in 2013 to add $25 million to the California Advanced Services Fund, making California the first state to fund broadband installation and Digital Literacy training in publicly-subsidized multi-family housing statewide. Californians least likely to be connected to the Internet live in publicly-subsidized housing. CETF estimates that 40,000–50,000 low-income households will be connected to broadband and receive Digital Literacy training with this new funding opportunity.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- CETF is completing the Smart Housing Pilot Partnership with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) and non-profit organizations to develop a cost-effective model to connect public housing units to broadband and offer residents Digital Literacy training and low-cost computers. CETF invested $300,000 in the partnership with HACLA to obtain real-time data and experience to inform implementation of AB 1299, including identifying the best practices so that policymakers and affordable housing organizations have reliable information to pursue Smart Housing.

- CETF is supporting and assisting with implementation of AB 1299 funding by working with non-profit affordable housing organizations and local housing authorities to submit applications to the CPUC for CASF Public Housing Grants.

- CETF formulated a model policy for Smart Housing, briefed government policymakers, and conducted workshops with stakeholders. CETF has established a partnership with the National Housing Conference and consulted with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to amend federal policies and regulations to support and promote Smart Housing national policy.

> Affordable Internet access is critical to helping families break out of poverty and access the resources and training necessary to transform their lives with new educational and economic opportunities. I appreciate the hard and essential work that non-profits such as CETF are doing to make the Internet accessible to low-income communities across California.

— Congresswoman Julia Brownley
Ventura County
Smart Communities

The concept of “Smart Communities” refers to a policy commitment and focused effort by local governments and civic leaders to optimize broadband deployment as a community grows or redevelops, incorporating it into major public buildings, transportation facilities, and other infrastructure projects. It also means optimizing the use of broadband and other information technologies to deliver public services and integrating it into solutions to major problems to increase efficiency and enhance quality of life. The 1st Local Government Roundtable was convened in October 2013 in partnership with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), League of California Cities, Rural County Representatives of California, and Valley Vision, involving 80 local officials. The 2nd Roundtable will take place in April 2015.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- CETF and Valley Vision launched *Let’s Talk Broadband*, a quarterly newsletter for keeping local government officials up to speed on broadband issues. CETF and Valley Vision also collaborated to report on the ways communities can promote broadband activities such as teleworking, telehealth, digital learning, “smart” utility grids, and other applications to harness the green benefits to the environment and reduce the carbon footprint.

- Local government leaders in Yolo County and the 4 cities (Davis, Woodland, Winters, and West Sacramento), with the encouragement of the Capital Area Broadband Consortium, supported the development of a Broadband Strategic Plan by the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission, becoming the first LAFCO in the state to assume this kind of leadership role. Contra Costa LAFCO is considering similar action.

- The Inland Empire Economic Partnership and the Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium collaborated with CETF to explore incorporating broadband into local government planning, education, workforce preparation, healthcare, and housing to brand the Inland Empire as a “Smart Region.”

> Investment in broadband infrastructure is a fundamental part of sustainable social and economic growth, and is essential to building a greener and more equitable California.

Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia
CSAC Past President and California Air Resources Board Member
4. Public Awareness and Education: Get Connected!

CETF launched Get Connected! to raise awareness about the benefits of broadband as a foundation for other strategic actions. The initial 2-year goal was to increase adoption among low-income and Latino households statewide by 10 percentage points—in fact, there was a 16 percentage point increase. In 2014, partner National Hispanic Media Coalition produced PSAs featuring famed Los Angeles Dodger Spanish-language broadcaster Jaime Jarrín and actor Edward James Olmos describing why getting connected is critical.

Partner California Foundation for Independent Living Centers launched the statewide Digital Access Project to build awareness of the benefits of going online for people with disabilities. Partner Stride Center opened a call center to provide information on how to sign up for affordable Internet at home for the clients of Get Connected! partners.

Call agent Marcella Trujano helps Get Connected! clients find affordable Internet service at home while gaining experience working at the Stride Center’s Contact Center in Oakland.
5. Strategic Partnerships

It is essential for CETF to forge Strategic Partnerships with government, business and foundations to leverage the CETF seed capital to close the Digital Divide. Joint ventures are vital to the success of initiatives such as Get Connected!, School2Home, Smart Housing, and the California Telehealth Network. CETF has allocated or reserved all of the original $60 million seed capital and earnings to conclude operations in June 2017. Thus, CETF is working with grantees and other stakeholders to identify and attract Strategic Partners to match and leverage the remaining funds. For example, the partnership agreement with EveryoneOn provides an opportunity to engage broadband providers on a national scale and to interact with federal policymakers with greater impact. CETF is working as a member of the California Broadband Council to collaborate with State agencies and statewide public-purpose organizations to accelerate broadband deployment and adoption.

CETF engaged California energy utilities as partners to close the Digital Divide. Energy providers know the value of having all of their clients online in order to save costs, improve communications and help their customers save time and money. CETF worked with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and Southern California Gas Company to pilot outreach and education programs informing their customers about low-cost computers, broadband and training. The partners in Sacramento are the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers and Sacramento Area Food Bank and Family Services. The Southern California partners are the Academy of Environmental & Social Policy in Lincoln Heights and the Delhi Center in Santa Ana. These partnerships are building on lessons learned in the pilots and will reach more customers in 2015.

In early 2015, the City of Los Angeles launched OurCycle LA, a multi-partner initiative funded in part by CETF to refurbish city computers for use by non-profit organizations and low-income households.

Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson, CETF President and CEO Sunne Wright McPeak, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Councilman Bob Blumenfield launch OurCycle LA, an initiative to give refurbished city computers to non-profits and low-income households and provide career pathways in information technology.

“California is an incredibly diverse state. That diversity creates terrific economic opportunity, but when more than one-third of Latino households don’t have high-speed Internet at home, we must take action. The work of non-profits, including CETF, is critical to help Latinos, and all Californians, get connected and learn Digital Literacy skills so they can realize their full potential.”

Congressman Tony Cárdenas
San Fernando Valley
The goal for broadband deployment is to achieve access to 98% of all households by 2017. Based on mapping by the Governor’s Broadband Task Force in 2007 and more recent work by the CPUC, it is estimated conservatively that there was about 94% deployment when CETF began and that approximately 512,000 households (that existed and were unserved in 2007) in rural and remote communities will need to get high-speed Internet access to reach the 98% deployment goal.

With authorization from the Legislature and Governor, the CPUC established the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) to support broadband deployment to unserved and underserved communities in rural and remote areas of the state. CASF was initially capitalized with $100 million which also provided an important source of matching funds for federal broadband grants available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). CASF was extended and expanded by the Legislature in 2010 by $125 million and again in 2013 by $90 million, thanks to the leadership of former State Legislators Senator Alex Padilla and Assemblymember Steven Bradford. To date, CASF and ARRA have provided funding for broadband access to approximately 287,000 households, leaving at least 225,000 households still to be reached with “last-mile” infrastructure. There also is a need for improved “middle-mile” infrastructure that will support and enable “last-mile” projects.

In 2013–2014, CETF, CENIC, and Judge Cynthia Gomez, Tribal Advisor to Governor Brown, established a partnership to host a statewide tribal consultation and 3 regional ones, engaging 38 of the 111 federally-recognized tribes in California. Tribes are now eligible to apply for CASF funding.

Robust broadband is critical to economic success in the 21st Century. Reliable and affordable high-speed Internet is at the top of every community’s list of necessities. Residents of California’s Tribal Lands, desert and mountain communities, the Central Valley, and urban and suburban neighborhoods recognize the importance of broadband to their families and communities. Economic development, education, public safety, health care and the delivery of government services increasingly depend on robust broadband. The leadership of CETF in documenting broadband access gaps, fostering adoption, and supporting community engagement has narrowed the Digital Divide and laid the foundation for world-class broadband access in California.

CPUC Commissioner Catherine Sandoval

Regional Consortia and Tribal Leaders meet in Humboldt County to discuss improving rural broadband access.
Progress Continues on Broadband Adoption

The goal is for 80% of California households to use high-speed Internet by 2017, with no demographic group or region below 70%. Significant progress has been made in narrowing the Digital Divide, as evidenced by the data shown in these graphs based on statewide surveys conducted by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) and co-sponsored by CETF and ZeroDivide. In 2014, the survey was conducted by the Field Research Corporation. Today, 75% access the Internet at home with a high-speed connection (including 8% who access the Internet only with a smartphone). A substantial challenge remains to achieve the 80% adoption goal. This target will be reached only if elected leaders enact forward-looking public policies, such as a federal affordable broadband rate, which is why CETF launched Internet For All Now.

“Today’s economy requires affordable, reliable high-speed access to the Internet and this access must include the rural regions of our state. I applaud the efforts of CETF and its partners for promoting Internet deployment and adoption in our rural communities.”

State Senator Jean Fuller
Vice Chairman
Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee

California 2014 Overall Adoption is 75%; 8% Use Only a Smartphone to Access the Internet.
AnnuAl RepoRt 2014–2015

Tim McCallion, West Region President, Verizon

"CETF and Verizon share a common belief that a connected California is crucial for all of our citizens. With online applications becoming more important to conduct everyday functions such as shopping, banking, and educational activities, it is essential that all citizens have access to broadband. At Verizon we are investing in our networks to meet that ever growing data demand."

CETF holds a Digital Literacy forum for library officials representing the State Librarian, the City and County of Los Angeles, Pasadena and Imperial County to meet with Susan Hildreth, Director of Museum and Library Services (second from right).

California 2014 Overall Adoption is 75%; 8% Use Only a Smartphone to Access the Internet.
The California Emerging Technology Fund has awarded more than $31 million in grants to community-based organizations and public agencies that are regarded as “investment partners” in achieving broadband deployment and adoption goals. CETF requires a substantial match, which has enabled CETF to leverage its initial Seed Capital by more than 4-fold.

In 2010, CETF received $14.3 million in grants from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to support 20 subawardees. The following lists show all grantees and the amount of each grant. Please visit the CETF website for additional information about each grantee. CETF grantees must produce specific deliverables and outcomes set forth in Grant Agreements. CETF monitors progress through Quarterly Reports, Annual Site Reviews, Annual Workshop, Learning Communities, and Final Reports. CETF as an “investment partner” engages, informs, monitors, assists, and helps grantees correct course when needed—all critical factors in reaching success. 

