



C. Socioeconomic Impacts (RFC questions 10 -12)

This comment relates to the research and evaluation needs regarding the socioeconomic impacts of digital inclusion through broadband access and training.

The NTIA should research the impact of broadband-enriched household economic enhancement programs that may jeopardize the economic stability of working poor households who earn slightly less and above 100 percent of the federal poverty thresholds.

I have partnered with community organizations in the digital literacy training space for income support (i.e. contracted services) that have shared uncertainties about technology-based program offerings that aim to improve the earning potential of clients through freelance technological entrepreneurial opportunities (i.e. media production) that result in modest and/or temporary increases household earnings while jeopardizing continued eligibility for vital public benefits that sustain families daily needs. These findings will enable service providers to offer programs that are tailored around these needs and inform clients of the short- and long-term financial impact of these pursuits.