Increasing Access to Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program Activities in a Virtual Setting

STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES THAT TPP PROGRAMS CAN USE TO PROMOTE DIGITAL EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND LITERACY

Digital equity

ensures people can access and effectively use the technology necessary to participate in society, democracy, education, and the economy.

Digital inclusion

refers to efforts that remedy any deficits in digital equity.

Digital literacy

is the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills.¹



Community Level Resources

- Explore whether your city has a <u>Digital Equity Strategic Plan</u> funded through the national <u>Digital Equity Act of 2019</u>. Leverage funding opportunities to support digital skills training for youth and families, access to technology such as tablets and laptops, and increase broadband and internet connections.
- Partner with businesses, libraries, and buses in your community to serve as WiFi internet access hot spots for youth before and after school.
- Partner with local youth-serving organizations, like Boys and Girls Clubs, that provide youth with laptops while on-site.



Program Administration Resources

- Secure technology devices and internet service options for youth and families through PCs for People and Everyoneon.org.
- If partnering with schools, meet with schools' Chief Technical Officers to discuss opportunities for leveraging their digital equity, inclusion, and literacy programs with TPP efforts.
- <u>Survey parents and students</u> to assess the digital equity needs in your community.



Frontline Staff Resources

- Identify training on creative digital equity strategies to use in the classroom: <u>Tech Goes Home</u>, <u>Digital Promise</u>.
- Create paper packets that translate virtual lessons into engaging documents for students.
- Plan for internet hot spot use and stagger when students will be working with or uploading files to manage limited bandwidth.



General Digital Equity Resources

- National Digital Inclusion Alliance, a nonprofit that advocates for digital equity
- Learning.com's white paper: What Four Divides Teach About Digital Equity
- Digital Equity Act of 2019
- Digital Equity Toolkit

¹ National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NIDA). 2020. NIDA Definitions. Retrieved and adapted from https://www.digitalinclusion.org/definitions