

*Thank you for joining us. We will begin shortly.*



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
**LABOR & ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY**

MICHIGAN HIGH-SPEED INTERNET OFFICE  
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“High-speed internet service is no longer a luxury—it’s a necessity. But too many families go without high-speed internet because of the cost or have to cut back on other essentials to make their monthly internet service payments. Lowering prices—including the cost of high-speed internet service—is President Biden’s top priority.”

*- White House Fact Sheet: President Biden and Vice President Harris  
Reduce High-Speed Internet Costs for Millions of Americans*

“We must work to bridge [the digital] divide and ensure that every home and business in Michigan can access high-speed internet services that meet their needs. Achieving this goal requires a multi-faceted approach, including developing the necessary infrastructure to bring service to each home and business in our state, assisting those who otherwise could not afford service, and ensuring that resources to increase digital literacy are available to all.”

*- Executive Directive 2021-2*

“The Infrastructure Act’s BEAD Provisions are premised on Congress’s determination that “[a]ccess to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband is essential to full participation in modern life in the United States,” and that “[t]he persistent ‘digital divide’ in the United States is a barrier to” the nation’s “economic competitiveness [and the] equitable distribution of essential public services, including health care and education.” Accordingly each Eligible Entity must include in its Initial and Final Proposals a middle-class affordability plan to ensure that *all* consumers have access to *affordable* high-speed internet. ... Each Eligible Entity shall thereafter submit a proposed definition [of the term “low-cost broadband service option”] to the Assistant Secretary for approval in its Final Proposal.”

- *BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity, page 66*

# AGENDA

+Who

+What

+Why

+Where

+How

# Connecting Michigan Communities

- + Affordability and service limitation scoring criteria worth 20 of a total 150 possible points. Considerations: monthly cost of service compared to available household income data, lack of data restrictions or caps, applicants' incorporation of FCC's Lifeline program, and project's proposal to at least partially serve a distressed community

