### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

MICHIGAN HIGH-SPEED INTERNET OFFICE LEO-MIHIGHSPEEDINTERNET@MICHIGAN.GOV



+Who +What +Why +Where +How

# Michigan High-Speed Internet Office

+Created by Executive Directive in June 2021, authorized for funding and staff in April 2022 +Located within the Prosperity Division of the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity +Michigan's single point of contact for all things broadband and connectivity

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Create a more digitally equitable Michigan where everyone can leverage technology to improve their quality of life.

Mission





### Framework

- Digital Equity is the goal.
- Digital Divide is the issue.
- Digital Inclusion is the bridge over the divide to achieve equity:
  - Affordable, robust broadband internet service
  - Internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user
  - Access to digital literacy training
  - Quality technical support
  - Applications and online content designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation, and collaboration

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### Our work is not about technology, it's about people.

- Every <u>student</u> that had to sit outside a library or McDonald's to access Wi-Fi to complete their schoolwork during the pandemic.
- + Every <u>senior</u> that wants to stay in their home and still have access to world-class healthcare.
- + Every <u>farmer</u> that can't access the latest tech to grow their business.
- + Every <u>entrepreneur</u> that wants to start a small business.
- + Every <u>community</u> that wants to broaden their engagement.
- + Every <u>business</u> that wants to find a new customer base.
- + Every <u>veteran</u> that wants to stay connected with their fellow service members.
- + Every <u>person</u> that's been snowed-in and wants to still work or learn remotely.
- + Every <u>teacher</u> to digitally support their students learning.
- + Every <u>parent</u> who wants to learn a new skill to support their family.
- + Every <u>prior offender</u> looking for a second chance.
- + Every refugee who now calls Michigan home.
- + Every <u>concerned citizen</u> that is homebound and still wants to engage in their community.
- Every job applicant that had their video interview drop because their internet was too slow.











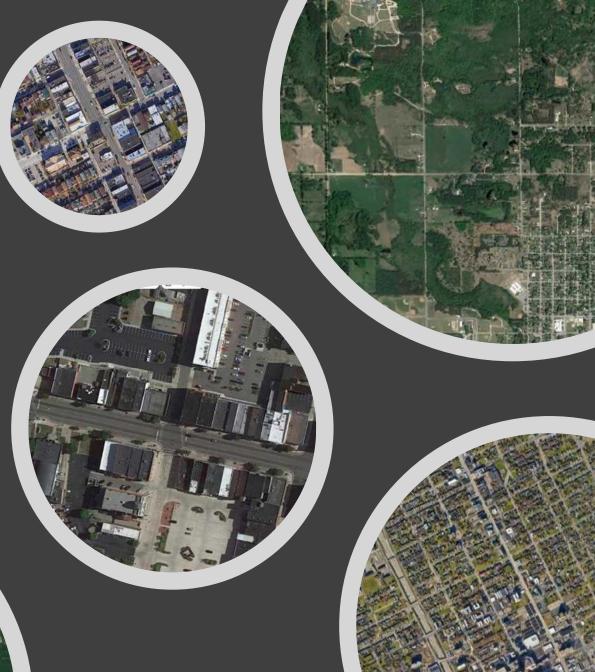




### Where do we need to do this work?

- + Rural communities
- + Urban centers
- + Small towns
- + Vast open spaces
- + Every corner of our state





### Goals

- + Ensure universal availability of broadband to every home, business, institution, and community
- + Ensure 95% of households adopt a permanent connection at home

### Guiding Principles

- + Creativity
- + Efficiency
- + Transparency
- + Collaboration















#### **Historic Federal** Investments Connecting Michigan Communities (ongoing), \$34,000,000 USDA ReConnect (ongoing), \$70,000,000 Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (ongoing), \$363,000,000

State Digital Equity Planning and Capacity Grants (pending), \$32,000,000

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (pending), \$1,600,000,000

Realizing Opportunity w/

**Broadband Infrastructure** 

Networks (open now),

\$250,000,000

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# **ROBIN Program**

- Last-mile and middle-mile grant program
- Unserved defined at 100/20 Mbps
- + Networks must deliver 100/100 Mbps service
- Funded with \$250M from the Capital Projects Fund
- + Administered by US Treasury
- + Up to 35% of funds can be used for middle mile only projects
- Open to internet service providers or communities that have created a public-private partnership with an ISP
- Grantees must participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program
- Funds must be expended by Dec. 31, 2026 Funds must be expended by Dec. 31, 2026
- + Application window closed on Tuesday
- + Anticipate being able to connect 60,000 75,000 locations

