**Growing Digital Equity Through Community Partnerships**

**Learner Guide**

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/growing-digital-equity.html>

As digital access becomes increasingly essential for participating in community life, libraries can play an important role in the digital equity and inclusion ecosystem. Hear about a variety of innovative services and partnerships that King County Library System (KCLS) has instituted for sustainable digital inclusion. These include launching a Digital Navigators service, circulating hotspots and laptops to partners to reach people experiencing homelessness, participating in a community-owned wireless network, and supporting telehealth. Learn to apply these ideas to overcome digital access barriers and meet the digital needs of your own communities.

Presented by: Dr. Audrey Barbakoff, EdD, MLIS, Community Engagement and Economic Development Manager, Library Outreach, Programs, and Services, King County Library System (WA)

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| **What are your goals for viewing this webinar?** | |
| **Personal Goals** |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |
| **Don’t Go it Alone!** | |
| As you begin to assess your community’s digital equity and inclusion ecosystem, it’s important to identify local community organizations or coalitions that share a strong interest in digital equity. **Begin by brainstorming a list of organizations to approach to learn more about their work around digital inclusion**. For an extended list of options, review potential partners for collaboration in WebJunction’s [Community Partnership and Collaboration Guide](http://www.webjunction.org/documents/webjunction/Community_Partner_Collaboration_Guide.html). Keep in mind that there are a number of different ways to partner throughout these efforts, from assessment to funding and from equipment to marketing. Identify a point of contact at the potential organization and consider the various angles for collaboration. | |

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| **Prioritize Goals and Aspirations** |
| In discussions and shared learning with community organizations, work toward **prioritizing goals and aspirations** related to digital equity in your community. How do you know these priorities are important? Where do they overlap with community-wide priorities, or those of partner organizations? Which information or data was used to inform decisions around priorities?  Priority 1:  Priority 2: |
| **Programming and Service Responses** |
| Research how another library has put together a program or service that can respond to the community priorities identified above. Examples from Dr Barbakoff’s examples include:   * [Digital Navigators Toolkit](https://www.digitalinclusion.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Digital-Navigators-Toolkit-Final.pdf) (pdf) from NDIA * [Hot Spots Help Span the Digital Divide](https://kcls.org/news/hot-spots-help-span-the-digital-divide/) (KCLS) * [Telehealth at the Library](https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/community-of-practice-for-telehealth-at-the-library.html) (see community of practice) * [Teaching Patrons](https://www.webjunction.org/explore-topics/patron-training.html) (WebJunction articles and resources)   Possible programs/services for our library (for each response, consider the resources would you need to replicate this program and how you might adapt it to work in your community): |
| **Action Plan: (include next steps, who, when, etc.)** |
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