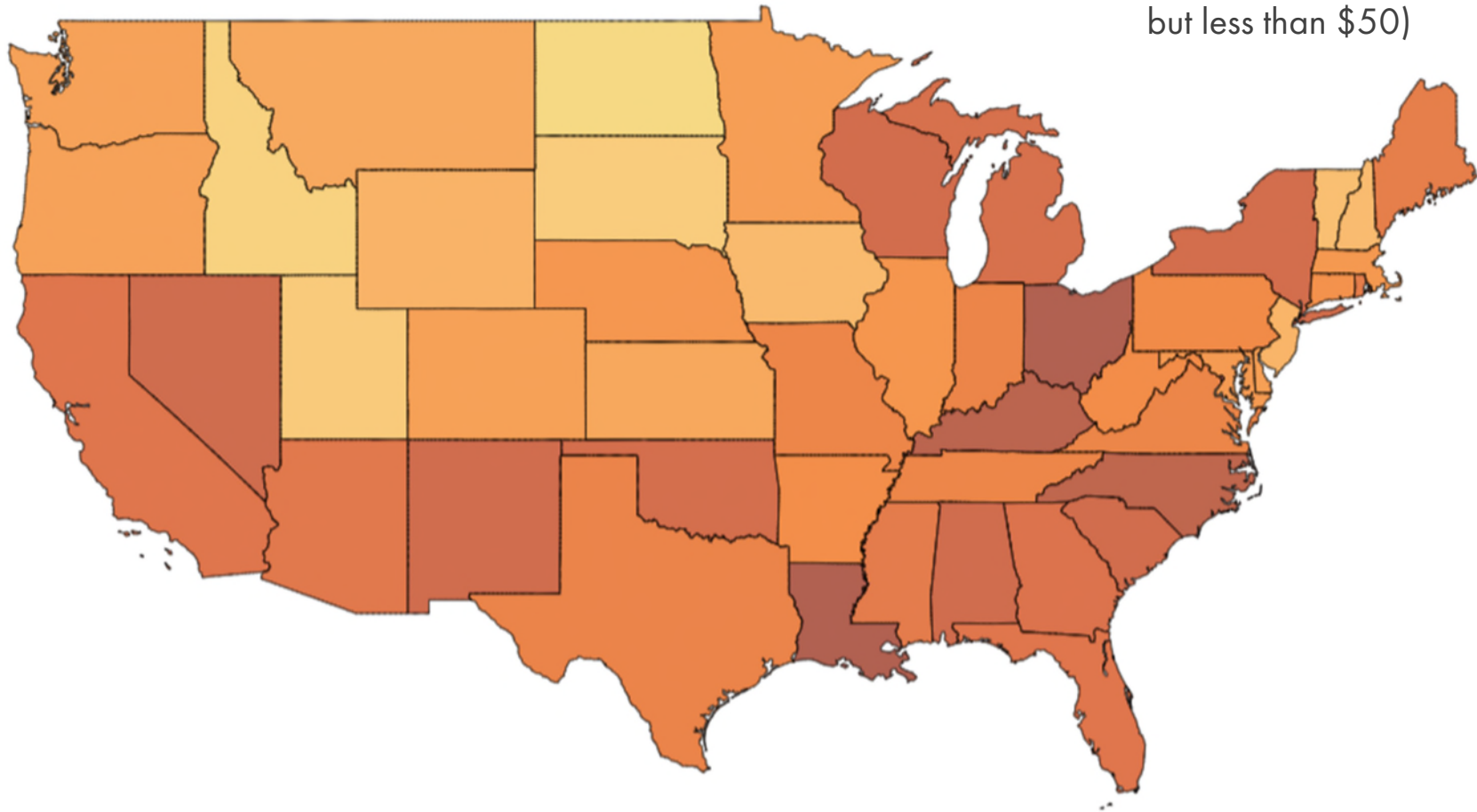
## ROBIN Grant Program

- + Grantees must participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program
- + Digital equity and inclusion criteria worth 40 of a total 250 possible points. Considerations: monthly cost of service compared to FCC Benchmark, lack of data restrictions or caps, low-cost service offering, project's proposal to at least partially serve a distressed community



# Affordable Connectivity Program

- Up to a \$30/month discount on your internet service
- Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)



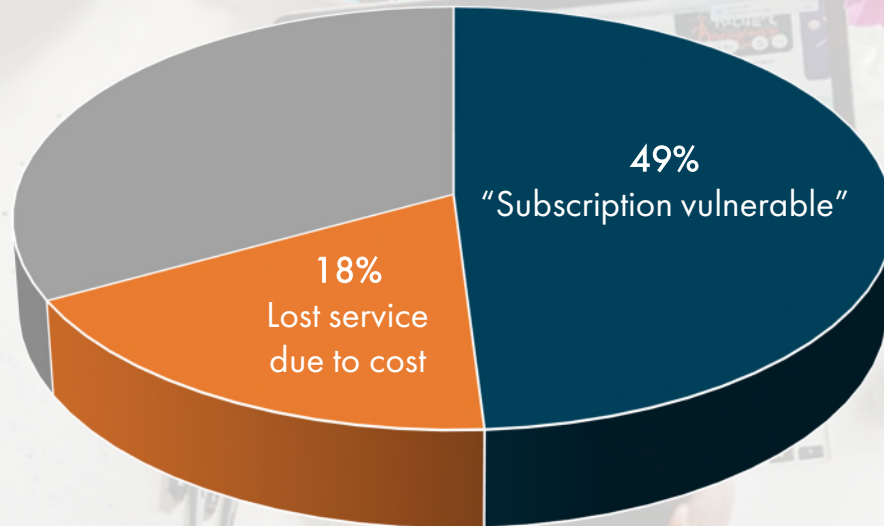
# Affordable Connectivity Program in Michigan

- + Internet Service Providers: 147 participating
- + Consumers:
  - + 588,318 households enrolled
  - + 34.9% statewide
  - + 45% in Detroit
- + Estimated monthly cost: \$18,090,779
- + ACP Outreach Grant Program winners:
  - + Wayne County (\$664k)
  - + City of Flint (\$100k)
  - + Literacy Center of West Michigan (\$200k)
  - + United Way of Southeastern Michigan (\$300k)





# Cost of Service Matters to Consumers



- 40% say they cannot afford to pay anything for a home internet subscription
- 22% are comfortable paying about \$25 per month
- 38% say they can pay something in the range of entry-level plans or somewhat above, that is between \$55 and \$70 per month



# SURVEY

What should be required of Michigan's "low-cost broadband service option"?

What will it take "to ensure that high-quality broadband services are available to all middle-class families...at reasonable prices"?

How should we include affordability of devices (not just service)?

How is affordability for businesses different than for households?

# SURVEY

<https://forms.office.com/g/mQyCqWMPMJ>



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# SURVEY

What will it take “to ensure that high-quality broadband services are available to all middle-class families...at reasonable prices”?



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# SURVEY

How should we think about affordability of devices (not just service)?



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# SURVEY

How is affordability for businesses different than for households?



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# THANK YOU

Questions?

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