

Ohio's Digital Equity Planning Grant Narrative

Project Name: Ohio's Digital Equity Plan

Synopsis:

High-speed internet access for all Ohioans is a top priority for the DeWine-Husted administration. BroadbandOhio, an office within the Ohio Department of Development was stood up in 2020 to support the administration's goal of making sure every Ohioan, regardless of where they live could have access to high-speed internet. The need for high-speed internet in Ohio is widespread from Cleveland to Coal Grove. Cleveland has unfortunately been named by NDIA as the worst big city in America for connectivity with 30% of households having no internet access. Coal Grove is a village in Appalachia whose residents represent the thousands of people living in rural Ohio that lack basic internet access. A step towards achieving the goal of universal coverage in Ohio will be taking part in the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program. Developing this plan for the state of Ohio will promote the achievement of digital equity, support inclusion activities, increase the adoption of broadband in Ohio.

BroadbandOhio will be hiring a Manager for Digital Equity and Inclusion to be the lead in developing this plan and have already identified next steps that will occur immediately upon award. The initial objective is to convene key stakeholders to develop a plan of statewide collaboration and coordination with organizations that represent covered populations, CAIs, local governments, educational institutions, non-profits, and many more. Ohio views this digital equity planning opportunity holistically and intends to ensure that it will be leveraged with the IJA BEAD program. For a full complete write up of BroadbandOhio's vision with further narration please see the document titled Detailed Narrative in the Other Documents section of the application.

Detailed Narrative:

High-speed internet access for all Ohioans has been a top priority for the DeWine-Husted administration since being elected in 2019. BroadbandOhio, a division within the Ohio Department of Development was created in 2020 to help achieve the administration's goal of making sure every Ohioan, regardless of where they live could have access to high-speed internet. The need for high-speed internet in Ohio is widespread from Cleveland to Coal Grove. Cleveland has unfortunately been named by NDIA as the worst big city in America for connectivity with 30% of households having no internet access. Coal Grove is a village in Appalachia whose residents represent the thousands of people living in rural Ohio that lack basic internet access. A step towards achieving the goal of universal coverage in Ohio will be taking part in the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program. Developing this plan for the state of Ohio will promote the achievement of digital equity, support inclusion activities, and increase adoption of broadband in Ohio.

BroadbandOhio will hire a Manager for Digital Equity and Inclusion to be the lead in developing this plan and this position will engage with diverse stakeholders throughout Ohio to help identify

the digital equity champions. BroadbandOhio will seek to amplify the work already being done to improve digital equity and inclusion in the state. Ohio has the added benefit of having a rich history of groups that have been working in the digital equity space for some time.

In conjunction with local digital equity coalitions, BroadbandOhio has already identified next steps that will need to occur immediately at the beginning of the year-long planning phase. The initial objective is to convene key stakeholders that BroadbandOhio has already identified and been working with as well as new stakeholders to develop a plan of statewide collaboration and coordination with organizations that represent covered populations, CAIs, local governments, educational institutions, non-profits, and many more. BroadbandOhio has had success with this model already with the implementation of our BroadbandOhio Alliance meetings that occur statewide with a diverse group of stakeholders, and it is a forum for organizations to share their broad broadband ideas. We believe that this will be a successful model in helping shape the digital equity plan.

The objectives of a statewide consortium of key people and groups will be to create and implement assessments and surveys to identify barriers to digital equity for covered populations and then measure those barriers and how they impact numerous outcomes to including economic, workforce, health, education, etc. This group will also be the main coordinator of all outreach activities including engaging Ohioans from all over the state and traveling to the covered populations at grassroots level workshops to gain feedback and insight on what they are seeing as barriers in their communities as well as feedback on the plan.

Ohio views this digital equity plan as holistic part of the overall structure that will be implemented in the BEAD and Middle Mile programs as well as a plan that will have clear implementation strategies and activities. Ohio's Digital Equity Plan will be a clear path forward with actionable and achievable next steps. The plan will ensure the best outcome for the organizations that tap into the State Capacity Grant and Competitive grants and ultimately close the digital divide for all Ohioans.

