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.

**Digital Access for All Participates in Study Away**

Through a collaboration with The Patterson Foundation and Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, "The Future of the Philanthropic Sector: Experiential Learning with The Patterson Foundation" provided undergraduate and graduate students attending Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy a professional growth opportunity using The Patterson Foundation's initiatives. This semester-long course culminated with a weeklong spring Study Away experience at The Patterson Foundation in Sarasota, Florida, from March 14–18.

The Digital Access for All (DA4A) team participated in Study Away, focusing on

**Digital Access Services Matrix Update**

In the fall of 2021, Mike Kennedy consulted with the Digital Access for All team to reboot the Digital Access Services Matrix. The Digital Access Services Matrix is a resource tool designed by and created for nonprofit organizations, schools, libraries, and other human services providers to identify digital access resources and potential partners to help them meet their constituents' needs. Given the matrix's potential to help Suncoast agencies and organizations identify digital access services in our region, Mike was tasked with undergoing outreach to increase participation in the matrix, especially in Charlotte and DeSoto County. Thanks to his comprehensive efforts, we'd like to share the results of his efforts in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Matrix Before (19)</th>
<th>Additions (23)</th>
<th>Matrix Now (42)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeSoto</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With increased participation comes new opportunities and possibilities to collaborate to create greater access to connectivity, devices, and skills/support. We encourage organizations providing digital access resources (ex., low-cost internet, hotspots, computer labs, technology instruction) to [join the matrix by](#).
More than Money Philanthropy. We were honored to work with Jumaanah Harris and Emma Rota-Autry, two IU students, and DA4A is thankful to community partners who participated in the week's activities and made it even more meaningful:

- Linda Waters, DeSoto County Librarian, and staff
- Becky Sue Mercer, Executive Director of Arcadia Housing Authority, and staff
- Ashley Coone, DeSoto County Commissioner

Learn more about this unforgettable week by clicking on the following blogs:

Emma Rota-Autry – Undergraduate student at The Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Blog: A Day in DeSoto County

Jumaanah Harris – Graduate student at The Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Blog: Seeing Is Believing


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**Defining Digital Equity & Digital Inclusion**

By Susan Corbett, Founder & Executive Director of The National Digital Equity Center

The pandemic showed us how deep the digital divide was across the country. Many families did not have internet access or did not have enough broadband connection for everyone in the home to participate in remote school or work. Others could not afford a subscription, and we worried about older adults battling isolation and loneliness who could not connect with family, friends, and healthcare completers this brief survey.

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**The Impact of Digital Navigation**

By Ivette Gonzalez, Goodwill Manasota

Mrs. Smith visits the Goodwill Community Resource Center regularly to use the computer lab, where she checks her email and occasionally looks for other resources. Ivette, Goodwill's Community Resource Facilitator and newly trained Digital Navigator through generous support by The Patterson Foundation, noticed that it had been a few weeks since she had seen Mrs. Smith.

One day, Mrs. Smith appeared again in the computer lab at her usual spot, which prompted Ivette to approach her. Mrs. Smith mentioned that she had to leave her job because she had just been diagnosed with colon cancer, and she would need to undergo treatment. Ivette then introduced Mrs. Smith to the Emergency Broadband Benefit. Together, they worked on an application for affordable internet. Mrs. Smith was approved instantly for the program. After that, Ivette provided Mrs. Smith with a computer of her own, thanks to a partnership with the Sarasota Technology Users Group. Now, Mrs. Smith has everything she needs to get online from home and take care of her health.

She left the Goodwill Community Resource Center that day feeling immense gratitude with a promise that she would still stop by now and then for a chat.

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**Suncoast Remake Learning Days: Coming April 29 to May 8, 2022**
Digital Equity is a condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy. It is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

We can achieve Digital Equity by advocating for Digital Inclusion, which includes affordable broadband, affordable equipment, digital literacy training, and public computer access.

The National Digital Equity Center, a non-profit organization, works with communities to develop Digital Equity and Digital Inclusion plans, affordable equipment programs, local affordable broadband benefit subsidies, and over 40 online, interactive digital literacy classes.

Computers Remain Out of Reach for Millions: A Look at the Computer Marketplace
By Maribel Martinez

In 2021, 340,000,000 computers were sold globally – an increase of 10% from 2020. Recent investments in infrastructure improvements by the federal government have created provisions that are expected to increase affordable broadband connectivity for many in the U.S. Yet, while many households have taken advantage of the Affordable Connectivity Program, which discounts broadband for eligible households, the same people still struggle to acquire large-screen devices such as tablets and laptops which are necessary to fully participate in our digital world. In this second installment of Computers Remain Out of Reach for Millions, we explore the computer marketplace, how digital navigation facilitates access to computers and refurbished computers.

When shopping for a computer, many visit a retailer. That will allow interaction with multiple devices on display and the ability to chat with store employees who might help narrow down the ample selection. Others strictly start their search for a new computer online.

The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is bringing Remake Learning Days to Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. Suncoast Remake Learning Days is a 10-day festival of free events for children and families. Events are organized by learning themes, including arts, maker, outdoor learning, science, technology, youth voice, and Professional Development!

Here are a few technology-themed events that will be happening in the Suncoast Region:

- **Dive Into Learning – Sarasota Housing Authority Learning Center** (April 29 @ 4PM–6PM): Children and their families are invited to an ocean-themed party! Enjoy interactive stations, crafts, food, music, and fun!
- **Beyond Gaming with FUNducation at Ringling College of Art and Design** (04/30/2022 @ 1PM–4PM): FUNducation Inc. is partnering with Ringling College of Art and Design and Greatness Beyond Measure to host an Esports Edu event to expose and engage families and youth in the community to the opportunities in the Gaming industry.
- **Families STEAMing Ahead – DeSoto Public Library** (May 3–5 @ 3:15pm–6PM): DeSoto County Library will use robots, ipads, and monsters to create and illustrate stories, develop coding and engineering for teamwork. All Faiths Food Bank will provide tasty treats to feed your
favoring major popular brands. However, the majority of people do not speak computer jargon. When shopping for a new computer, the first consideration is usually cost, followed by whether the machine can perform the tasks the user requires. This means consumers must largely educate themselves about computers, what they can do, and whether it’s worth paying for certain features. Since the price tag on a basic laptop can start at about $300 and quickly escalate into the thousands, it’s no surprise that sticker shock combined with decision fatigue may cause many people to give up on a purchase altogether.

To find additional upcoming Remake Learning Days events near you, click here.

Affordable Connectivity Program Updates

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides discounts up to $30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to $75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to $100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than $10 and less than $50 toward the purchase price. Apply here.

ACP Enrollment and Claims Tracker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolled Households Nationally (As of March 21, 2022)</th>
<th>10,820,057</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Households in Florida (As of March 21, 2022)</td>
<td>765,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Subscribers in Charlotte County (As of Feb 1, 2022)</td>
<td>2,638</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Total Subscribers in DeSoto County  
(As of Feb 1, 2022) | 780 |
|------------------------|-----|
| Total Subscribers in Manatee County  
(As of Feb 1, 2022) | 10,581 |
| Total Subscribers in Sarasota County  
(As of Feb 1, 2022) | 4,954 |
| Total Subscribers in the Suncoast  
(As of Feb 1, 2022) | 18,953 |

To find additional ACP enrollment data, click [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 to be considered.

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#DigitalAccessforAll

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