### Summary of Grant Investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CETF 1.0 Grantee Partner</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st Century Communities (Casa Familiar CD Tech, Los Angeles Housing Partnership, Inc. Mission Economic Development Corporation, New Economics for Women, Self Help Enterprises)</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1-1 LA</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alliance for Technology Access</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amador-Tuolumne Community Resources, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Dental Association Foundation</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Resources and Training (California Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Asian Business Center)</td>
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<tr>
<td>California State University (CSU) Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>California State University East Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Telehealth Network (FCC Rural Pilot Telehealth Program)</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Telehealth Network (Operating Seed Capital)</td>
<td>$300,000 (Direct Payments) Grant $700,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for a New Orange County</td>
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<td>Center for Accessible Technology</td>
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<td>Centro Latino for Literacy</td>
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<td>Chico State University Foundation (for Northeastern California Connect matched by The McConnell Foundation)</td>
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<td>Chico State University Foundation (for Upstate California Connect)</td>
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<td>City of Firebaugh*</td>
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<td>Community Christian College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Development Technologies Center</td>
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* EmpowerNet California Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grantee Partner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Foundation for Monterey County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>Community Partners</td>
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<td>California Community Technology Policy Group, Broadband Institute of California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computers for Youth</td>
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<td>Connected Nation</td>
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<td>Contra Costa Economic Partnership</td>
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<td>Desert Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Council</td>
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<td>El Concilio of San Mateo County</td>
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<td>EmpowerNet California*</td>
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<td>FirstMile.US</td>
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<td>Goodwill Industries of San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humboldt State University Foundation (matched by Humboldt Area Foundation)</td>
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<td>Latino Community Foundation</td>
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<td>LINK Americas Foundation</td>
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<td>Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation</td>
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<td>Mission Language and Vocational School*</td>
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<td>Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California</td>
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<td>Oakland Technology Exchange West Fiscal Agent: Marcus Foster Institute</td>
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<td>OCCUR*</td>
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<td>One Economy Corporation</td>
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<td>Palo Alto Institute for Research and Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Amount</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Diego Futures Foundation</td>
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<td>Sierra Economic Development Corporation</td>
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<td>Tech Soup</td>
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<td>The Children’s Partnership Development (for School2Home)</td>
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<td>The Salvation Army</td>
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<td>The Stride Center*</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California, Merced</td>
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<td>University of California, Office of the President, UC Davis</td>
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<td>Valley Vision</td>
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<td>Venice Arts</td>
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<td>West Contra Costa Unified School District</td>
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<td>World Institute on Disability – A-Team Alliance for Technology Access, Center for Accessible Technology, World Institute on Disability</td>
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<td>YMCA of Greater Long Beach</td>
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<td>YMCA of the East Bay (for Building Blocks for Kids)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Policy Institute</td>
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**CETF 2.0 Grantee Partner**

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<tbody>
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<td>2-1-1 California/United Ways of California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access Now</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Accessible Technology</td>
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<td>Dewey Square Group</td>
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<td>Radio Bilingue</td>
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<td>Social Interest Solutions</td>
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**Access to Careers in Technology**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Resources and Training</td>
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<td>Caminos Pathways</td>
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<td>Chrysalis</td>
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<td>EmpowerNet California</td>
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<td>Goodwill Industries of San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin Counties</td>
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<td>San Diego Futures Foundation</td>
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<td>Southeast Community Development Corporation</td>
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<td>The ACME Network</td>
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<td>The Stride Center</td>
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**CETF 3.0 Grantee Partner**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-1-1 California/United Ways of California</td>
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<td>Able-Disabled Advocacy</td>
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<td>C2C EveryoneOn</td>
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<tr>
<td>California Foundation for Independent Living Centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>California State University Monterey Bay</td>
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<td>Community Centers, Inc.</td>
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<td>Economic Development Collaborative Ventura County</td>
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<td>Eden Housing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Families in Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresno State University Foundation, San Joaquin Valley Partnership</td>
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**iFoster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kids Progress, Inc. (Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles in partnership with Southeast Community Development Corporation and ReliaTech)</td>
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<td>Korean Churches for Community Development</td>
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<td>LA Cleantech Incubator</td>
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<td>Latino Community Foundation, Chicana Latina Foundation</td>
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<td>Manchester Technologies, Inc.</td>
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<td>Oakland Technology Exchange West</td>
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<td>Radio Bilingue</td>
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<td>Tahoe Prosperity Center</td>
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<td>The Stride Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>THINK Together</td>
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<td>West Contra Costa Unified School District</td>
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<td>YMCA of Greater Long Beach Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>YMCA East Bay–BBK Digital Inclusion</td>
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<td>YMCA of Greater Long Beach, YMFSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Policy Institute</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grantees Meet and Exceed Performance Goals

Since 2008, CETF and 100 partners have provided Digital Literacy training and consumer education to more than 800,000 Californians and helped more than 250,000 low-income households connect to affordable high-speed Internet.

While significant progress has been made, the stakes are even higher now. Low-income households without access to high-speed Internet are missing out on educational, economic and health care opportunities necessary to succeed and thrive in the 21st Century. It is nearly impossible to find employment without having at least basic digital skills and economic self-sufficiency is the only pathway out of poverty.

“When I was Mayor of Fresno, I saw first-hand the huge leap forward our city experienced as Internet access and use flourished. What’s key for big and small enterprises alike is a skilled workforce trained to use the tools of the 21st Century, and access to fast and affordable Internet services that gives them the opportunity to compete everywhere. I appreciate the work of CETF and others to promote Internet access, and their commitment to expand training skills for everyone. Californians cannot successfully pursue their dreams unless our state remains committed to fostering a technology climate second to none.”

Assemblyman Jim Patterson
Vice Chairman
Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

California Emerging Technology Fund Grants
2008 Progress Through December 2014
CETF Grantee Performance is updated as grants are completed. See the CETF website for Final Reports on accomplishments and outcomes for individual grants.

