

- Implementation Activity 4.2: Integrate cybersecurity and privacy training into curricula being implemented by digital navigators and other digital literacy efforts across the state.
- **Strategy 5**: Ensure that North Carolinians have access to digital devices to meet their needs.
 - Implementation Activity 5.1: Increase public access to devices at community anchor institutions.
 - Implementation Activity 5.2: Increase the supply of no cost and low-cost devices in North Carolina's device ecosystem.
 - Implementation Activity 5.3: Develop and sustain a high-volume refurbishment and distribution system that supports the efficient movement of devices throughout the ecosystem and that matches computing devices with the unique needs of the intended Covered Populations.
 - Implementation Activity 5.4: Utilize trained and qualified partners for device deployment and technical support.

SUSTAINABILITY

All the strategies and activities outlined above should work together to build and strengthen a strong digital equity network (often described as an ecosystem) to meet digital needs of all covered populations. This network will be the backbone of the work, ensuring digital needs are met and that programs are sustainable long after Digital Equity Act funding has been spent. The division is committed to sustaining a healthy, robust digital equity network into the future that includes 1) Sustaining a diverse, inclusive community of digital equity practitioners, and 2) Building capacity across the state to identify and meet local needs.

ALIGNMENT WITH STATE PLANS AND GOALS

This digital equity plan was not created in a vacuum, and it will not be implemented in one. The division's community driven planning process confirmed the interconnectedness of both the challenges covered populations face, and the solutions that will close the digital divide. Alignment with state strategic priorities, including economic and workforce development goals, plans, and outcomes; educational outcomes; health outcomes; civic and social engagement; and delivery of other essential services, is paramount to the division's success in implementing the strategies outlined in this plan.