PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20554

DA 22-201
March 2, 2022

FCC ANNOUNCES AGENDA FOR MARCH 3 DIGITAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force Hosting Virtual Symposium on
Advancing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health

GN Docket No. 22-43

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today announces the panels and panelists, as well as other speakers, for its Digital Health Symposium, which will be held (virtually) on March 3, 2022, from 10:00 am – 4:30 pm EST. The FCC's Connect2Health Task Force (Task Force) will host the event.

As reflected in the agenda provided below, this Symposium will gather thought leaders from a variety of disciplines representing the government and private sectors to discuss current evidence and the emerging value and implications of recognizing broadband connectivity as a "social determinant of health,"[1] as well as the implications for national broadband policies, population health, and government-wide efforts to address health and healthcare inequities. Achieving digital health equity through improving broadband access and adoption is an important FCC priority and will be an overarching theme of this event. We recognize that there are still too many people in too many places struggling to access high-speed Internet service and dealing with connectivity that falls short of what is necessary for full participation in the digital age, especially as it relates to health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

This virtual event relates to the Connect2Health Task Force's ongoing work at the intersection of broadband and health and on the role of broadband connectivity as a social determinant of health. Additional information about the Task Force's Advancing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health Initiative, including prior and ongoing research and analytics, are available at www.fcc.gov/health/SDOH.

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[1] "Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Healthy People 2030 – Social Determinants of Health, https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health (last visited March 1, 2022). They represent the many different factors (including education, health care access and quality, income, employment, neighborhood and built environment, social and community context) that shape our health or can serve as a predictor of one's health and well-being. C2H Task Force research and analysis suggests that broadband connectivity (i.e., in terms of access, adoption, and/or use) is another non-medical factor that affects health and health outcomes. *See* FCC, Connect2HealthFCC, Advancing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health, https://www.fcc.gov/health/SDOH.

- TENTATIVE AGENDA-

Date: **Thursday, March 3, 2022 (10:00 am – 4:30 pm EST) (Virtual)**

10:00 am – 10:20 am   **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**

10:20 am – 11:25 am   **PANEL 1: Current Perspectives—Relationship Between Broadband and Health**

- *Natalie C. Benda*, PhD, Dept. of Population Health Sciences, Weill Cornell Medicine
- *Carter R. Blakey*, Deputy Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, and Director of the Division of Community Strategies, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
- *Karen Onyeije*, JD, LLM, BS, Acting Deputy General Counsel, FCC, and Chief of Staff, Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force; and *Arielle Mancuso,* PhD, Director for Research and Data Analytics, Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force
- *Benjamin Sommers*, MD, PhD, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services; *Madjid "MJ" Karimi*, PhD, CPH, Division of Health Care Quality and Outcomes, Office of Health Policy, ASPE; and *Euny C. Lee*, PhD, MS, BA, CDC Public Health Informatics Fellow, ASPE

11:25 am – 11:35 am   **Break**

11:35 am – 12:00 pm   **Fireside Chat: The Value Proposition of Broadband Connectivity in Health**

Moderator: *David Ahern*, PhD, Senior Advisor, Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force

Guest: *Donald Berwick*, MD, MPP, FRCP, KBE, President Emeritus and Senior Fellow, Institute for Healthcare Improvement; Faculty, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School; Former Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm   **PANEL 2: How Connectivity is Enhancing Health and Transforming Health Care; Emerging Technologies and Innovations**

Moderator: *René Quashie*, Vice President of Policy & Regulatory Affairs, Digital Health, Consumer Technology Association

- *Michael R. Crawford*, MBA, MHL, Associate Dean for Strategy, Outreach, and Innovation, Howard University College of Medicine
- *Joe Drygas,* Vice President - Global Business – Healthcare, AT&T
- *Elisabeth Myers,* MBA, Deputy Director, Office of Policy, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology
- *Karen S. Rheuban*, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Senior Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education, and Director, University of Virginia Karen S. Rheuban Center for Telehealth
- *David C. Rhew*, MD, Global Chief Medical Officer, VP Healthcare, Worldwide Commercial, Microsoft

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	**Lunch**

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm **PANEL 3: Connecting the Dots: Establishing Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health Domain**

Moderator: *Chris Gibbons*, MD, MPH, Senior Advisor, Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force

- *Susan Dentzer*, MS, Incoming Chief Executive Officer, America's Physician Groups
- *Jill Egeth*, PhD, MS, BA, Managing Director, Healthcare Delivery & New Opportunities, The MITRE Corporation
- *Gretchen Purcell Jackson*, MD, PhD, FACS, FACMI, FAMIA, President and Board Chair, American Medical Informatics Association
- *Lauren Riplinger*, JD, BA, Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs, American Health Information Management Association
- *Gopal Singh*, PhD, MS, MSc, DPS, Senior Health Equity Advisor, Office of Health Equity, Health Resources & Services Administration

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **PANEL 4: Looking Ahead: Implications of Broadband Connectivity as a Social Determinant of Health Domain for Policy, Care, and Equity**

Moderator: *David Blumenthal*, MD, The Commonwealth Fund

- *Joshua Edmonds*, MPP, BA, Director of Digital Inclusion, Department of Innovation and Technology, City of Detroit
- *William England,* PhD, JD, Senior Advisor, Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Health Resources & Services Administration
- *John Horrigan*, PhD, BA, Senior Fellow, Benton Institute for Broadband and Society
- *Mikelle Moore*, MBA, MS, Senior Vice President and Chief Community Health Officer, Intermountain Healthcare
- *Jorge A. Rodriguez*, MD, Digital Health Equity Researcher and Hospitalist, Division of General Internal Medicine and Primary Care, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School
- *Adie Tomer*, MPP, BA, Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

3:30 pm – 3:35 pm	**Break**

3:35 pm – 4:25 pm **PANEL 5: Next Steps: A Focus on Broadband and Health Data and Social Determinants of Health Research**

Moderator: *David Ahern*, PhD, Senior Advisor, Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force

- *Robin Gelburd*, JD, President, FAIR Health
- *Kiersten Frobom*, MPA, BA, Senior Evidence Analyst on Evidence & Policy Analysis Team, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Population Health Institute, University of Wisconsin
- *Patricia Keenan*, PhD, Senior Researcher, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

- *Adam Perzynski*, PhD, Associate Professor, Center for Health Care Research and Policy in the Population Health Research Institute at MetroHealth and Case Western Reserve University; Founding Director of the Patient Centered Media Lab
- *Robin Vanderpool*, DrPH, Chief, Health Communication and Informatics Research Branch, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute

4:25 – 4:30 pm   **Closing Remarks**

REGISTRATION:

This virtual public event is free and will be accessible to the public via Zoom.gov. To register, please visit: https://mitre.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_vQdwl_nVSmyEIqdk2dJNPA

Online captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted via e-mail to fcc504@fc.gov or by calling the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for the FCC to contact the requester if more information is needed to fill the request. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill.

QUESTIONS: For event questions, contact the Connect2Health[FCC] Task Force by e-mail at connect2health@fcc.gov, and insert "Symposium Question" in the subject line.
For press inquiries, please contact Katie Gorscak, FCC Office of Media Relations, by e-mail at Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov.

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