Thousands of Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household Adoption</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PEOPLE TRAINED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth* Trained Digital Literacy</td>
<td>128%</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults* Trained Digital Literacy</td>
<td>109%</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small* Businesses Trained</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People* Trained for Workforce</td>
<td>149%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Included in TOTAL PEOPLE TRAINED
A Banner Year for School2Home

Closing the Achievement Gap and the Digital Divide in California

Technology is a critical tool for our next generation to succeed in the global economy, and it starts with a computer and affordable Internet at home. School-improvement initiatives, including Common Core Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessments, require students to be proficient in using a computer. Those without a device and Internet at home are being left behind at an accelerating pace. School2Home works in low-performing middle schools throughout the state to integrate computing and broadband technologies into teaching and learning, both in the classroom and at home. From first-hand experience, CETF knows that access to technology at home and an intense focus on parent engagement are essential for students to be fully prepared to thrive in the Digital Age.

In 2014–2015, School2Home expanded to 12 schools in 6 districts. Based on the success of School2Home, CETF is providing regular input into state and federal education policy.

School2Home was pleased to host FCC Commissioners Mignon Clyburn and Ajit Pai in separate visits to give them a first-hand look at how the program works in two Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) partner schools. In making a case for expanding broadband to schools at an official FCC meeting a few days later in Washington, D.C., the Commissioners shared that the School2Home visits underscored how critical it is for students to have access to a computer and the Internet both in the classroom and when they go home.

School2Home Expands to 12 Schools in 6 Districts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Los Angeles Unified School District (Grades 6–8)</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School, Boyle Heights</td>
<td>1,650</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muir Middle School, South Los Angeles</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Madison Middle School, North Hollywood</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Fernando Institute for Applied Media (SFIAM)</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside Unified School District (Grades 7–8)</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Middle School</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemawa Middle School</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Heights Middle School</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland Unified School District (Grades 6–8)</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frick Middle School</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Oakland Middle School</td>
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<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winters Joint Union School District (Grades 6–8)</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winters Middle School</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Contra Costa Unified School District (Grades 7–8)</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>DeJean Middle School, Richmond</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inglewood Unified School District (Grades 7–8)</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crozier Middle School</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>25</td>
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</table>

TOTAL: 8,017 357
FCC Commissioners Visit Los Angeles Schools
Commissioner Clyburn Tours Muir Middle School

At Muir Middle School, Commissioner Clyburn toured 3 classrooms to observe how the students were using tablet computers, providing real-world examples of the importance of broadband in learning. Principal Kurt Lowry and Muir teachers described how the School2Home program improves student research skills and learning self-sufficiency, in addition to promoting student collaboration and student-teacher communication.

She participated in discussions with leaders from LAUSD, School2Home partner L.A.'s Promise, and CETF. The leaders spoke about the critical need for affordable home broadband for low-income students so students can do their homework, collaborate with other students, and ask questions of their teachers after school hours. CETF said there are very few discount broadband offers available in low-income communities in Los Angeles, which greatly disadvantages students seeking to improve their academic performance.

During the FCC meeting examining broadband a few days later, Commissioner Clyburn described the enthusiasm of Muir teachers and students over the arrival of tablet computers for each student, and noted to the gathered policymakers that urban students have as much need for access to the Internet as rural residents.
Commissioner Pai Goes to Class at SFIAM

Commissioner Pai sat in on Mr. Peña’s 8th grade class at San Fernando Institute for Applied Media (SFIAM), which was studying world religions. Mr. Peña introduced the concept of tessellation. Commissioner Pai admitted, “I had never heard of the word, but that was soon to change.” Mr. Peña asked the students to put the term into Google Images on their iPads. He then asked them to describe what they saw and why they thought Islamic art and architecture used tessellation so extensively. “In their own words—and I confess I did the exercise in my own mind!—the students described an infinitely recurring series of geometric shapes. They then surmised, correctly according to Mr. Peña, that it was used to exemplify the infinite power of God,” Commissioner Pai recounted at the D.C. hearing. “I’m pretty confident that those kids did not just hear, but learned—that they will retain more knowledge thanks to a technology-based approach.”

After leaving Mr. Peña’s classroom, Commissioner Pai met with SFIAM parents, along with Principal Olivia Robledo and leaders from LAUSD, School2Home partner Youth Policy Institute, and CETF “The parents told me that the school’s embrace of technology has had a huge and positive impact on their children,” he said.
Home Broadband Makes a Difference in Student and Parent Lives

One of the foundations of School2Home is the requirement that parents take 6 hours of computer training before the student is allowed to take home the computing device used in the classroom. Highlighting the importance of parent participation, a 2014 statewide survey conducted by the Field Research Corporation on behalf of CETF found parents with a broadband connection at home are very likely to go online to help their children with homework and obtain information from the school website about their children’s academic progress.

The survey found that parents who have a broadband connection other than a smartphone at home were highly likely to go online at home to help their children learn (84%) and to obtain information about their children’s homework and grades from the school website (75%).

The survey findings also showed that home broadband adoption rates have stagnated over the past few years, leaving the hardest-to-reach Californians without an essential tool to access the educational opportunity. As technology is integrated into the classroom, poor students who don’t have access to the online world when they go home will fall farther behind.

Having access to a computer and Internet at home is essential to learn the skills necessary to break out of poverty and close the Achievement Gap. California public school students are now required to take assessment tests on a computing device and those without daily experience at home using a computing device—desktop, laptop or tablet—will be at a significant disadvantage.

Stevenson Middle School holds a rally with State Senator Ricardo Lara, a Stevenson alum, to celebrate getting Chromebooks to take home as part of School2Home.

