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Contact: Harry Shipps, harry@ninetywest.com

Tech Goes Home Partners with the Alliance for Digital Equity to Expand Programming into Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties

December 14 – Today, [Tech Goes Home](#) (TGH), a Massachusetts nonprofit focused on advancing digital equity through devices, internet, and training, announced a new partnership with the [Alliance for Digital Equity](#) to expand TGH programming to several communities in Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties.

TGH's model provides participants with a computer or tablet, up to one year of free, reliable internet access, and 15 hours of tailored digital skills training. Working closely with the Alliance for Digital Equity, TGH will engage community-based organizations in several Western Massachusetts communities – beginning with Springfield, Chicopee, and Holyoke – to identify and train trusted, local instructors and host programs. TGH will offer general digital skills training, as well as training for entrepreneurs and business owners specific to starting and growing a business.

“We are thrilled to expand our programming to Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties in partnership with the Alliance for Digital Equity,” said **Daniel Noyes, CEO of Tech Goes Home**. “From our roots in Greater Boston to our more recent work in Essex County, thousands of individuals and families have graduated from Tech Goes Home programming with the tools and knowledge to more fully participate in the digital world - from accessing educational resources and remote work opportunities to telehealth and remaining connected with loved ones. The COVID-19 pandemic made persistent disparities in access even more glaring – particularly in historically underserved communities – and we are grateful for the opportunity to be part of implementing systemic, sustainable solutions for residents of Western Massachusetts.”

“Since its formal creation in 2020, the Digital Inclusion Alliance’s aim has been to assure that all people have access to the skills, computer equipment, and reliable high-speed internet needed to operate in the digital world. Digital equity is necessary for people to fully participate in modern society,” said **Frank Robinson, Vice President for Community Health at Baystate Health**, and one of the driving forces behind the Alliance. “Our 2021 report, “[The Digital Divide and Challenges to Digital Equity](#),” highlighted the range of challenges facing different communities in pursuit of true digital inclusion, and proposed a framework for action. We are excited to work with Tech Goes Home to build on the good work already happening in our communities and offer more residents access to proven programming that provides digital tools alongside training to use those tools effectively. Working together, we will be able to ensure that hundreds more residents and families are able to safely and successfully take advantage of digital opportunities.”

In addition to partnership with the Alliance for Digital Equity, the expansion of TGH's programming to Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties was made possible, in part, by a grant from the [Massachusetts Broadband Institute](#) (MBI), a division of the MassTech Collaborative dedicated to making affordable, high-speed internet available across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“Support for Tech Goes Home’s expansion reflects our mission to expand connectivity statewide and to help ensure it is affordable and accessible, in order to expand economic and educational opportunities,” said **Michael Baldino, MBI Director & General Counsel**. “MBI has been deeply engaged with communities in Western Massachusetts through our Last Mile infrastructure program and Tech Goes Home is leveraging a similar community-based, collaborative approach to ensure more individuals and families can find digital training, access broadband connectivity, and utilize digital devices to find jobs, go to school, access health care, and more.”

About TGH

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 in Greater Boston and beyond. 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 the Alliance for Digital Equity

The goal of the Alliance is to get people the access they need—to the equipment, to the infrastructure, and to the knowledge and skills—and that will allow them to fully participate in the digital world. The Alliance works to develop big picture solutions that advance digital equity and are grounded in community. The Alliance seeks to promote programs that connect community members with needed digital resources. By bringing together existing community partners in new ways around the issue of digital equity, the Alliance has helped to form new relationships and develop new initiatives – all of which build upon the strength of existing efforts and existing networks in the region. This collaboration has resulted in strengthening what is currently in place and creating new programmatic and funding opportunities for the region. Through its range of initiatives, the Alliance seeks to increase the rate and breadth of positive change regarding digital equity.

About the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI)

A division of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is working to extend high-speed Internet access to homes, businesses, schools, libraries, medical facilities, government offices, and other public places across the Commonwealth. The MBI is working on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to launch digital equity programs that address challenges to accessing the internet, including affordability, lack of devices, and the need for digital literacy training. Learn more at <https://broadband.masstech.org>.

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