

Work Group: Advanced Communications Services and Technology
Consultant: David Hosley, President
Organization: Great Valley Center
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Phone: 209.522.5103
Email: hosley@greatvalley.org

By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

- a. = Description of Activity**
- b. = Planned Activities**
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

Goal 1: Expedite the provision of advanced communications services access in all areas of the San Joaquin Valley.

Objective A: Raise the profile of access to ACS as a fundamental and necessary service for all residents and businesses.

- a. Work group working to determine the feasibility of establishing a Regional Advanced Communications Office (RASCO)
- b. Now that broadband is widely available, the work group will begin working on adoption rates
- c. Providing low-income community members with ACS continues to be a barrier

Objective B: Inform local elected officials about the benefits of ubiquitous access to ACS and provide model policies and other tools to help facilitate deployment.

- a. Conversations around the necessity of developing a plan to approach local elected officials using the PPIC report and Wireline Broadband availability map
- b. Gathering of reports and mapping and determining which parts should be included in our document
- c. Determining which information will be the most effective to provide to elected officials to support the benefits of ubiquitous ACS access for their citizens

Objective C: Identify communities and neighborhoods without affordable connection to delivery of ACS.

- a. Wireline Broadband Availability San Joaquin Map now available and being used by work group
- b. Use of the availability map to increase adoption rates
- c. None

Objective D: Increase availability of affordable ACS in rural and other underserved areas.

- a. With the completion of availability maps we will not work to address adoption rates and work to spread programs to provide ACS to rural and other underserved communities
- b. Looking to duplicate current programs which provide computers to low-income residents such as the Pixley Project
- c. Locating funding to support low- or no-cost computers and training to rural and other underserved areas

Objective E: Increase deployment of ACS by current and prospective service providers.

- a. Encourage CPUUC, CSAC, LCC, CSBA and the CETF to participate in ACS work group meetings
- b. Request above representatives and other stakeholders to participate in ACS work group meetings to identify barriers and develop an action plan
- c. Availability of stakeholders and representatives

Objective F: Increase deployment through wired, fixed wireless, wireless and other available technologies.

- a. There are a number of forums already in existence that have this function so we now need to develop educational tools, such as a primer, to support
- b. Development of an education primer
- c. None

Objective G: Eliminate installation barriers that discourage deployment.

- a. Caltrans has agreed to install conduit where possible in new projects
- b. Invite Caltrans to discuss where conduit has been installed and will be installed
- c. None

Objective H: Identify and seek all available funding for deployment of ACS.

- a. Resources have been identified, compilation and distribution is now needed
- b. We will work to determine if the work group can apply for funding to support the deployment of ACS
- c. Competitive grants

Objective I: Leverage unused bandwidth for the benefit of the greatest number of users.

- a. We will now work to create a guide book or primer document to support
- b. Development of guide book or primer document
- c. Determining what should be included and excluded in the book

Objective J: Incorporate ACS infrastructure into all new residential and commercial construction.

- a. Discussed working with BIA to determine what is the latest in building technology and work to encourage the use of it in all building structures
- b. Provide a workshop around smart building to BIA and other stakeholders (city managers, etc.)
- c. Cost

Goal 2: Promote accessibility and utilization of ACS in targeting underserved communities and populations.

Objective A: Increase utilization of ACS by all residents.

- a. GVC continued to look for ways to expand the Pixley model; discussion has occurred around other reprograms that also work to provide community members with ACS, such as the Stanislaus County T3 program
- b. At next meeting, the Stanislaus County T3 program representative will speak to discuss their program and how we can work to expand it

Objective B: Inform local officials about the importance and benefits of access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses.

- a. Work to create a primer for elected officials
- b. Create a road map to help elected officials see why ACS is beneficial to their communities

Objective C: Implement projects to provide access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses to eliminate the digital divide.

- a. Working on developing a mass plan to communicate to stakeholders the importance of ACS Valleywide
- b. Determine what programs in and out of California provide ACS and IT to residents especially low income residents. Contact Emerging Technology Foundation and companies who may turn over their equipment every few years.

Objective D: Develop and implement a program to ensure all high school students graduate with the basic computer literacy skills.

- a. We must work with the Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group to determine how we can expand access, educate and complete like goals.
- b. Invite HEWD to ACS work group meeting
- c. None

Objective E: Expand the number of public locations for access to ACS to help disadvantaged residents and businesses to bridge the digital divide.

- a. Discussion took place at the last ACS work group meeting regarding where hot spots are for disadvantaged residents. It was determined all government buildings and libraries should be hot spots. We also needed to determine which businesses provide hot spots in small communities who may not have government buildings, etc.
- b. Determine which businesses provide free wireless access
- c. Many believe Wi-Fi market will take care of demand needs to encourage businesses located in rural low-income communities to provide hot spots for them

Goal 3: Expand and replicate successful model programs to increase access to ACS and IT to bridge the digital divide.

Objective A: Develop and implement a plan to expand and replicate the most successful strategies and programs to bridge the digital divide.

- a. We are now working to identify and replicate programs that bridge the digital divide. See also goal 2, objective A.
- b. At next meeting, Stanislaus County T3 program representative will speak to discuss their program and how we can work to expand it.

Objective B: Foster demand for ACS access in underserved and disadvantaged communities, such as encouraging economic development and growth of home-based businesses.

- a. Currently working to determine which groups are currently working with underserved communities in order to encourage economic development and increased use of ACS
- b. Identification of organizations serving disadvantaged communities
- c. Funding to provide computers and training for home businesses to disadvantaged communities

Goal 4: Accelerate deployment of ACS infrastructure through telemedicine and eHealth technology.

Objective A: Develop and implement a telemedicine and eHealth plan to connect health clinics with medical centers.

- a. Presentation of Telehealth Program provided at the Partnership board meeting. Maria Pallavicini PhD has been named as head of the department; we are working with her to further the program.
- b. Invite Dr. Pallavicini to ACS work group meeting to discuss telehealth program.

Objective B: Build upon ACS infrastructure for telemedicine and eHealth to promote other applications for education and economic development to increase access and affordability.

- a. Work group to gather data on current infrastructure

If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.

Great Valley Center continues to coordinate outreach for ACS work group activities.