

Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB)

112 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2601 https://publicservice.vermont.gov/vcbb

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2024

Contact:

Herryn Herzog, VCBB Communications & Outreach Manager

phone: (802) 522-3396

email: Herryn.Herzog@Vermont.gov

VERMONT'S APPROVED DIGITAL EQUITY PLAN AVAILABLE IN 14 LANGUAGES AND ASL

Montpelier, Vermont – Vermont Community Broadband Board is proud to announce that a summary of Vermont's Digital Equity Plan is now available to review in 14 languages and American Sign Language on the <u>Digital Equity page</u> of the <u>VCBB website</u>.

The Digital Equity Plan was recently approved by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. It serves as the state's vision and strategy for digital equity, which means that everyone has access to the internet, as well as the devices and skills to use it meaningfully and safely.

VCBB's goal is digital equity for all Vermonters. To that end, VCBB has worked to ensure the state's Digital Equity Plan is accessible to everyone. On VCBB's Digital Equity webpage, you can find a summary of the Digital Equity Plan written in plain language, translated into the 14 languages recommended by Vermont's Office of Racial Equity, and there is also an American Sign Language video of the plan summary with captions. Translation of the full Digital Equity Plan is available upon request at no charge.

"Vermont's Digital Equity Plan was built on feedback from Vermonters from different communities and backgrounds. Now that the plan is approved, we want everyone to be able to read it and understand it. We're working to reach the highest level of accessibility to serve all Vermonters," said VCBB Digital Equity Officer Britaney Watson.

The plan includes a digital equity needs assessment, asset inventory, and implementation plan. It prepares Vermont for federal grant funds to carry out the plan and details activities, key performance indicators, and partnerships.

VCBB is just starting to implement the approved Digital Equity Plan, and we still want to hear from you to make sure our programs are as effective as possible. We want to know

if there's anything preventing you from being able to use computers and the Internet, what kind of programs are helpful, how do we reach the people who may need support in accessing or using computers/the Internet, and who are trusted community partners we should work with?

You can submit comments by email to vcbb.info@vermont.gov, write to VCBB, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620, or call (800) 622-4496.

###



###