School2Home 10 Core Components

1. Assessment, Planning and School Leadership
2. Technology Bundles for Students and Teachers
3. Teacher Professional Development
4. Teacher Coaching and Mentoring
5. Parent Engagement and Education
6. Student Tech Experts Development
7. Online Resources
8. Learning Academies
9. Affordable Home Broadband
10. Evaluation
School2Home Convenes Leadership Academy

School2Home supports school districts, administrators, principals, teachers, parents, and community leaders who are committed to improving the academic performance for all students and ensuring they have the essential skills to succeed in a digital economy.

Each year, CETF hosts a School2Home Leadership Academy held in conjunction with Computer Using Educators (CUE) at which the Leadership Teams from each school participate in workshops and meetings to share best practices and learn from one another.

Empowerment must not stop at the schoolhouse door. At the community level, School2Home brings together the major stakeholders in the neighborhood in addition to school leaders, including elected officials and non-profits providing family services, to collaborate on ways to transform entire neighborhoods.

Acknowledgements

School2Home partners are Youth Policy Institute (San Fernando Institute for Applied Media); L.A.’s Promise (Muir Middle School); Partnership for Los Angeles School (Stevenson Middle School); Families in Schools; Sacramento County Office of Education; and Computer Using Educators (CUE). The professional consultants are: Bonnie Marks, Program Manager; Ann Kruze; Sara Armstrong; Micheline LeBlanc; and Education Support Systems (Ruthmary and John Cradler).

“In the end, the work of School2Home to close the Achievement Gap by closing the Digital Divide should be a no-brainer to those who understand the big picture Global Economy.”

Delaine Eastin
Former State Superintendent of Public Instruction

“Principal Sylvia Greenwood (far right) of DeJean Middle School and the non-profit Building Blocks for Kids are implementing School2Home to jumpstart neighborhood transformation in Richmond.”
Internet For All Now Leads National Initiative to Expand Broadband

In 2010, the FCC adopted the National Broadband Plan with the goal to connect 90% of the nation to high-speed Internet at home by 2020. Progress has been made, but 25% of all California and U.S. households—some 80 million people—are stuck on the wrong side of the Digital Divide and are being left behind at an accelerating pace. A quarter of the population is unable to fully participate in the Digital Age. The lack of digital tools and high-speed Internet access make it very difficult to escape disadvantaged neighborhoods.

CETF determined that to meet the National Broadband Plan goal a focused nationwide effort is necessary to engage elected officials and policymakers at the highest levels. In 2014, CETF launched Internet For All Now, a public education and mobilization initiative to urge the FCC and CPUC to seize the opportunity presented by corporate acquisitions and mergers to require Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to expand discount service to all low-income households in their service territories, set measurable goals with transparent public accountability, and establish a funding mechanism to effectively engage experienced community-based organizations (including schools and libraries) as the “trusted messengers” to help ISPs meet the goals. CETF and partners are underscoring the imperative for regulators to secure a significant public benefit if they approve the proposed deals.

The initiative has several components: recommendations to key policymakers; social media to drive communications to regulators; and mobilization of stakeholders to develop solutions and urge action. Internet For All Now has highlighted CETF as a respected voice on national policy. Please visit www.InternetForAllNow.org.

Milestone accomplishments include:

- Organized and mobilized more than 120 partners to support Internet For All Now recommendations to regulators.
- Delivered more than 170,000 written communications to the FCC and its Commissioners.
- Developed website, video and social media content, highlighting personal stories and a “call to action.”
- Convened forums in Sacramento and Los Angeles with prominent government, education and community leaders.
- Analyzed the impact of the proposed corporate consolidations on all 50 states to inform stakeholders and policymakers across the country.

FCC Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel (center) meets with CETF and partners to discuss making Internet service affordable.
Engaging Civic Leaders and Policymakers to Act

Internet For All Now developed a strategic plan to raise the visibility of recommendations to close the Digital Divide and encourage government leaders around the nation to act. The initiative, involving more than 120 organizations, organized supporters to: file formal comments with the FCC, CPUC and other state public utility commissions; talk with local, state and federal government elected officials and policymakers; and meet Internet Service Providers.

Additionally, CETF and partners convened Affordable Broadband Forums in Los Angeles and Sacramento, bringing together industry, government and community-based organizations to share successful lessons for increasing broadband adoption and launching mobilization efforts to reach key policymakers.

In January 2015, CETF led a delegation to Washington, D.C. to meet with FCC Commissioners, Members of Congress, and key Administration officials involved in technology issues. Other CETF-sponsored delegations met with CPUC Commissioners and California Legislative leaders. CETF and partners met with all FCC and CPUC Commissioners to urge adoption of the *Internet For All Now* recommendations.

As part of the media component, CETF and several partners were quoted and published opinion pieces in major media outlets explaining why it is time for leaders to act to expand and improve affordable Internet access across the nation. Their quotes appeared in the *Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Bloomberg, Philadelphia Inquirer*, *San Jose Mercury News, San Francisco Chronicle, Sacramento Bee* and *Fresno Bee*, among other publications.

Young adults in the YMCA of Greater Long Beach Youth Institute social enterprise, *Change Agents*, produced several videos highlighting the “call to action” for leaders to act and personal stories of how access to the Internet is an essential tool to succeed in the Digital Age.

“We have seen students and their families blossom when they get Internet at home for the first time, and we think such opportunities should be made available to more low-income households.”

Zach Leverenz
CEO of EveryoneOn

*CETF and partners meet with FCC Commissioner Mike O’Rielly (third from right) to discuss how to expand and improve affordable broadband access.*
Promoting Call to Action with Social Media

A key goal of the Internet For All Now initiative is to educate the public about what it means to be up against the “wall of poverty” without high-speed Internet access at home, and urge them to directly contact policymakers through formal filings, letters and online petitions. The strategy includes several actions.

