



# **KANSAS CITY MISSOURI**

## **State awards \$250,000 in Digital Equity Act funding through the Digital Demonstration Projects Grant Program**

### City of Kansas City Missouri – Project Activity

The City will be partnering with a local non-profit, Essential Families, to bring increased connectivity to Kansas City. The program will pair 94 families with Digital Navigators and a laptop pre-installed with select software. The program will then support each family to enroll in the ACP and other benefit programs they may qualify for.

**The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.**


**CONNECTING ALL MISSOURIANS**  
Office of Broadband Development

**Digital Demonstration Projects Grant Program**
**Recipients**

Entity Name	Partnering Organization	Region	Eligible Activity	Covered Populations	Award Amount
KC Digital Drive	n/a	Statewide	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Individuals who live in covered households, Aging individuals, Incarcerated individuals (non-federal facilities), Veterans, Individuals with disabilities, Individuals with a language barrier, Racial/ethnic minority groups, Rural residents	\$25,000
City of Kansas City	Essential Families	Kansas City	Affordable Connectivity Program Promotion/Registration Program	Individuals who live in covered households, Aging individuals, Veterans, Individuals with disabilities, Individuals with a language barrier, Racial/ethnic minority groups	\$25,000
The Curators of the University of Missouri	MOREnet	Statewide	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Aging individuals, Individuals with disabilities, Rural residents, Individuals who live in covered households	\$25,000
The Curators of the University of Missouri	n/a	North	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Individuals who live in covered households, Aging individuals, Veterans, Individuals with disabilities, Racial/ethnic minority groups, Rural residents	\$25,000
aSTEAM Village Inc.	University of Missouri	Kansas City	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Individuals who live in covered households, Individuals with disabilities, Racial/ethnic minority groups, Aging individuals, Veterans, Rural residents	\$25,000
Concordance	n/a	St. Louis	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Racial/ethnic minority groups, Incarcerated individuals (non-federal facilities), Individuals who live in covered households	\$25,000
Jefferson Franklin Community Action Corporation	n/a	St. Louis	Affordable Connectivity Program Promotion/Registration Program	Individuals who live in covered households, Aging individuals, Veterans, Individuals with disabilities, Individuals with a language barrier, Racial/ethnic minority groups, Rural residents, Incarcerated individuals (non-federal facilities)	\$25,000
Boonslick Regional Planning Commission	n/a	North	Digital Navigator Training and Deployment Program	Aging individuals, Individuals with disabilities, Veterans, Rural residents	\$25,000
Meramec Community Enhancement Corporation	Meramec Regional Planning Commission	Central	Affordable Connectivity Program Promotion/Registration Program	Aging individuals, Rural residents, Individuals who live in covered households	\$25,000
Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation	n/a	Southwest	Affordable Connectivity Program Promotion/Registration Program	Aging individuals, Veterans, Individuals with disabilities, Racial/ethnic minority groups, Rural residents, Individuals who live in covered households, Individuals with a language barrier	\$25,000

**Total: \$250,000**



**Essential Families**<sup>SM</sup>

**“Everything Starts At Home”**

**Essential Broadband Program**

City of Kansas City Missouri Resolution No. 230229

A Digital Equity, Inclusion, and Economic Development Solution  
(Urban and Rural)



RESOLUTION NO. 230229

**Recognizing Essential Families for their efforts to reach, inform, and inspire the lives of children and families by providing crucial broadband and other services to below and slightly above poverty families in and around the greater Kansas City area.**

WHEREAS Terri English-Yancy BA, MA, MA, founder, and CEO of Essential Families has been a servant leader in Kansas City’s not-for-profit community for two decades, and is supported by Jeremy Sander, CFO, Kenneth Yancy, Chief Digital Marketing and Business Development Officer, and Amy Fortney, COO and Program Management Officer, an assembly of enterprising, competent, and creative individuals; and

WHEREAS, by understanding the deficit and needs of digital access in Kansas City, using historic and real time data key indicators, Essential Families created “Essential Broadband Pilot Program”, a digital equity, inclusion, and economic and service creation development plan; and

WHEREAS clients in the Essential Broadband Pilot receive assistance from a digital navigator (case manager), a laptop, computer and internet training, virtual parent education, virtual mental health support, childcare payment assistance, Z-Trip Transportation, and a host of other options to close the digital divide; and

WHEREAS, it has been said that if existing social service agencies are the “bricks” in the structure of Kansas City’s social services, then Essential Families is the mortar; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:**

That the Mayor and Council hereby recognize Essential Families and support team, for their dedication to closing the digital divide in Kansas City and beyond; and for their fundamental approach believing “everything starts at home”; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to Terri English-Yancy for her outstanding achievement in area of commitment to digital equity and inclusion in Kansas City.

Authenticated As Adopted This  
9th Day of March, 2023

  
Mayor Gordon D. Lucas

  
City Clerk, Director of Records



- Kevin O’Neill, 1st District-at-Large
- Heather Hall, 1st District
- Teresa Loar, 2nd District-at-Large
- Dan Fowler, 2nd District
- Brandon Ellington, 3rd District-at-Large
- Melissa Robinson, 3rd District
- Kathleen...

<b>DDP Grant Budget and Narrative</b>													
Essential Families waitlist 94 of 97 Client/Households eligible for ACP						Digital Demonstration Grant Program will service 42 of 94 Client/Households eligible for ACP							
Digital Navigator (ACP Internet Assistance signup)with phone follow-up						\$38,031.38	Digital Navigator (ACP Internet Assistance signup)with phone follow-up						\$16,467.20
Laptop Computer and Training						\$18,915.00	Laptop Computer and Training						\$8,190.00
							Computer Accessories						\$342.80
Total cost						<u>\$56,946.38</u>	Total cost						<u>\$25,000.00</u>
cost per unit						587.07							595.24

## Schedule for Remaining Digital Demonstration Project

- April 3–August 31, 2023 | Period of performance
- July 31, 2023 | Progress reports due
- September 15, 2023 | Final reports due

# Q and A