Detailed Budget Template

Budget Categories		Unit Type	Unit Cost	No. of Units	Total Cost	Federal Funds Requested	Cash Match Amount	In Kind Contribution Value	Match Type (Cash/In-Kind/Both)	Match Percentage	Allowable Total	Notes/Comments
Personnel	1 FTE for Year 1	Hour	\$40.86	2080.00	\$85,000	\$85,000					\$85,000	
Fringe Benefits	1 FTE Year 1	Hour	\$17.98	2080.00	\$37,400	\$37,400					\$37,400	
Travel	state travel	Mile	\$0.585	2168.00	\$1,268.28	\$1,268.28					\$1,268.28	
Travel	domestic travel hotel 2 nights for 2 trips	Other	\$275.000	4.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00					\$1,100	
Travel	Airefaire for 2 conferences domestic	Other	\$700.000	2.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00					\$1,400	
Travel	Meals and incidentals for 2 nights and 2 conferences	Other	\$79.000	4.00	\$316.00	\$316.00					\$316	
Travel	Statewide conference travel hotel for 2 people and 2 nights	Other	\$122.000	4.00	\$488.00	\$488.00					\$488	
Travel	Meals incidentals for 2 people and 2 nights	Other	\$64.000	4.00	\$256.00	\$256.00					\$256	
Supplies	Printing for coalition meetings	Other	\$250	12.00	\$3,000	\$3,000					\$3,000	
Supplies	Data management software	Other	\$60,322.48	1.00	\$60,322.48	\$60,322.48					\$60,322.48	
Supplies	Printing materials for statewide coalition	Other	\$7,000.00	1.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00					\$7,000	
Contractual	Meetings Facilitation and Outreach	Other	\$100	50.00	\$5,000	\$5,000					\$5,000	
Contractual	Keynote speaker fees	Other	\$5,000	2.00	\$10,000	\$10,000					\$10,000	
Contractual	Other Speaker fees	Other	\$500	10.00	\$5,000	\$5,000					\$5,000	
Other	Statewide conference facility fee	Hour	\$1,000	20.00	\$20,000	\$20,000					\$20,000	
Others	Sub Awards- Data collection meetings	Other	\$125,000	5.00	\$625,000	\$625,000					\$625,000	
Other	Sub Awards- Pilot Programming	Other	\$121,600.00	5.00	\$608,000	\$608,000					\$608,000	
PROJECT TOTAL					\$1,470,550.76	\$1,470,550.76	\$0	\$0			\$1,470,550.76	

Ohio Department of Development-BroadbandOhio

Ohio's Digital Equity Plan

Budget Narrative

Applicant Name: **Ohio Department of Development- BroadbandOhio**

Applicant Type: **State**

Proposed Period of Performance: **September 1, 2022, to September 1, 2023**

Total Project Costs: **\$ 1,470,550.76**

Total Federal Grant Request: **\$ 1,470,550.76**

Total Matching Funds (Cash): **\$ 0**

Total Matching Funds (In-Kind): **\$ 0**

Total Matching Funds (Cash + In-Kind): **\$ 0**

Total Matching Funds (Cash + In-Kind) as Percentage of Total Project Costs: **\$ 0**

Total Federal Funding for Digital Equity Planning Project: \$ 1,470,550.76

A. Personnel: Total Amount \$85,000

Digital Equity and Inclusion Manager- This position will be the coordinator for all broadband digital equity and inclusion activities at the Ohio Department of Development. This position will manage the planning process and coordinate meetings, conferences, calls, etc. with stakeholders. This position will be responsible for coordinating data collection, evaluation, and day to day management of activities. 100% of the salary will be allocated for direct programming

1 FTE at \$85,000 for 1 year = \$85,000

B. Fringe: Total Amount \$37,400

Digital Equity and Inclusion Manager- 100% of this position's salary is allocated to direct programming. This cost is \$32,500 per year and includes; FICA, health, dental, and vision insurance, state retirement plan,

1 FTE at \$37,400 for 1 year = \$37,400

C. Travel: Total Amount \$4,828.28

Statewide Travel

One employee will travel to 5 regional coalition meetings 2 times in one year. The Central region will be local for the employee so car travel will occur to 4 regions of the state. There will be no overnights for these meetings and only requesting mileage reimbursement.

