

Digital Access Newsletter

April 2025

Welcome to One Network – This newsletter is an overview of the digital opportunity services offered by organizations like Literacy Minnesota and resources for those wanting to know more about digit access.

For most jobs now, you need at least some basic digital skills. This can include anything from creating a resume to logging your hours to writing an important email. Sometimes people may not know what to expect or need assistance on improving these job readiness skills. Work force training organizations and reentry programs are there to help make sure you are more prepared for what to expect. In this month's newsletter we will be mentioning some of the local opportunities people can utilize to improve their skills.

Our event Tech in Your World is happening again in May. Contact Frances Bates at fbates@literacymn.org if you are interested in being a vendor.

How have digital skills helped you in your career?

Covered within this issue:

- **Community Bulletin**
 - The importance of technology in the work force
 - Upcoming tech event
- **Literacy MN Digital Literacy Services**
- **Other Minnesota Initiatives**
- **Resources**



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<https://www.literacymn.org/>

700 Raymond Avenue Suite 180, Saint Paul, MN 55114

Mission: Literacy Minnesota connects people to transformative learning, sparks innovation in literacy and mobilizes change.

Community Bulletin



Importance of Technology in the Work Force

A good work force makes a good community and economy. In today's world, that includes having good digital skills to be a productive worker. There are multiple organizations and programs that help make sure everyone is prepared for their job. Read more see what Minnesota has to offer when it comes to job training and reentry programs.

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

The state's principal economic development agency. DEED programs promote business recruitment, expansion, and retention; international trade; workforce development; and community development.

<https://mn.gov/deed/>

CareerForce

Minnesota's official career exploration and job search resource. Their staff and partners serve job seekers and employers throughout Minnesota. Helping people prepare for and find employment through services that are in person, on the phone and online. All their services are available at no fee.

<https://www.careerforcemn.com/>

WorkForce Solutions

Similar to CareerForce but specifically for Ramsey County. They provide employment and training services to job seekers and businesses.

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/your-government/departments/economic-growth-and-community-investment/workforce-solutions>

Goodwill-Easter Seals

Offers job training and customized career support to eliminate barriers to work and independence with proceeds from thrift retail, e-commerce, grants and financial contributions.

<https://www.goodwilleasterseals.org/>

Elpis Enterprises

Provides job training, work experience, and employment placement services for young people experiencing homelessness and unstable housing.

<https://elpisenterprises.org/>

Twin Cities RISE

Assist individuals in poverty on the path to long-term and stable employment. Our work skills training prepares participants with the skills they'll need on the job. And through internship opportunities, job

search assistance, and employment placement services, we work with participants to find meaningful employment.

<https://twincitiesrise.org/>

Hired

Support people building sustainable careers that support not only our participants, but their families, employers and communities as well.

<https://www.hired.org/>

EMERGE

Help people find meaningful employment and careers, gain skills through career training pathways, endorse financial literacy and work with youth to promote positivity and to begin their workforce journey.

<https://emerge-mn.org/>

Women Venture

They empower women to achieve their economic goals by building profitable and sustainable businesses that transform communities.

<https://www.womenventure.org/>

Reentry Employment Opportunities

A program provides funding, authorized as Research and Evaluation under Section 169 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, for justice-involved youth and young adults and adults who were formerly incarcerated.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/reentry>

They have a website linked that offers practitioners new ideas and tools to do the invaluable work of changing lives and renewing futures of former offenders.

<https://reo.workforceegps.org/>

Central Minnesota Reentry Project

Provides formerly incarcerated persons hope and opportunity for transformation through support, resources and community partnerships.

<https://cmnnp.org/>

Felon Record Hub

The #1 resource on the internet to help former felons get employed again.

<https://www.felonyrecordhub.com/>

Upcoming Event

Tech in Your World is back!

In March 2024 Literacy Minnesota put on an event that showed the community some of the different organizations that have digital access programs and people could learn about low-cost internet options. We are excited to announce that this event will back again this May at our new learning center location.

