Community Technology Advisory Board, Year In Review – 2022

Thank you to CTAB members René Peters, Camille Malonzo, Leah Shin, Nicole Espy, Femi Adebayo, Brandon Lindsey, Lassana Magassa, Annie Shaw, and Tyrone Grandison and to all of our subcommittee leaders and volunteers for their time and efforts invested with CTAB in 2022. Huge thanks to Vinh Tang, Cass Magnuski, Meira Jough, and Delia Burke for facilitating CTAB's priorities and meetings. Finally, a thank you to our engaged community members who have attended CTAB meetings this year. Below is a summary of our events, priorities, and accomplishments as a board in 2022.

Hopefully you will see we have met the goals and more from our initial letter to the Mayor and City Council sent at the beginning of the year.

- City of Seattle was recognized as Digital Inclusion Trailblazers by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance. Was the only city in the country to be awarded on all 6 qualifying criteria marking Seattle a leader amongst leaders in municipal digital inclusion programming.
- Reviewed and provided recommendations for the 2022 Digital Equity Grants, including grants for the Digital Navigator Cohort Program and the Technology Matching Fund (TMF), all in amounting to $590,000 in awards
    - 53 individual proposals were reviewed, requesting over $1.6 million in funding.
- Nineteen community organizations throughout the city were awarded $340,000 of city funds to address projects expected to reach over 5,000 city residents in all Council districts and in areas especially impacted by digital equity gaps. These projects emply creative solutions for accessing technology devices, internet connectivity and digital literacy training.
    - Funded organizations: Dress for Success Seattle, Elizabeth Home, Ethnic Cultural Heritage Exchange, Helping Link/ Một Dấu Nối, Jewish Family Service of Seattle, Khmer Community of Seattle King County, Mini Mart City Park, Path with Art, PROVAIL, Renaissance 21, Seattle Jobs Initiative, SIFF, YWCA Seattle King Snohomish, The Prison Scholar Fund
- TMF Review Panel: 15 members, each reviewing 15 applications. Reviewers: Camille Malonzo, Dorene Cornwell, Femi Adebayo, Harte Daniels, Jordan Wolff, Kai Neander, Kristen Hoffman, Liz Gruchala-Gilbert, Phillip Meng, Rene Peters

Throughout the year, CTAB hosted speakers throughout the technology ecosystem, with a particular focus on inviting community members to speak to their lived experiences with navigating technologies. We also invited subject matter experts to share technology best practices across the City:

- Digital Equity in Telecommunications Forum – Dr. Angela Hemingway (T-Mobile), Dr. Kiesha King (T-Mobile), Derek Casebolt (T-Mobile), Bob Bass (AT&T), Azmeena Hasham (Verizon), Coleman Entringer (CTAB Digital Equity Subcommittee)
  - The Digital Equity additionally produced a
- State & Federal Digital Equity Legislation Update – David Keyes (Seattle IT, Digital Equity Manager)
- Seattle IT Chief Technology Officer Update – Jim Loter (Seattle IT, CTO)
- Technology Access & Adoption Survey – Brandon Lindsey & Lassana Magassa (CTAB), Chelsea Benning (Pacific Market Research), Chris Webb and Shaun Glaze (Inclusive Data)
- Becoming digitally literate: Pathways to supporting formerly incarcerated people – Lassana Magassa (CTAB) and Douglas French
- Seattle Internet for All and Older Adult COVID Social Connectivity Initiative – Delia Burke (Seattle IT, Digital Equity Advisor) and Jon Morrison Winters (Seattle IT)
- Digital Equity Learning Network (DELN) of Seattle & King County -- Cat Howell (Literacy Source, Co-Director)
- Seattle IT Privacy Office Update (surveillance ordinance, data ethics, facial recognition) – Sarah Carrier (Seattle IT, Privacy Program Manager) and Omari Stringer (Seattle IT, Data Accountability Strategist)
- Data Governance 101 – Mark Schmidt (Seattle IT, Data Governance Program Manager)
- Internet for All Seattle Website/Dashboard Presentation – Delia Burke (Seattle IT, Digital Equity Advisor)
- T3: Tribal Technology Training – Will Booth (T3: Tribal Technology Training)
- October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month: City Cybersecurity 101 – Dylan Morris (Seattle IT, Cybersecurity Risk Program Manager)
- City of Seattle Civiform Affordable Seattle Presentation – Elise Kalstad (Seattle, Office of Innovation & Performance)
- A Conversation with Councilmember Sara Nelson – CM Sara Nelson

