

Community Space Public Wi-Fi Program Information Session

Meeting is being recorded

Team

Meredith Lewis

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Background on funding

Massachusetts Broadband Institute

- Broadband Innovation Fund was established to bridge the digital divide as a component of the Commonwealth's COVID recovery and response efforts
- \$5.1 million grant award to the Alliance for four different initiatives
- Additional statewide efforts to look at digital equity

This Opportunity

- Two part-process culminating in about \$5000 grant for equipment and installation to add or increase public Wi-Fi access.
- Part 1: Survey and assessment of current capacity and needs
- Part 2: Affirmation of intention

Eligibility

Located in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and/or Hampshire

Potential applicants include

- Libraries
- Public housing common spaces
- Community centers
- Senior centers
- Educational facilities
- Workforce training centers
- Other nonprofit organizations

Can be municipality-owned or other public space serve the intended populations.
Entities must be ready and able to expand public internet access.

Population Served

Low income or digital disenfranchised

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Households including a child eligible for federally recognized free or reduced-price lunch.

Income-level based on the following U.S. Treasury definitions:

- "Impacted" either at or below 300% of Federal Property guidelines for household size or income at or below 65% of AMI.
- "Disproportionately Impacted" at or below 185% of Federal Poverty guidelines for household size or income at or below 40% of AMI.
- Taking place in a qualified census tract (QCT) or zip code where median income is less than 50% state average or there is at least 25% poverty rate.

Signing up for GLM



Logon Page

Email Address*

Password*

[Log On](#) [Create New Account](#)

[Forgot your Password?](#)

Welcome to the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts Online Portal which is best accessed using the following browsers: Chrome or Firefox.

If this is the first time you are visiting this page, you will need to "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your logon credentials.

Once you have completed the registration process you are considered an Existing User. When Existing Users return to the site please enter your credentials and log in.

If you forgot your password, please use the "Forgot your Password?" link to the left to reset your password.

Not Sure? If you think that you or someone at your organization has already registered in the system, do not create a new account. Please contact our Grant Administrator at grants@communityfoundation.org.

Create New Account

If you already have an Account, click the 'Cancel Account Creation' button to go to the Logon page

⚠ Using the browser's back button will delete your registration information.

ℹ This registration process has multiple steps you must complete before you can apply.

Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

Organization Information

Organization Name*

OR **your name** if applying as an artist to ValleyCreates

Community Program

Please choose the response that best describes your organization*

Fiscally sponsored - enter 00-0000000 for the EIN #

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Program operating as part of a larger charitable org - enter 11-111111 for the EIN #

A church - enter 22-222222 for the EIN #

Part of a national organization, but you have your own 501c3 designation - Enter your EIN #

Organization is designated by the IRS as a 501c3 - Enter your EIN#

An artist applying to ValleyCreates – enter 99-9999999 for your EIN #

EIN / Tax ID (##-#####)*

00-0000000

Telephone Number (###-###-#### x###)*

413-555-5555

OR personal email if applying as an artist to ValleyCreates

me@communityprogram.org

Address 1*

123 State St.

Address 2

City*

Springfield

State*

MA

Postal Code*

01104

Next >



Apply

Applicant Dashboard

Please contact Margaret Everett at grants@communityfoundation.org if any information in your Organization Summary does not appear correctly.

🌐 ★ Public Profile

Applicant:

Jeffery Markham
me@fakeemail.com
413-555-5555
123 State St.
Springfield, MA 01104



Organization:

Community Program
00-0000000
413-555-5555
123 State St.
Springfield, MA 01104



[Contact Email History](#)

📘 If your organization information does not appear correct, please contact the funder. Thank you.

Active Requests 0

Historical Requests 0

📘 You do not have any Active Requests. Click [Apply](#) to begin the application process.

Signing up for GLM

Community Space Public Wi-Fi

Accepting Submissions from 10/20/2023 to 03/15/2024

[APPLY](#)

Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation with funding from the Alliance for Digital Equity and Baystate Health, are providing an opportunity to advance digital equity through their Community Space Public Wi-Fi program in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire counties.

The goal is to help entities increase access to the internet for community members, particularly those who are experiencing economic hardship, by providing new or expanded Wi-Fi in spaces used by the community. This opportunity is to provide eligible organizations with funding to install new or expanded Wi-Fi capabilities onsite to benefit the communities they serve. The grant will cover the full amount of the estimated costs based on our technical assessment. Public spaces include libraries, community centers, senior centers, educational facilities, workforce training centers and any other public space that serves the intended population.

Timeline:

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Questionnaire Walkthrough

Timeline: Stage 1

- Stage 1 will close, and questionnaires will no longer be accepted as of **January 29, 2024 at 5:00PM.**
- Organizations will be notified on a rolling basis **no later than February 16, 2024.**
- If an organization's application is determined to be eligible, Patrick will contact you to set up a site visit or phone call meeting to conduct a technical assessment.
 - Organizations invited to participate in the Stage 2 application will receive a written estimate detailing the technical specifications and estimated costs for the installation.

Timeline: Stage 2

- **Invited organizations will have until March 15, 2024 to submit the simplified Stage 2 application.**
 - The Stage 2 application will affirm your organization is willing to purchase and install the needed hardware as proposed in the technical assessment.
- Organizations who are not invited to participate in Stage 2 will receive information from the technical assessment that may help them with future expansion of internet.
- Organizations will be notified of funding decisions by **April 1, 2024.**
- Installation must be completed by **September 1, 2024.**

Questions?

grants@communityfoundation.org