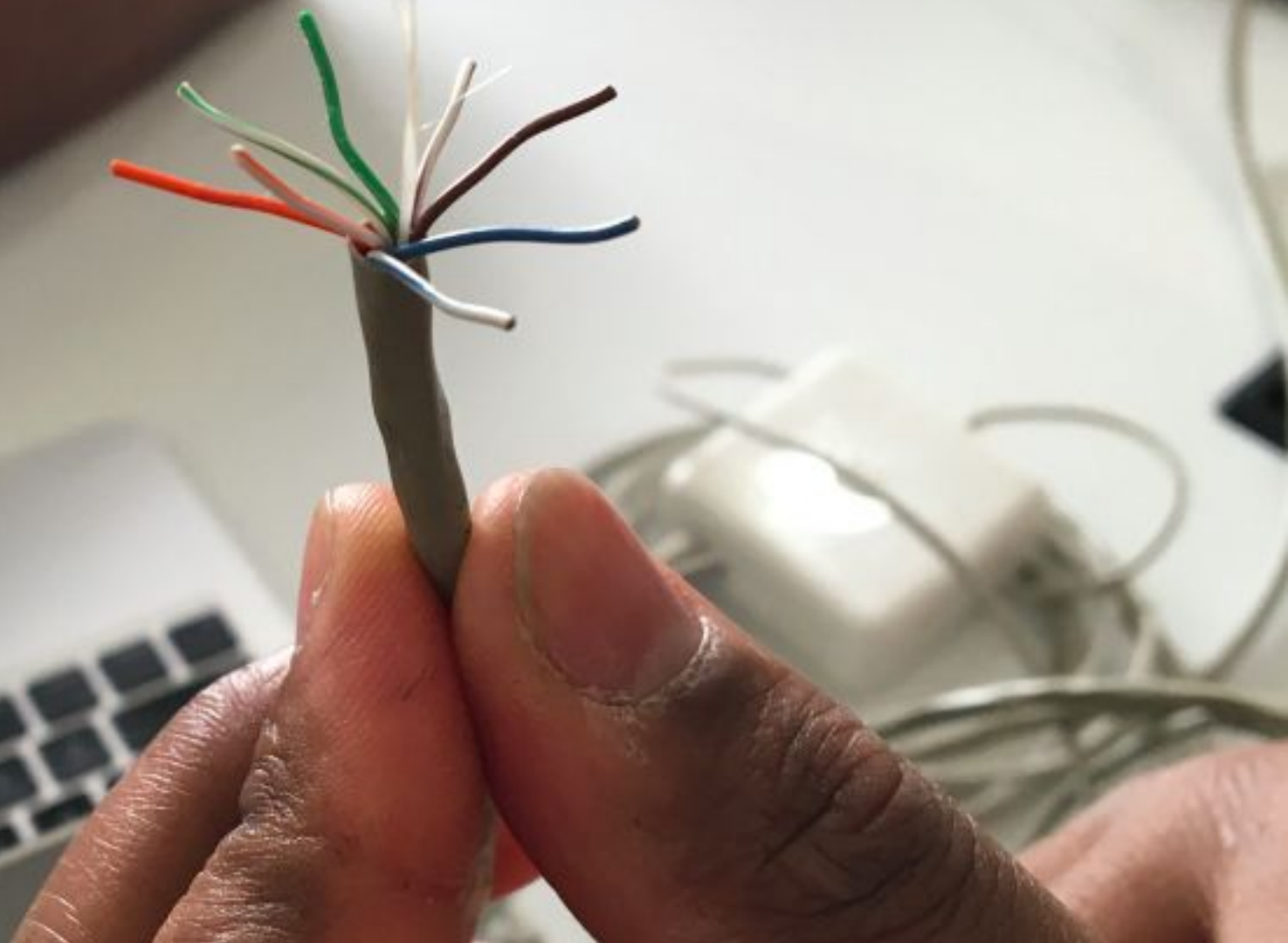


October 8, 2020



Building C

A sho



Building C

A sho



Building C

A sho









Building C

A sho



Buffalo-Niagara Region: Digital Equity Initiative

Key Themes for Today's Discussion

- Leveraging Collaborative Partnerships
- Building the Puzzle Together
- Ensuring a Community-driven Process



PPG/Cornell High Road Fellows Program



JOHN R. OISHEI FOUNDATION

Our Mission

To enhance the economic vitality and quality of life for the Buffalo-Niagara region through grantmaking, leadership and network building.



