

## Digital Access Newsletter

*March 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.

Don't forget your elders! This month's article is focused on resources for seniors in Minnesota. We have listed some of the places that offer technology services specifically to the aging population. See details on the Technology Conference that LeadingAge Minnesota is putting on in April.

Are there any organizations that we missed?

### **Covered within this issue:**

- **Community Bulletin**
  - Technology services for Minnesota seniors
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- **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



## Technology Services for Minnesota Seniors

An important area to get proper technology services to is the aging population. Helping seniors adapt to the ever-changing world of technology makes sure no one gets left behind. Within this article you'll find a few places that offer services to seniors in Minnesota.

### Senior Community Services

Supporting older adults and their families by focusing on improving their quality of life, independence and community engagement. Their TECH Program has field staff with expertise in helping older adults successfully navigate today's technology, including help with finding internet services and how to use your devices. They mostly provide services to Carver, Hennepin, Scott, Sherburne and Wright Counties so check to see what your specific area provides.

<https://seniorcommunity.org/>

### Visiting Angels - Edina

Specializes in providing compassionate, personalized care that enriches the lives of aging adults, ensuring they thrive in the comfort of home. One of their services is the Social Care Program which can include assistance with technology. They serve Minneapolis, Apple Valley, St. Paul, Edina, Bloomington, Burnsville, St. Louis Park, Twin Cities and the surrounding areas.

<https://www.visitingangels.com/edina/home>

### **Gifts for Seniors**

Striving to alleviate the devastating adverse health impacts of loneliness and social isolation for over 8,000 older adults. Their inclusive programs provide life-affirming contact and equitable access to community resources for living and aging well. One of these programs is dedicated to getting tablets into the hands of isolated older adults who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford one themselves.

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

### **Eden Senior Care**

Striving to deliver an excellent care experience through their teams' commitment to a deep sense of responsibility, true compassion and a pervasive humility in their approach. One of their programs is called SMART Living and it provides resources for technology services. They have locations in Edina, Rochester, St. Cloud and Wadena.

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

### **Association of Residential Resources in Minnesota (ARRM)**

Advocating for, informing and supporting Minnesota organizations serving people in the disability and mental health communities. They offer a Tech Mentor program for implementing assistive technology.

<https://www.armm.org/home>

### **Above and Beyond Senior Service**

A guidance and support service for seniors who want to live a way of life that is less demanding and allows for prolonging personal freedom. One of their services is offering Adaptive equipment and mobility device training.

<https://aboveservices.com/>

### **Pillsbury United Communities**

Community builders co-creating enduring change toward a just society. Certain locations offer computer labs as well as services specifically for the aging population.

<https://pillsburyunited.org/>

### **East Side Neighborhood Services**

Building pathways toward equity by addressing social and economic barriers. Their Vital Living service offers the Connect 2 Tech program which provide educational classes and 1:1 support.

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



## **LeadingAge Minnesota – Technology Conference**

LeadingAge MN is a network of mission-driven organizations serving older adults in all the places they call home. They have an upcoming conference that sounded like it would be helpful. This conference is designed to allow providers to learn about technologies that save time and provide increased resident safety and quality of care.

### **Technology Conference 2025**

When: April 30 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. (See brochure for more info)

Where: Heritage Center of Brooklyn Center (6155 Earle Brown Dr, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430)

<https://www.leadingagemn.org/education-events/technology-conference/>

[https://www.leadingagemn.org/assets/docs/2025\\_\\_TechnologyConference\\_Brochure\\_sf.pdf](https://www.leadingagemn.org/assets/docs/2025__TechnologyConference_Brochure_sf.pdf)

# 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](mailto: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



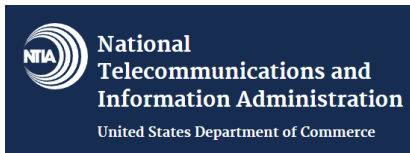
**Digital Equity Act**  
<https://www.digitalequityact.org/>



**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](mailto:fbates@literacymn.org).



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