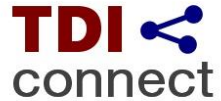# MONDAY, JUNE 6: EQUITY AND ACCESS

Getting Online to Learn: Closing the Digital Divide

Getting Online to Learn:
Closing the Digital Divide

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Overview

1. The Digital Divide: What is it?
2. Breaking The Digital Divide
3. Two Cases:
   - Trenton Public Schools
   - Isles Youth Institute
4. Conversation and Q&A
5. Next Steps and Conclusions

The Digital Divide

What is it?
The gap between those who have internet access and the hardware and skills needed to effectively use online resources

Why does it matter?
Effective internet access opens opportunities that are not available to the disconnected, including economic, health, educational, and social advantages

What do we know about it in Trenton?
Hard to tell; no hyperlocal data exists. Anecdotally, we know that Trentonians rely on less reliable internet and less functional hardware than the region and state, and that internet and hardware access reflect and reinforce disadvantage.

The Digital Divide

Nationally, in families making less than $75,000:

Internet access and computer ownership are up since 2015, but…

- 1 in 7 children do not have broadband access at home
  - In families with incomes below the federal poverty line, 25% rely on mobile, dial-up, or none
- Cost is the primary reason families do not have broadband access
- 1 in 8 children do not have a computer at home

The Digital Divide

Nationally, in families making less than $75,000:

Even families with broadband home internet services face challenges:
- 56% say service is too slow
- 18% had service cut off due to non-payment

Mobile only access face even more obstacles:
- 34% hit data limits
- 28% face household limits on access due to sharing
- 16% with mobile service have not been able to consistently pay

Computer owners also face difficulties:
- 59% say their computer is too slow or doesn't work properly
- 22% need to share their device

Breaking the Digital Divide

Breaking the Digital Divide Locally:

Trenton Public Schools

and

Isles Youth Institute

Thank you for attending The Digital Divide

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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Want to keep the conversation going?
Attend our Virtual Networking session this Friday

Sign up for more sessions at isles.org/forum