Using Social Media

The story of Louis Flores resonated with many people who support Internet For All Now and moved them to submit comments to the FCC.

“Louis Flores has worked hard for decades to support his family of five, recently marking 27 years in operations at a Sacramento school district. After his two grown sons lost their jobs during the recession, they moved back home. And with a daughter in college, the household budget was stretched very thin. The family had to decide which bills were critical to pay to make it through each month. This meant that they could no longer afford Internet at home, as the $60 a month Internet bill became too large for the family to manage. Louis says he felt badly because his sons had to go to the library to get online to look for work and his daughter often had to stay late at school to use the computer lab to finish her homework.”

In a separate outreach effort timed with the President’s State of the Union speech, Internet For All Now hosted a tweeting campaign with a reach of 186,000 people.

Making A Video

CETF employed young adults in the YMCA of Greater Long Beach Youth Institute social enterprise, Change Agents, to produce a video that tells stories describing the “wall of poverty” and urges the “call to action” for Internet For All Now. The video was distributed through social media channels.

Louis and Lydia Flores gave up Internet service because it was too expensive, and now their story is inspiring people to take action as part of the Internet For All Now initiative.

An infographic was developed and distributed through social media which highlights key facts about the Digital Divide. It can be viewed at www.InternetForAllNow.org/infographic.
Sharing Solutions for Closing the Digital Divide

*Internet For All Now* was kicked off with forums that drew hundreds of participants—government officials and leaders in industry, education, and philanthropy—to share ideas for closing the Digital Divide. Topics included expanding affordable Internet to low-income job seekers, students, people with disabilities, rural communities, and non-English speakers.

CETF and California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) co-hosted the forum in Sacramento. Speakers included: Mark DiCamillo, Senior Vice President, Field Research Corporation; Teresa Favuzzi, Executive Director, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers; Barbara O’Connor, CETF Board Secretary; Barb Johnston, CETF Board Member; Lloyd Levine, CETF Board Member; Ruthmary Cradler, Principal Researcher, Education Support Services; Paul Goodman, Legal Counsel, Greenlining Institute; and Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Mayor, City of Winters.

CETF, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, Families in Schools, and Youth Policy Institute co-hosted the forum in Los Angeles. Speakers included: Ron Chandler, Chief Information Officer, Los Angeles Unified School District; Dixon Slingerland, Executive Director, Youth Policy Institute; Mark Wolf, Executive Officer, Los Angeles Information Technology Agency; Martha Escutia, CETF Board Member; Darrell Stewart, CETF Board Member; Oscar Cruz, President and CEO, Families in Schools; Bob Cabeza, Vice President, YMCA of Greater Long Beach; Henry Contreras, Public Policy Director, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers; Jo Black, Executive Director, Independent Living Resource Center Santa Barbara; Louis Herrera, Technology Chair, California Council for the Blind; Monica Ratliff, Board Member, Los Angeles Unified School District; and Veronica Melvin, President and CEO, L.A.’s Promise.

“...We're not going to have a divide of just rich or poor any longer. We are going to have a divide of those who have access to knowledge and those who don’t. This is a civil rights issue.”

Bob Cabeza
Vice President, YMCA of Greater Long Beach

CETF Board Member Darrell Stewart and LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratliff speak about why having Internet at home is critical for academic success at the Affordable Broadband Forum in Los Angeles.

CETF Board Member Lloyd Levine and California Foundation for Independent Living Centers Executive Director Teresa Favuzzi meet with Yo! Disabled & Proud volunteers at the Affordable Broadband Forum in Sacramento.
In Remembrance of Digital Pioneers
These four remarkable individuals were instrumental in closing the Digital Divide in California.

Jorge Jackson
CETF Senior Consultant

Jorge Jackson touched the lives of many Californians during a distinguished career that spanned business, government and non-profit organizations, and included serving on boards and commissions championing economic opportunity. In honor of his dedication to helping others, CETF contributed with his family and friends to establish the Jorge Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund under the stewardship of New Economics for Women, where he was a Board Member. Five students from Manual Arts High School in Los Angeles have received scholarships to attend UCLA—Jorge attended both schools. One recipient wrote: “I have walked the same hallways at Manual Arts as Jorge Jackson and he has left tremendous footsteps to follow. As I walk at UCLA, I know his legacy will not be forgotten. I will help others do the same.”

Joe Gross
Co-Founder, Sustainable Systems
CETF Board Member

Joe Gross was a Co-Founder and Principal of Sustainable Systems, a firm that builds regional initiatives, and a founding Board Member of CETF. Joe also was a leader in the formation of the East Bay Broadband Consortium (EBBC), which has become a strong force for improving broadband infrastructure and bridging the Digital Divide. The CETF donation to EBBC is funding the Joe Gross Memorial Internship Program at Oakland Technology Exchange West, a leading refurbisher of computers and champion of Digital Inclusion, with whom Joe worked closely. Oakland Unified School District high school interns learn how to install and maintain computer labs at local schools and provide tech support, allowing them to help teachers and fellow students and gain valuable IT work experience.
Their Spirit Inspires Us
CETF has made contributions to honor and continue their work.