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# **BEAD Program**

- + Largest source of broadband infrastructure funding <u>ever</u>
- + Administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in partnership with states
- Priority given to building networks that connect unserved (25/3 Mbps) and underserved (100/20 Mbps) locations and community anchor institutions

- Exact allocation is not yet known but is estimated to be \$1.5B - \$1.8B, allocation based on new FCC map
- + Implemented as a subgrant program to a variety of entities include private ISPs, non-profits, communities, co-operatives, and others
- Begins with robust and thorough planning and community engagement beginning now
- + Subgrants likely to start in 2024

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### State Digital Equity Planning & Capacity Grants

- Provides states a formula-based allocation with two opportunities; 1) to create a statewide digital equity plan; and 2) a follow-on program for implementing that plan
- Planning funds have been awarded but not appropriated to MIHI; implementation funds should be announced in early 2024

Designed to address the needs of 'covered populations;'

- + Rural residents,
- + Aging individuals
- + Low-income households
- + Veterans
- + Individuals with disabilities
- + Individuals with a language barrier
- + Members of a racial or ethnic minority group
- + Incarcerated individuals

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### **MI Connected Future**

 Embarking on a comprehensive and robust statewide broadband planning effort

 Plan will meet the requirements of both the BEAD and SDEPG programs and provide the state with a plan for achieving universal access and improving digital equity

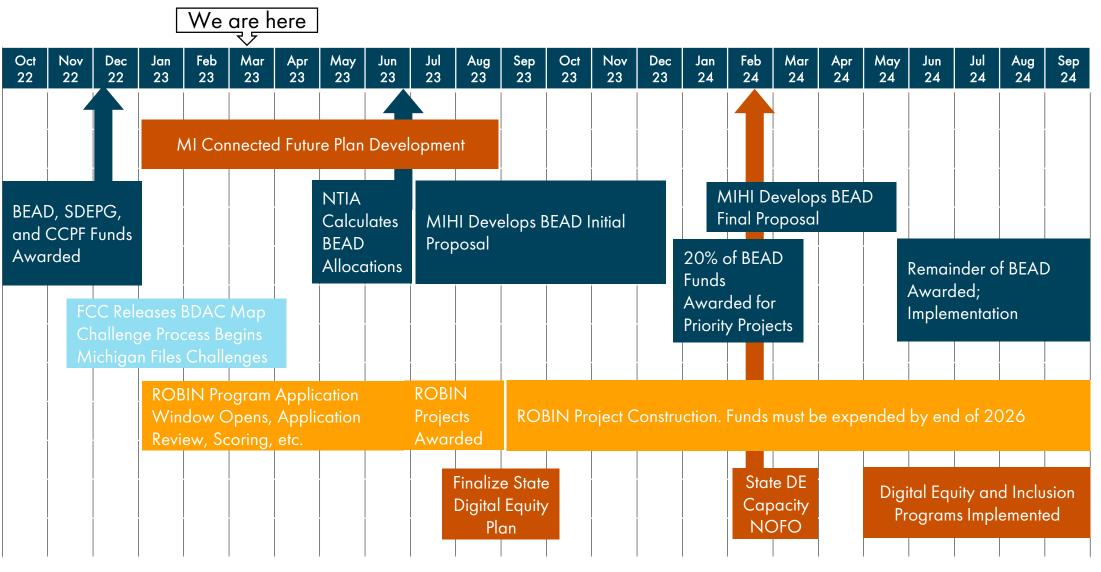
+ MIHI plans to implement multiple communications and feedback streams to ensure we are listening to all of Michigan's diverse voices and identifying solutions that close our gaps

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### **MI Connected Future**

- Have held eleven of forty community meetings so far in Detroit, Warren, Pontiac, Jackson, Dundee, Coldwater, Ann Arbor, Benton Harbor, Battle Creek, Marquette
  - Next set of meetings in St. Johns, Lansing, Charlotte, Lapeer, Marysville, Bad Axe, Saginaw, Mt. Pleasant, Alma, Hastings
- www.Michigan.gov/miconnectedfuture
- First Partnership Roundtable (PRT) being held this week
- Registration from more than 220 unique organizations and nearly 300 participants.
- PRT will continue monthly to assist MIHI in planning and operationalizing federal programs





### Thank You

Questions?





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