**DA 22-980**

**Released: September 20, 2022**

**MEDIA BUREAU RELEASES AGENDA FOR**

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, SYMPOSIUM AND TOWN HALL ON DIGITAL SKILLS GAP**

***Former FCC Acting Chairwoman Mignon Clyburn to Deliver Keynote***

**GN Docket No. 17-208**

This Public Notice announces the agenda for the **September 22, 2022**, *Digital Skills Gap Symposium and Town Hall* hosted by the FCC’s Media Bureau and the Communications Equity and Diversity Council (CEDC). The virtual event will begin at 12:00 pm EDT and will feature a keynote by former FCC Acting Chairwoman Mignon Clyburn. The goal of the Symposium and Town Hall is to examine the issues and challenges that states and localities face in addressing the need for greater adoption of digital skills training. The Symposium and Town Hall will provide information to attendees on what federal and state government entities, non-profit sector, community-based organizations, and other diverse stakeholders are doing to close the digital divide and advance digital literacy for all Americans. The agenda for the Symposium and Town Hall is attached to this Public Notice as an appendix.

The Symposium will feature a panel discussion to present information on the Digital Equity Act (DEA), the FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), and other efforts to address access to broadband. The event will also feature a robust Town Hall discussion with experts from a range of perspectives, including faith-based institutions, civil rights organizations, digital literacy services, library services, local government, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

The event will be convened in an online format and will be available to the public via live feed from the FCC’s web page at [www.fcc.gov/live](http://www.fcc.gov/live). The public may also follow the Symposium/Town Hall on the Commission’s YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/user/fccdotgovvideo>. In addition, the public may follow the event on Twitter@fcc or via the Commission’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/fcc](http://www.facebook.com/fcc). Members of the public may submit questions during the panel discussion and the Town Hall to [livequestions@fcc.gov](mailto:livequestions@fcc.gov).

Open 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@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.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. Please allow at least five days’ advance notice for accommodation requests; last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to accommodate.

Members of the public may submit written comments to the CEDC using the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System, ECFS, at [www.fcc.gov/ecfs](http://www.fcc.gov/ecfs). Any comments should be filed in GN Docket No. 17-208.

More information about the CEDC is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/communications-equity-and-diversity-council>. You may also contact Jamila Bess Johnson, the Designated Federal Officer for the Communications Equity and Diversity Council, at (202) 418-2608, or [Jamila-Bess.Johnson@fcc.gov](mailto:Jamila-Bess.Johnson@fcc.gov);or Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418-0965 or [Keyla.Hernandez-Ulloa@fcc.gov](mailto:Keyla.Hernandez-Ulloa@fcc.gov); or Aurelie Mathieu, Attorney Advisor, WCB, at (202) 418-2194 or [Aurelie.Mathieu@fcc.gov](mailto:Aurelie.Mathieu@fcc.gov).

**– FCC –**

**APPENDIX**

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**“DIGITAL SKILLS GAP SYMPOSIUM AND TOWN HALL”**

**Co-Sponsored by the**

**Media Bureau**

**and the**

**Communications Equity and Diversity Council**

**Federal Communications Commission**

**Washington, D.C. 20554**

**September 22, 2022**

**12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**

***\* indicates a member of the Communications Equity and Diversity Council***

12:00 pm **Introduction**

Jamila Bess Johnson, Designated Federal Officer

Communications Equity and Diversity Council

Media Bureau

**Welcome Remarks and Introduction of the Keynoter**

Susan Au Allen, National President and CEO

US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce Education Fund\*

CEDC Vice Chair

12:05 pm — **Keynote Address**

12:15 pm Former Acting FCC Chairwoman Mignon Clyburn

12:15 pm **Symposium Panel: Affordable Connectivity Program, Digital Equity**

1:30 pm **Act and Other National Efforts to Address Broadband Access**

*Moderator*:

Heather Gate, Vice President

Connected Nation\*

CEDC Chair

*Panelists:*

Angela Thi Bennett, Digital Equity Director

US Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications

and Information Administration

Sally Doty, Director

Mississippi Broadband Office

Rashann Duvall, Assistant Division Chief

Telecommunications Access Policy Division

Wireline Competition Bureau

Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, CEDC

John Horrigan, Senior Fellow

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society

Katherine Keegan, Director

Office of the Future of Work

Colorado Department of Labor

Angela Siefer, Executive Director

National Digital Inclusion Alliance\*

Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group Member, CEDC

1:30 pm — **Q & A Session** (Members of the Public, CEDC Members)

1:45 pm

1:45 pm — **SYMPOSIUM BREAK**

2:00 pm

2:00 pm **Digital Skills Gap Town Hall**

**Opening Remarks**

Robert Brooks, Digital Solutions Specialist

WHUR-FM, Howard University\*

Chair, Innovation and Access Working Group, CEDC

2:05 pm — *Moderators*:

3:30 pmMatthew Bauer, Vice President and Executive Director

Connected Communities, Wireless Research Center\*

Lead, Digital Skills Workstream,

Innovation and Access Working Group Member, CEDC

Dr. Dianne Lynch, President

Stephens College\*

Subject Matter Expert,

Innovation and Access Working Group, CEDC

Leticia Latino-Van Spluteren, CEO

Neptuno USA\*

Innovation and Access Working Group Member, CEDC

*Town Hall Participants:*

Susan Corbett, Founder

National Digital Equity Center\*

Innovation and Access Working Group Member, CEDC

Dr. Jon Gant, Dean, School of Library and Information Sciences

North Carolina Central University\*

Subject Matter Expert,

Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group, CEDC

Kari Gray, Digital Equity Program Director

Community Tech Network

Allison Grubbs, Director

Broward County Libraries Division

State of Florida

Elizabeth Gillum, Digital Navigator

SOAR (Shaping Our Appalachian Region) Kentucky

Erica Hixon, North Carolina Program Director

Digital Bridge, Wireless Research Center

Kermit Kaleba, Strategy Director for Employer Aligned Credential Programs

Lumina Foundation

Alonso Meléndez, Digital Equity and Inclusion Coordinator

Multnomah County Library

Portland, Oregon

Pamela Price, Deputy Director

Balm in Gilead

Andrew Tein, Public Sector Partnerships and Customer Success

Coursera

Dr. Harold Trulear, Associate Professor of Applied Theology

Howard University School of Divinity

National Director, Healing Communities

Joseph Valandra, Sr., Vice President

Tribal Communications, LLC

Jeff Wissel, Chief Accessibility Officer

Disability:IN

Juliet Fink Yates, Digital Inclusion Manager

Office of Innovation and Technology

City of Philadelphia

3:30 pm — **Q & A Session** (Members of the Public, CEDC Members)

3:45 pm

3:45 pm — **Symposium/Town Hall Summary and** **Closing Remarks**

4:00 pm Eve Lewis, Assistant City Attorney

City of Coconut Creek, Florida\*

Innovation and Access Working Group Member, CEDC

Sherman Kizart, Managing Director and Founder

Kizart Media Partners\*

Innovation and Access Working Group Member, CEDC

Heather Gate, Vice President

Connected Nation\*

CEDC Chair

Jamila Bess Johnson, Designated Federal Officer

Communications Equity and Diversity Council

Media Bureau