Bernita M. Fulmer
County Librarian, Imperial County
Bernita M. Fulmer was a forward-thinking librarian in Imperial County for 33 years who embraced the future and put the interests of her patrons first. As head librarian at the dawn of the Digital Age, she was an early proponent of technology. With the CETF donation, and an additional contribution from her family, the library system has held a series of technology open houses in Bernita’s memory. These sessions, during which patrons received one-on-one assistance on library computers or their own devices, were only possible because of the contributions. Introduction to computer classes were offered in English and Spanish, teaching new users about Microsoft Word, e-mail, and Internet navigation. The library also purchased e-book readers and instructional guides on using computers, introducing a new generation to the Digital Age.

David E. Glover
Executive Director, OCCUR
David E. Glover devoted his life to ensuring that the infinite potential of technology innovation was accessible to everyone, especially low-income people of color. For David, the Digital Divide represented the 21st century manifestation of the Economic and Opportunity Divides and, if properly addressed, the possibility of full inclusion could be realized. As one admirer wrote, “he crossed the Digital Divide more than a decade ahead of his time.” In his memory, CETF funded a Get Connected! internship program at OCCUR in Oakland. The main focus was to train the interns so they could, in turn, educate their peers, families and community about the benefits of high-speed Internet at home. The program proved to be an effective way to help East Oakland residents get connected to affordable Internet and OCCUR hopes to secure additional funding to expand the outreach effort in the future.
California Puts the Focus on Closing the Digital Divide

Message from California Public Utilities Commission President Michael Picker

California continues to make great strides in closing the Digital Divide. However, one-quarter of the state’s households still do not have access or have not adopted high-speed Internet service. We have some model programs in place, thanks to a decade of visionary leadership by the Administration, State Legislature, California Congressional Delegation, California Public Utilities Commission, and partners such as the California Emerging Technology Fund. As we work to increase broadband deployment and home Internet adoption, we stay committed to reaching the goal of helping all Californians gain the digital tools and training they need to succeed in the global economy.

Digital Inclusion is a critical step on the path to self-sufficiency and a stronger California economy. California has many incredibly talented problem-solvers. The Digital Divide is a challenge we must tackle as the state cannot continue to be an economic powerhouse and innovation leader without connecting more Californians to the Internet. Everyone deserves the opportunity to reach their fullest potential and become valuable contributors to society. California can lead the way to bridge the Digital Divide. We can accomplish this if state agencies and policymakers stay focused and continue to work collaboratively to close the gap.

Message from California Broadband Council Chairman Carlos Ramos

California is the birthplace of countless technological innovations. While we continue to improve Internet connectivity, not all Californians are able to get online. We still face the formidable task of finding ways to close the Digital Divide and support collaborative initiatives to build broadband infrastructure and expand Digital Literacy to ensure all Californians have access to services. At the California Broadband Council and the California Department of Technology, where I serve as director, we provide broadband policies that reinforce the Governor’s objectives for an economically dynamic California, including fostering deployment and adoption.

Lack of Internet connectivity prevents state government agencies from delivering services to all Californians. Gaps in the critical infrastructure are most prevalent in rural areas, while in urban areas affordable Internet service is the challenge. Both of these problems are difficult to solve. Further, all statewide efforts must enhance connectivity for public safety, as well as promote employment services, education, telemedicine, and efficient use of natural resources. In order for California to remain a leader in the global economy, it is essential that we partner with both federal and state agencies, as well as the private sector, non-profits, and community-based organizations, to support digital adoption and broadband deployment for all Californians.
CETF Leverages Seed Capital: Summary of Financial Status

The California Emerging Technology Fund is committed to efficient and effective use of the Seed Capital which highly leverages other resources: **FOCUS – ACTION – RESULTS**

**Summary of Financial Status**  
Through Fiscal Year 2013-2014  
(Cumulative to June 30, 2014)

- **Seed Capital Received from AT&T and Verizon:** $60,000,000
- **Interest and Earned Income:** 4,086,968
- **Additional Contributions for Specific Programs:** 1,227,369
- **Government Grants (ARRA NTIA):** 14,359,476
- **CETF Grants Approved To Date: (January 2015):** 29,842,596
- **CETF Grant Payments To Date: (January 2015):** 25,567,796
- **CETF Grant Outstanding Obligations:** 4,274,800
- **Leveraged Match Funding for CETF Grants:** 100,515,191
- **Total Expenditures – Statement of Activities:** 65,338,913
  - **Program Expenditures:** 62,007,841 (95%)
  - **Administrative Support Costs:** 3,331,072 (5%)
- **Non-Grant Expenditures – Statement of Activities:** 19,310,809
  - **Program Expenditures:** 15,979,737 (83%)
  - **Administrative Support Costs:** 3,331,072 (17%)
- **School2Home Expenditures To Date: (June 2014):** 3,893,275
- **School2Home Budgeted Expenditures: (June 2015):** 5,068,275
- **Total Assets – Total Liabilities and Equities:** $20,320,024

Audited Financial Statements are posted on the CETF website.

The CETF Strategic Action Plan aims to close the Digital Divide by achieving 98% deployment and 80% adoption within a decade of beginning operations. The CETF Board of Directors plans to achieve success by 2017 and conclude operations, expending all Seed Capital and earnings. Thus, the Total Assets and Total Liabilities and Equities will continue to decline each Fiscal Year. The overall goal for the portfolio is to leverage the Seed Capital 4-fold by achieving a 1:3 match by other resources. To date, CETF has achieved and exceeded that goal with a 1:3.4 match. CETF also operates relatively efficiently in comparison to other charitable organizations, with a cumulative 95% in Program and 5% in Support activities and expenditures according to independent audits.

In addition to the original Seed Capital, the following partners have provided funding for developing and implementing School2Home: Google, AT&T, Comcast, Verizon, and IBM.

