

Statewide Digital Literacy

(National Governor's Association Grant)

Workforce Development Council's Special Projects Committee Meeting
February 28, 2022

Stacey Aldrich | State Librarian | Hawai'i State Public Library System



NGA Workforce Innovation Network Round 2 State Grantee Welcome Materials

Project Overview

In March 2021, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center), in partnership with the Cognizant Foundation, launched the Workforce Innovation Fund and Workforce Innovation Network (NGA WIN) to help states respond to COVID-19 impacts on the labor market and help them improve employment and workforce outcomes.

The second round of grants from the Workforce Innovation Network will support technical assistance for a cohort of competitively-selected states to advance digital skill development for equitable economic participation in alignment with state workforce and economic development goals. The NGA Center will engage staff and subject matter experts to provide targeted technical assistance to Workforce Innovation Fund state grantees from **November 2021 – June 2022.**

1.
Hawai'i's Digital Equity
Foundations

BROADBAND HUI

Broadband for A.L.L. (Access, Literacy, Livelihood)

DIGITAL EQUITY DECLARATION

Broadband for A.L.L. – A Digital Equity Declaration for Hawai'i

PREAMBLE

not prepared for the first stay-at-home, work-from-home orders triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The immediate halt to most in-person interaction resulted in significant impacts on business, education, healthcare, the provision of other essential services, and the economic structure. As a result, providing equitable access to broadband and effectively applying digital tools in essential sectors are pressing challenges.

The initial convening was organized by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), the Economic Development Corporation of Hawai'i, and Transform Hawai'i. Government convened two additional convenings representing wireline and wireless carriers, federal, state and local administrative leaders, local, national, and international non-profits, public libraries, universities, and private businesses joined the exploratory convening. This ongoing weekly convening has become known as the Broadband Hui.

Through the diverse input gathered in this collective forum, it has become overwhelmingly apparent that many in Hawai'i, primarily from rural and socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, lack the necessary digital tools to work, learn, receive essential services, and participate in civic and social activities. If this is left to continue, the impacts of digital inequity may become an increasingly significant contributor to a widening socioeconomic gap. It has also become apparent that many in our community are working tirelessly to provide solutions to this pressing issue.

In November 2020, DBEDT published the new 2020 Hawai'i Broadband Strategic Plan, which articulates the State's approach to address many of the broadband and digital inequity issues facing Hawai'i.

Broadband Hui
(Over 350 orgs)



- Digital Equity Ecosystem Map
- Digital Literacy & Readiness Study
- Kupuna Digital Inclusion Project
- Support for ACP
- Digital Literacy 101 classes
- Access for all to Northstar Digital Literacy Tool
- Refurbished Laptops/PC for public
- Telehealth Digital Navigator Projects
- New legislation focused on digital equity

2.
Hawai'i's
Digital Literacy & Workforce Goal



“The illiterate of the future will not be those who cannot read or write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.”

-Alvin Toffler



*Hawai'i's ultimate goal is to create
100% digitally literate workforce
that can continuously adapt as technology
changes, and have the skills needed to
support the changing job market.*

3.

Hawai'i's Project

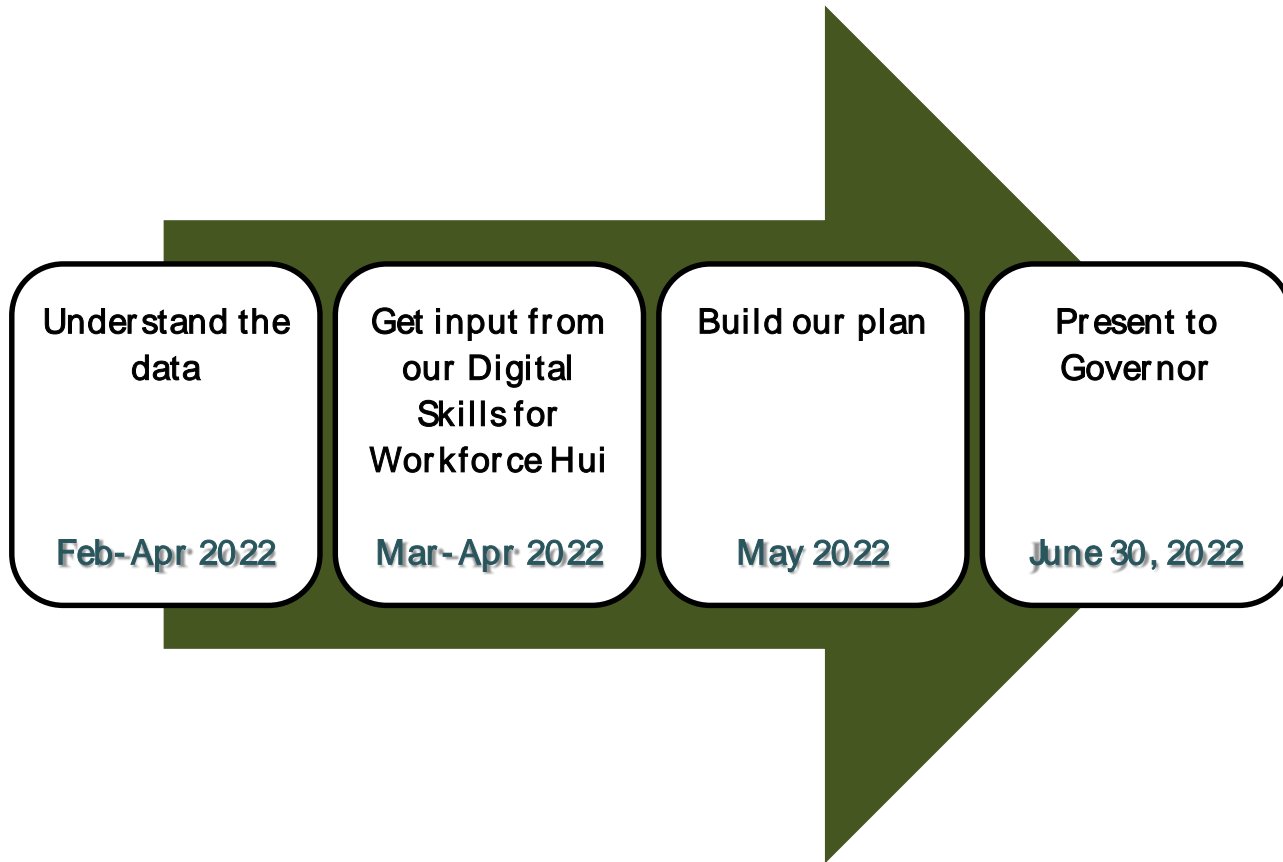
awarded \$100,000 to

Create a comprehensive statewide plan for closing the digital skill gaps in our workforce.

Our Team

- **Burt Lum**, Broadband and Digital Equity Office
- **Allicyn H. Tasaka**, Workforce Development Council
- **Kaala Souza**, Digital Literacy Leader & Consultant
- **Jill Takasaki Canfield**, Hawai'i Literacy, Inc.
- **Stacey Aldrich**, Hawaii State Public Library System
- **Sabrina Nasir**, Office of the Governor
- **Nainoa Mau**, Friends of the Library of Hawaii
- **Rebecca Soon & Liza Ryan Gill**, Solutions Pacific

Our Process





Mahalo!

Any questions?

You can find me at

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