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### **Tech Goes Home Announces New Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations in Essex County to Expand Digital Inclusion**

September 22, Boston, MA -- Today, [Tech Goes Home](#) (TGH), a leading nonprofit working to eliminate digital inequity, announced new partnerships with [MakeIT Haverhill](#), [Lawrence Community Works](#), and the [North Shore Community Development Coalition](#). The partnerships are part of TGH's larger expansion efforts -- with the support of the [Essex County Community Foundation](#) (ECCF) -- to connect hundreds of individuals and families across Essex County with the digital tools and skills they need to access education, employment, housing, and other opportunities.

Across Massachusetts, digital inequity continues to prevent thousands of people - disproportionately from low-income communities, communities of color, and seniors - from accessing the critical resources they need to improve their lives, and COVID-19 has only compounded the challenge. Since 2000, TGH has worked with a diverse network of community and nonprofit organizations to provide individuals and families with digital devices (like computers and tablets), high-quality internet connectivity, and culturally-competent skills training. In June of this year, Tech Goes Home [announced](#) that it had partnered with ECCF to expand its programming in key communities in Essex County - including Lawrence, Haverhill, and Salem, as well as Lynn, Methuen, Peabody, and Gloucester - with the help of an initial \$250,000 grant from ECCF.

"As communities like Lawrence, Haverhill, and Salem continue to grapple with COVID-19 and deep digital inequity, it's more important than ever that residents have the skills and the digital tools they need to apply for jobs, access healthcare, connect with loved ones and more," TGH Co-CEO Theodora Hanna said. "We're thrilled to partner with MakeIT Haverhill, Lawrence Community Works, and the North Shore CDC, three organizations already doing incredible work in their respective communities, to connect more people with the tools and training they need to engage fully in the digital world."

MakeIT Haverhill is a project of Community Action, Inc. The volunteer-led organization focuses on "matching community opportunity with community need," connecting residents with social

services, English language programming, life skills, technology, and employment opportunities. “We know that digital literacy and equity is a requirement for thriving in today’s world and in a competitive economy,” said **MIH Co-Founder Keith Boucher**. “And we are excited to be working with Tech Goes Home to connect more people in Haverhill with the digital tools and training they need to access education, employment and other opportunities, including through multilingual programming.”

Lawrence Community Works is an established “community development corporation that weaves together community planning, organizing, and asset-building efforts with high-quality affordable housing and commercial development to create vibrant neighborhoods and empowered residents.” “Improving digital equity is vital to strengthening our community,” said **LCW Executive Director Jessica Andors**. “For many of the people we work with, access to digital resources poses yet another hurdle to stability and opportunity, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As we work towards a Lawrence where everyone is able to build their own assets, educational skills, and financial success, addressing digital inequity is a critical piece of the puzzle.”

The Salem-based North Shore Community Development Coalition (North Shore CDC) provides technical assistance, prioritizing low to moderate income small businesses owned by women, immigrants, and Black, Indigenous, Latino-a, and People of Color; affordable housing to families and individuals in need; employment assistance; and other services to residents of the North Shore. “At a time when so many people are experiencing unprecedented challenges and hardships, the North Shore CDC has doubled down on our mission to connect communities in need with vital resources, including access to the digital technologies that are essential to improving people’s lives,” said **North Shore CDC CEO Mickey Northcutt**. “We are excited to be partnering with Tech Goes Home to provide greater access and opportunity for students, workers, and families in our communities.”

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**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 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](http://techgoeshome.org).

**About Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF):** Essex County Community Foundation inspires philanthropy that strengthens the communities of Essex County by managing charitable assets, strengthening and supporting nonprofits, and engaging in strategic community leadership initiatives. Our ultimate goal is to improve the quality of life in the 34 towns and cities of Essex County. To learn more about ECCF’s work please visit, <https://www.eccf.org/>.

**About Makelt Haverhill:** MakeIT Haverhill (MIH), a project of Community Action, Inc., is a single-story 2000 square foot workspace located at 301 Washington Street, Haverhill, MA 01832. We focus on workforce development, employment, education, and entrepreneurs in the Mt. Washington neighborhood and all of Haverhill! Makelt Haverhill is a grassroots organization that is completely volunteer led! Learn more about the organization at <https://www.makeithaverhill.com/>

**About Lawrence Community Works:** Lawrence CommunityWorks (LCW) is a community development corporation that weaves together community planning, organizing, and asset-building efforts with high-quality affordable housing and commercial development to create vibrant neighborhoods and empowered residents. By facilitating conversations and action on community priorities, LCW engages partners and a network of youth and adult residents in opportunities to move themselves and the city of Lawrence forward. Learn more about Lawrence Community Works at <https://www.lawrencecommunityworks.org/site/>

**About North Shore Community Development Coalition:** North Shore CDC invests in neighborhoods to create thriving communities. We envision a North Shore where every neighborhood is one of choice and opportunity. We use our community-focused development model to invest resources into low-income or distressed neighborhoods on the North Shore to improve the quality of life for residents. We are committed to the community through affordable housing, economic and youth development, community engagement, and urban art. We serve over 800 individuals, families, and children in more than 400 affordable apartments and over 3,000 individuals in our other programming. To learn more about North Shore CDC, visit <http://northshorecdc.org/>.