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CETF President and CEO Sunne Wright McPeak testifies about the need for students to have affordable Internet and computers at home during a legislative hearing advancing STEM education led by Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla with support from Assemblyman Ed Chau.
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The George Lucas Educational Foundation

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Barb Johnston
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The Honorable Lloyd Levine
Former State Assemblymember
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Filament Strategies

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Dino Nartea, Program Assistant
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Accountant
Patricia Ahazie, Principal,
Core Bookkeeping Solutions
Legal Counsel
Melinda Guzman
Melinda Guzman, Professional Corporation

Acknowledgements

In addition to the grantee partners, CETF has been assisted during the last year by the following contractors: Joe Camicia (Camicia & Company, LLC) is helping provide key information to State policymakers; Glen Price Group is facilitating Grantee Learning Communities; Rachelle Chong is Outside Special Counsel on federal policy; Cynthia Mackey (Winning Strategies, LLC) managed the public education and social media mobilization initiative Internet For All Now with the professional expertise of Fission Strategy, Phone2Action, IXMATI Communications, NationBuilder, and Advocacy.Marketing. National Hispanic Media Coalition continues to promote public policies to advance Get Connected!; Valley Vision partnered to produce the quarterly newsletter Let’s Talk Broadband and updated best practices for broadband as a “green strategy” by publishing a new communications document; James Hurd Nixon (Sustainable Systems, Inc.) and Carl Anthony (Breakthrough Communities) are assisting in advancing Digital Inclusion as a facet of integrated human services and socially-responsible investing to transform disadvantaged neighborhoods.
California Emerging Technology Fund Board of Expert Advisors

Rachelle Chong, Chairman, CETF Board of Expert Advisors

Neal Albritton, CEO and Founder, Section508Guru.com
Luis Arteaga, Senior Program Manager, Levi Strauss Foundation
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Lucy Greco, Web Accessibility Evangelist, University of California, Berkeley
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Todd Scott, Dean of Academic Affairs, Los Angeles City College

Russ Selken, Senior Director/CTO of IT, Butte County Office of Education and K–12 HSN
Kris Stadelman, Director, NOVA Workforce Board
Bea Stotzer, Chief Executive Officer, NEWCapital, LLC
Glen Warren, Vice President of Government Relations, California School Library Association (CSLA)
Lydia Yu, Coordinator, Health Sciences Policy & Legislation, University of California, Office of the President

CETF meets with National Housing Conference leaders and partners to develop federal policies to promote Smart Housing national policy.
California Leaders Advance Digital Inclusion

California Public Utilities Commission

President
Michael Picker

Interim Executive Director
Timothy J. Sullivan

Commissioners
Michel Peter Florio
Catherine J.K. Sandoval
Carla J. Peterman
Liane M. Randolph

California Broadband Council

Chairman
Carlos Ramos
Director, California Department of Technology
State of California

Catherine J.K. Sandoval
Commissioner
California Public Utilities Commission

Mark Ghilarducci
Secretary, California Emergency Management Agency
State of California

Tom Torlakson
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of California

Fred Klass
Director, Department of General Services
State of California

Brian P. Kelly
Secretary, California Transportation Agency
State of California

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Chair of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
State of California

The Honorable Ben Hueso
Chair of the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
State of California

Sunne Wright McPeak
President and CEO
California Emerging Technology Fund
California has made tremendous progress in connecting Californians to the Internet over the last eight years, gaining prominence as a national leader for innovations in advancing Digital Inclusion. This accomplishment is the result of the commitment of leaders in all facets of the public and private sectors to align resources and coordinate efforts to achieve shared goals. The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) is honored and privileged to work as a partner with the Governor’s Administration, Legislature, Congress, California Public Utilities Commission, Regional Consortia, Local Governments, Community Organizations, Industry, and Stakeholders to advance the public interest in getting all Californians connected so they can thrive in the Digital World. CETF has been and continues to be a vital catalyst to forge new approaches, promote big ideas, and spark bold action to close the Digital Divide. And, we are pleased to report that CETF is serving this role with focus, inclusion, transparency, efficiency, and accountability for results as described in this Annual Report.

Yet, 25% of California households—nearly 10 million people—remain stuck on the other side of the Digital Divide without high-speed Internet access at home. They are residents in both remote rural communities without the necessary infrastructure to get online and disadvantaged urban neighborhoods without the means to pay for high-speed Internet access. And, they are being left behind at an accelerating pace.

That is why CETF has joined forces with more than 100 leadership groups in California and across the nation to urge policymakers to make securing affordable broadband for all low-income households a top priority—Internet For All Now is the banner for the ‘call to action’ that all of us have a responsibility to answer. At this time of new beginnings and new leadership in our State Government, let us all renew our commitment to finally close the Digital Divide.

This is why the California Emerging Technology Fund is so focused on driving to results with accountability. It is why CETF developed and launched School2Home, and why CETF has a strategic approach to reshaping public policy to incorporate technology into the solutions to all major societal challenges—education, workforce training, healthcare, infrastructure, economic development—concepts referred to as Digital Inclusion and Neighborhood Transformation.

That is why CETF has urged federal and state regulators to seize the opportunity presented by pending corporate consolidations to ensure a widely-available affordable broadband rate that will enable all low-income households to be connected and empower all residents to participate in the Digital Economy. Internet For All Now is the public awareness and education mobilization that is being advanced by CETF and has been joined by more than 120 civic leadership and community organizations. Every elected official and policymaker—federal, state, local—must rise to the occasion and embrace Internet For All Now—it is a 21st Century Civil Right.