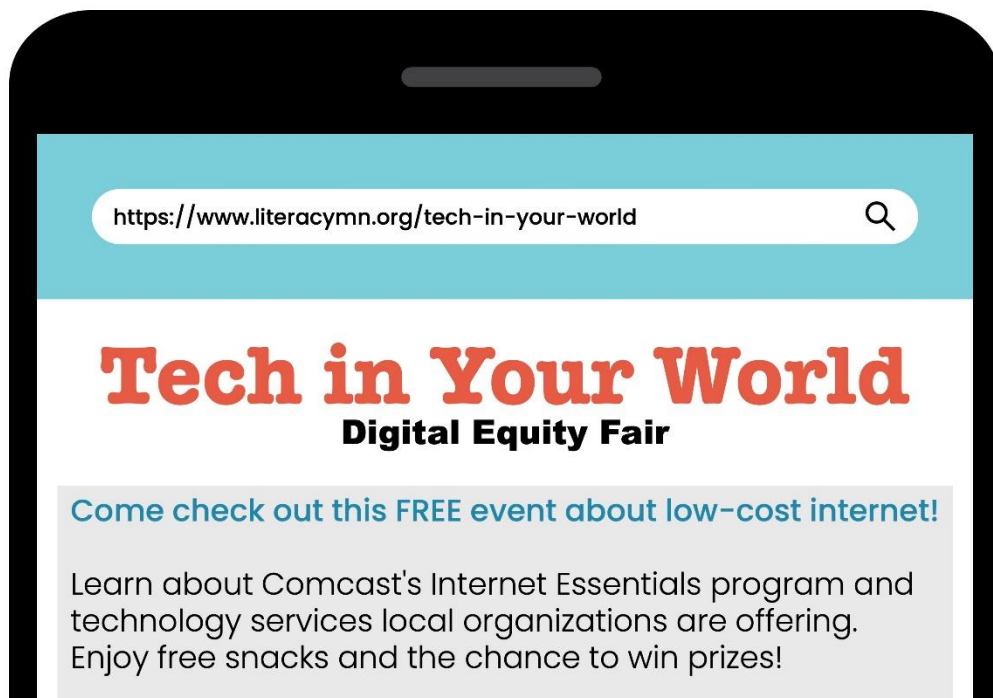
Learn more: <https://www.literacymn.org/tech-in-your-world>

When: May 30th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Where: 627 W Broadway Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55411

Interested in being a vendor? – Contact Frances Bates at fbates@literacymn.org.

Stay tuned for more.



Our Digital Literacy Services

Digital opportunity services require access to devices, an internet connection and digital skills. Below you can find how Literacy Minnesota is helping provide those services.

<https://www.literacymn.org/digitalliteracy>

Northstar Digital Literacy



The Northstar program assesses digital skills and provides classroom curriculum and self-directed online learning.

Website: <https://www.digitalliteracyassessment.org/>

Digital Access and Navigation

Digital Navigators mentor individuals in using technology and help with getting low-cost internet. For more information on our services contact Susan at swbrandt@literacymn.org.

<https://www.literacymn.org/digital-equity-navigation>



Midway Location: 553 Fairview Ave N, Saint Paul, MN 55104

The Midway digital literacy lab at Goodwill-Easter Seals is coordinated by Manee Thao and open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Minneapolis Location: 627 W Broadway Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55411

Katey Miller works at the Minneapolis campus facilitating computer labs and Northstar digital literacy classes. The lab is open from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays.

Trainings and Workshops

We offer an assortment of programming for instructors that focus on digital literacy.

<https://www.literacymn.org/digital-literacy-trainings-workshops>

Other Initiatives in Minnesota

Neighborhood House



The Adult Education Program at Neighborhood House provides adult learners with ongoing educational support and learning opportunities. One of the areas of service they offer is digital literacy classes.

<https://neighborhoodhousemn.org/>

Lyndale Neighborhood Association



The Lyndale Education Program serves the residents of Horn Towers with literacy, language, and career skills. They created the ELDES curriculum to help address digital literacy gaps in English learners.

<https://lyndale.org/>

PCs for People



This is a nonprofit social enterprise working to get low-cost quality computers and internet into the homes of individuals, families, and nonprofits with low income.

<https://www.pcsforpeople.org/>

Office of Broadband Development



<https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/>

Helping Minnesotans understand broadband options available and work together to improve availability and use of high-speed broadband services.

Connectivity Blueprint

Connectivity Blueprint:
*Digital Equity Roadmap for
Ramsey County and Saint Paul*

An initiative led by Ramsey County and Saint Paul to create a community-guided roadmap for achieving digital inclusion.

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/ramsey-connected-computer-internet-resources/connectivity-blueprint>

Technology Literacy Collaborative (TLC)



The TLC is a group of aspiring leaders in the digital equity field within the Twin Cities. They gather to problem solve and discuss best practices.

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14411564>

Check out this newsletter's resource section on our website to see more local organizations.

<https://www.literacymn.org/one-network-newsletter-resources>

Resources



Digital Equity Act
<https://www.digitalequityact.org/>



National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA)
<https://www.digitalinclusion.org/>



National Collaborative for Digital Equity (NCDE)
<https://www.digitalequity.us/>



National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
<https://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

NDIA's Important Words

Digital Equity

A condition in which all individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy and economy. Digital Equity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services. Sometimes called TEQuity/Tech Equity which is the shortening of technology equity.

Digital Literacy

The ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills.

Digital Navigators

Trusted guides who assist community members with ongoing, individualized support for accessing affordable and appropriate connectivity, devices, and digital skills.

Thanks for Sponsoring



COMCAST

More information here: <https://www.literacymn.org/digital-equity-navigation#one-network-newsletter>

Join the mailing list here: <https://www.literacymn.org/one-network-signup>

Questions, comments, or concerns? – Contact Frances Bates at fbates@literacymn.org.



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