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Tech Goes Home Partners with Rocket Community Fund to Bring Digital Inclusion Programming to Detroit

BOSTON, Jan. 9, 2025 — Tech Goes Home (TGH), a leading Massachusetts-based nonprofit committed to closing the digital divide, in partnership with [Rocket Community Fund](#), today announced the launch of *Digital Skills Detroit*, an initiative designed to equip 200 Detroit residents with digital skills focused on enhancing employability and fostering economic empowerment across the city's underserved communities.

"We are thrilled to bring TGH's community-led digital inclusion model to Detroit," said Marvin Venay, Chief External Affairs and Advocacy Officer at TGH. "In Massachusetts, we've seen the positive impact of providing digital devices, internet access, and skills training led by trusted local instructors. We're grateful to the Rocket Community Fund and our Detroit partners for their collaboration in bridging the digital divide."

The program provides participants with a free digital device, access to affordable internet, and hands-on training to develop both basic skills, such as navigating the internet safely, and more advanced skills, including how to use productivity software, internet job search techniques, and how to access certain online services. The training sessions will be held at Connect 313's 17 local technology hubs, which are accessible community spaces offering internet connectivity and digital resources.

"Digital literacy is essential for participating fully in today's society," said Autumn Evans, Senior Program Manager of Rocket Community Fund. "Through partnerships like this, we're addressing systemic barriers and providing Detroiters with tools to achieve economic mobility and success in a tech-driven world."

The *Digital Skills Detroit* program will be delivered over six months through workshops and Learning Circles led by local instructors trained by TGH. This approach ensures culturally relevant and high-quality instruction tailored to Detroit's unique needs. By fostering collaboration and collective learning, the initiative addresses the specific needs of Detroit's diverse populations while strengthening community ties and promoting empowerment.

TGH was established in Massachusetts in 2000 and has partnered with hundreds of organizations across the state – including schools, libraries, and nonprofits – to serve more than 50,000 learners. The majority of TGH learners identify as people of color, speak a primary language other than English, and have an annual household income of less than \$20,000. This is the organization’s first partnership in Detroit, which has become nationally recognized for its comprehensive digital inclusion model and collaborative ecosystem of partners.

In addition to the Rocket Community Fund, *Digital Skills Detroit* is supported by local partners Connect 313, Black Tech Saturdays, and Peer 2 Peer University. Recently, TGH team members traveled to Detroit to train a cohort of local instructors who will lead the program for an initial group of 200 learners. Sessions started in October 2024 and will continue through April 2025.

"Our partnership with Tech Goes Home showcases the inspiring work of local leaders Maia and Keith, founders of CoCreating with the City," said Johnnie Turnage, co-founder of Black Tech Saturdays. "Their commitment to empowering residents and businesses exemplifies how visionaries drive innovation and bridge gaps. Through city-wide tech talks and e-commerce training on platforms like Shopify, Maia and Keith are reshaping Detroit’s digital future. Together, we’re building skills and creating a lasting legacy of opportunity and empowerment."

About Tech Goes Home

Tech Goes Home is a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the digital inequities that pose a significant barrier to opportunity and success for thousands of students, workers, and families across Massachusetts and the country. Working in partnership with schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations, Tech Goes Home provides curated support - including access to digital devices, network connectivity, and robust training in how to utilize digital resources - to help individuals and families pursue economic mobility, support academic achievement, access critical resources, and engage with their community and loved ones. You can learn more about Tech Goes Home’s work, and ways to become involved, at techgoeshome.org.

About Rocket Community Fund

The Rocket Community Fund aims to simplify complex and inequitable systems to ensure that every American has access to stable, healthy housing. It also invests in people and practices that provide meaningful opportunities for education and employment. Through its For-More-Than-Profit model, the Rocket Community Fund recognizes that business and community are inextricably linked, and it purposefully harnesses team member talent, technology, policy advocacy and philanthropic resources to invest in comprehensive community development in Detroit and across the country.

Alongside financial investments, the Rocket Community Fund has organized Rocket Companies, Bedrock and other affiliated team members to provide more than one million volunteer hours nationwide, including more than 720,000 in Detroit.

For more information, visit RocketCommunityFund.org.

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