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## Digital Access for All

January 2023

The Patterson Foundation (TPF) created its Digital Access for All (DA4A) initiative to explore, educate, and engage sectors working to enhance access to technology that connects people in ways that foster inclusion and well-being.

### **The Patterson Foundation's National Philanthropy Scan Workshop #3: Digital Access and Devices: Scaling the Work Domestically and Internationally with Corporate and Nonprofit Partners**



The gate of entry to Digital Access is through a device. If members of society lack devices, the digital divide will perpetuate. Devices have become essential to education, travel, arts, culture, civic engagement, democracy, advocacy, climate, health and wellness, workforce, vital services, government services, and more. While funders continue to invest in organizations that give away free, new, or refurbished machines or sell devices at a low cost to those in need, the need for devices still disproportionately outweighs resources available to people, organizations, and communities.

To explore Devices and Philanthropy further, The Patterson Foundation, in partnership with the [Campaign for Grade-Level Reading](#) (CGLR), will be

### **When Healthcare and Digital Navigation Collide by Rebekah Prieto, Director of Programs and Operations at the Multicultural Health Institute (MHI)**



In late 2022, the [Multicultural Health Institute](#) (MHI) embarked on a journey with The Patterson Foundation (TPF) to formalize and enhance MHI's growing need to offer [digital navigation assistance](#) to its clients. Read Rebekah Prieto's blog on how MHI's participation in TPF's Digital Navigator program will further enhance MHI's capacity to continue its work leveling the healthcare playing field by promoting, educating, and ensuring equal healthcare access and treatment for underserved communities.

**Continue Reading**

**Veterans Resource Fair**  
By Deb Sakellarios

hosting a **Funder to Funder Workshop on January 31st, 2023–12:30pm at 1:45 pm EST**, featuring:

- Kirsten Young, Director, Sustainability Programs, American Tower Corporation
- Karrin Smoley, Sr. Director, Community Impact, Charter Communications
- Scot Henley, Executive Director, Digitunity

Join us and register to attend a powerful Funder to Funder Workshop.

[Register Here](#)

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## **BROADBAND IMPACT: Connecting Communities to Jobs and Wealth**

By Karen Stewart



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From small businesses to large manufacturers, agricultural businesses, logistics, and government, internet speed and reliability are critical to efficient daily operations. The connected economy has significant impacts on where businesses locate, the creation of jobs, the ability for people to access those jobs, and increased wealth for all. Read Karen Stewart's blog emphasizing the importance of broadband's impact as she shares data in the [Getting Connected: How Economic Developers are Expanding Broadband Access](#) report published by the [International Economic Development Council's Economic Development Research Partners](#).

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**Participate in our Telehealth**



As we move into 2023 and reflect on the November 4th Veterans Resource Fair, we wanted to share an update. As a refresher, [The Patterson Foundation](#) (TPF) partnered with [Goodwill Manasota Veterans Services](#) for a Veterans Resource Fair focused on Digital Navigation and [Sarasota Technology User Group \(STUG\)](#) to offer onsite assistance to eligible veterans and survivors. Attendees received help enrolling in the [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) from Digital Navigators, IT support for their devices from Sarasota County Government personnel, and devices from STUG. We've learned that since the event, [STUG](#) has provided devices to all 8 Veterans. We are continuing to follow up with the Digital Navigators to understand how many of the 15 Veterans have qualified and been connected to the internet through the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Reminder: For Veterans in need of computers, tablets, smartphones, and educational classes, TPF can connect you directly to [Sarasota Technology User Group \(STUG\)](#) and will waive the annual membership fee. To learn more, please contact Deb Sakellarios at [dsakellariosTPF@gmail.com](mailto:dsakellariosTPF@gmail.com).



## **Fast Fact #1: Why Broadband Connections Matters**

A joint study by the U.S. Chamber of

## Survey

We've launched a large-scale project to research and address the issue of access disparities in the telehealth and teletherapy realms. Your input helps us gather data about how telehealth and teletherapy access affects you or someone you know so we can explore how to expand access to these services in our community.

[Take the Survey](#)

Commerce and Amazon found that in Virginia alone, universal broadband would mean at least \$2.24 billion increased annual sales, \$1.29 billion annual value added, 9,415 added jobs, and \$452.4 million in annual wages. Source [here](#).

### Fast Fact #2: Why Broadband Connections Matters

More than 80% of Fortune 500 companies now accept job applications only online. Source [here](#).

Do you have a resource or idea to share with the community? Is there a national, regional, or local effort you'd like us to know about or feature in future publications? Contact DA4A at [digitalaccess@thepattersonfoundation.org](mailto:digitalaccess@thepattersonfoundation.org) to be considered.

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[#DigitalAccessforAll](#)



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