



# Digital Inclusion Activities

Metro Government of Nashville & Davidson Co.

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# Metro Nashville Statistics

- Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) - 2012
  - System committed to Blended Learning
  - 44% of students (35K+ of 80K) in need
- Pew Internet Research - 2015
  - 53,000+ families in need



# Goals

- Model: Boston's TechGoesHome program
- Identified needs met by
  - Device (PC/Laptop/Tablet)
  - Free or Reduced Price Internet Connectivity
  - Relevant Training
- Repeatable & Scalable



# Anytime Access for All - MNPS

## Devices

- Vanderbilt University / Dell gift
- Convert Trash to Treasure: ER2 partnership

## • Relevant Training

- Nashville Public Library

## Connectivity

- Initial drive unsuccessful
- Hardest nut to crack for Nashville



# Nashville Digital Inclusion Fund (NDIF)

- Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee (CFMT)
  - Asset Aggregator
  - “Connecting opportunity with need”
- Mayoral Challenge FY16 - \$100,000
  - Google Fiber
  - Comcast
  - Stephen Turner Family Foundation
  - Metro Govt (FY16 & FY17)



# ConnectHome - MDHA

- Federal Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Program
  - For Metro Development & Housing Authority (MDHA)
- Metro/MDHA selected as pilot city
- Used Anytime Access model



# Future Plans

- Metro Nashville Digital Inclusion assessment/survey
  - Based on Austin, TX study
  - Use to establish NDIF funding opportunities / partners
  - Oversample minority communities
  - CFMT / Vanderbilt University / Metro Office of CIO
- Metro Nashville est. Broadband Tech Commission
  - Dedicated Digital inclusion



# Lessons Learned

- Value in partnership
  - People say YES!!
- Human factors
  - Finding executive supporters who “gets it”
  - Volunteers can’t do this alone
- Connectivity is a major barrier
  - Limited options
  - Sparring competitors





**Thank you for your time**

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