Through its three committees, CTAB aligned its efforts with the City's Digital Equity Plan, and previously established Mayoral and City Council areas of shared interest, to focus on the following three areas:

1. **Privacy & Cybersecurity** — In a year marked with increasing security and privacy challenges, it is especially important that CTAB supports digital equity by helping the community understand privacy and security within technology use. In 2022, the committee began looking at a retrospective on engagement with the Surveillance Ordinance and ways to improve community participation. The committee also explored topics around critical infrastructure security and data ethics and governance.

2. **Digital Equity** — Over the course of 2022, the Digital Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee has brought together community-based organizations to collaborate on digital equity efforts, hosted a community forum for digital equity programs from telecommunication companies, distributed information to the Seattle community on telecom equity programs, and advocated for important digital equity issues within the community. Committee members have

also worked closely with the Digital Equity Learning Network (DELN) throughout the year to progress their mission, including a meeting with the FCC representative on the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Lastly, the Committee has contributed to the Technology Matching Fund (TMF) grant review process, helping community organizations further their efforts to leverage technology in helping Seattle residents.

3. **Outreach** — In 2022, the Board brainstormed and inaugurated a new committee to support the goals of the Board around connecting more broadly and intentionally with community members and stakeholders in the civic technology space. We are excited to continue this momentum in the next year by leveraging social media platforms and connecting with strategic organizations.

In closing, we hope this provides you a general overview of where CTAB has spent its energy in 2022, where it plans to continue momentum in 2023, and displays clear alignment with the City's Digital Equity Plan.

We kindly request a meeting with you and your staff at your earliest convenience to garner your input and discuss further details regarding partnership and strategy, specifically around areas you might find helpful as well as digital skills training, affordable connectivity, and access to technology devices for underserved communities. We look forward to your collaboration.

Sincerely,

CTAB Members

Camille Malonzo, CTAB Chair	**Femi Adebayo,** CTAB Vice Chair
René Peters, Member	**Nicole Espy,** Member
Dr. Tyrone Grandison, Member	**Annie Shaw**, Get Engaged Member
Lassana Magassa, Education Member	**Brandon Lindsey,** Public Access Member
Leah Shin, Member	

Appendix 1: Digital Equity Committee Year End Review

In 2022 the Digital Equity and Inclusion (DEI) committee has continued to support CTAB's vision for ensuring all Seattle residents have ready access to broadband, devices, and technology, along with the tools necessary to leverage this access for civic and cultural participation, employment, and access to essential services. This year the committee has focused on bringing together community-based organizations (CBOs) and positioning itself as a connector and facilitator for organizations looking to further their missions in digital equity.
As part of this focus, the committee organized and moderated a Telecom forum for the community to learn and ask questions about digital equity programs provided by three tele communication companies operating in Seattle. The committee then consolidated information and resources from the telecom forum for distribution to the broader CTAB, the region's Digital Equity Learning Network (DELN), and CBOs. DEI also researched a potential partnership with a telecommunication company's Digital Inclusion Plan.

Committee members consistently attended and contributed to DELN meetings including a meeting with the FCC representative on the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). These committee members helped to connect the DELN with CTAB and create working relationships between the two groups. The committee has also worked to advocate for digital equity within the broader political environment, with committee members testifying to the Washington State Legislative committee in favor of creating and funding for the Digital Navigators program and writing a letter of endorsement for digital equity amendments in the city budget. In other outreach efforts for CTAB, DELN and DEI, committee members attended gatherings reviewing Equity related to employment development during the pandemic and the UW Evans School of Governance & Public Policy's "Imagining a More Equitable Future of Work".

Finally, the committee participated in the Technology Matching Fund (TMF) grant reviews which resulted in $590,000 in funding for 19 projects, benefiting programs affecting at least 5,150 residents. In TMF follow-up, the committee conducted meetings to listen and learn from non-profits and foster collaboration between CBO's, thus multiplying the value of TMF grants for residents. The committee looks forward to continuing its work in advancing digital equity and connecting CBOs in 2023.

Coleman Entringer, Digital Equity Committee Co-Chair
Harte Daniels, Digital Equity Committee Co-Chair