Tentative Meeting Locations:

Cleveland, Ohio: Round trip from Columbus 286 miles x 2 trips meetings = 572 miles

Toledo, Ohio: Round trip from Columbus 284 miles x 2 meetings= 568 miles

Cincinnati, Ohio: Round trip from Columbus 214 miles x 2 meetings = 428 miles

Steubenville, Ohio: Round trip from Columbus 300 miles x 2 meetings = 600 miles

Total miles= 2,168 x .585 (federal mileage reimbursement) = **\$1,268.28**

Domestic Travel

One employee will travel to two conferences, for two nights each, within the United States with the subject matter of the conference focusing on digital equity. The locations of the conferences are TBD and for the purposes of this budget the federal rates for Washington DC are being used.

Hotel: \$275 per night for 2 nights x 2 meetings = \$1,100.00

Airfare: \$700 round trip x 2 meetings = \$1,400.00

Meals and Incidentals: \$79.00 x 2 nights x 2 meetings = \$316.00

Total= **\$2,816.00**

Statewide Conference Travel

Two keynote speakers will travel to Columbus (from within Ohio) for a two-night statewide conference. Their hotel costs and meals and incidentals will be covered for the two-night conference. The costs reflect the federal reimbursement per diem for Columbus.

Hotel: \$122 per night X 2 people X 2 nights = \$488.00

Meals and incidentals: \$64 x 2 people x 2 nights = \$256.00

Total= **\$744.00**

D. Equipment: Total Amount \$0

E. Supplies: Total Amount \$70,322.48

Printing materials for digital inclusion meetings and outreach activities to include, meeting materials, direct mailers, flyers, registration forms, surveys, etc. Estimated at \$250 per month x 12 months totaling \$3,000.00.

Data management software to be used monthly to gather data from meetings, survey/questionnaire creation, and all other data management and evaluation from required activities. The software tool is in the process of being identified for which will best fit the program needs. The allocation of this software will be done within the state's procurement process. \$60,322.48 for 1 year.

Printed materials, signage, banners for the statewide conference at \$5,000.00 as well as Statewide conference website management to focus on meeting registration, agendas, contact information, etc. at flat rate of \$2,000.00

F. Contractual: Total Amount \$ 20,000

This person will be a non-Ohio Department of Development staff member and will be an expert in meeting facilitation. This person will help the Digital Equity and Inclusion Manager coordinate and facilitate meetings.

\$100 per hour for 50 hours = \$5,000.00

Two conference speaker fees for a two day conference = \$5,000 x 2 people = \$10,000

Other speaker fees that are not keynote speakers = \$500 x 10 people = \$5,000

G. Construction: Total Amount \$0

There are no construction charges for this project.

H. Other: Total Amount \$ 1,253,000.00

BroadbandOhio will sub-award to sub-grantees under two different categories. The first sub-award category will be for meeting facilitation, data collection, community engagement, and other related activities. This will go to each of the 5 regional coalitions at \$125,000 per coalition totaling \$625,000.00

The second category of sub-awards will go to, organizations that have not been identified yet with the goal of funding mini pilot programs. Each of the 5 coalitions will be given \$121,600 to programs in their communities that demonstrate best practices in engaging with covered populations to make sure the coalitions are collecting the proper data and engaging with the proper populations. The coalitions will set up mini grant programs to award this funding. All necessary reporting and quality control processes will be identified as the process is developed. This totals $\$121,600 \times 5 = \$608,000.00$.

Statewide Conference facility rental at \$1,000 per hour x 10 hours x 2 days = \$20,000.00

I. In-direct Costs: Total Amount \$ 0

There are no direct costs for this project.

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1.		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
b. Fringe Benefits					
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies					
f. Contractual					
g. Construction					
h. Other					
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)					
j. Indirect Charges					
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES

(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	\$	\$	\$	\$
9.				
10.				
11.				
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-Federal					
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT

(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16.	\$	\$	\$	\$
17.				
18.				
19.				
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION

21. Direct Charges:	22. Indirect Charges:
23. Remarks:	