1997-
1998



JOHN R. OISHEI FOUNDATION



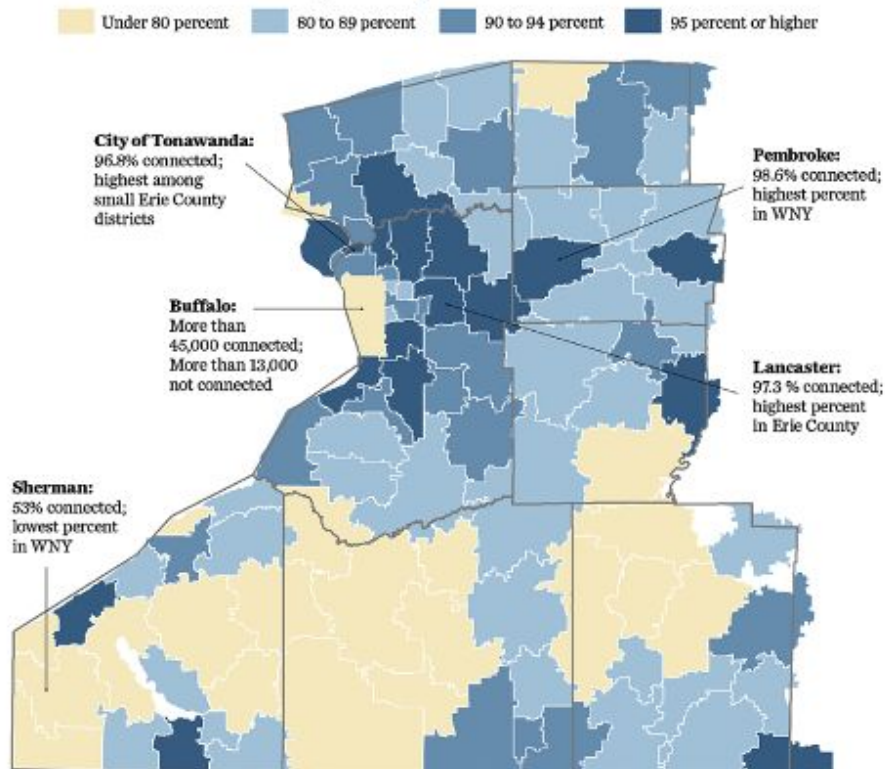
COVID-19 Exacerbating Inequalities

- Unemployment rate – 10% (30%)
- Nearly 40,000 children across WNY, live in a household without either a computer or high-speed internet.
- Virtual platform is here to stay; education, telehealth, workforce development, accessing services and community organizing.
- Enormous and complicated issue; multi-faceted solutions (public & private)
- Opportunities – willingness to partner, creative solutions and a sense of urgency



Digitally connected students by school district

Percentage with computer and broadband



WNY Digital Connectivity Map - Buffalo News – 05/2020



JOHN R. OISHEI FOUNDATION

POTENTIAL PARTNERS



WNY DIGITAL DIVIDE LANDSCAPE



Digital Equity Initiative

- Needs Assessment
- Coalition Building
- Models & Networks
- Digital Equity Plan
- PNK Pilot/Training

Supporting Disinvested Communities

“Designing their own Futures”

1. Community-driven approach

- Authentic collaborations with the experts
 - Grassroots to help identify root causes
 - Communities impacted have the knowledge to guide their own change
- Motivation for change requires one to be “a part of” the process

2. Partnership with CTNY

- Strategic partnerships—a core value at the Foundation
- Leveraging relationship and experience
- Develop a digital equity coalition of community members
 - Guidance of best practices
 - A starting point to build on existing resources



Open Buffalo – Est. the City's First Community Land Trust



Existing Partnerships/Initiatives are Key to Success

1. Strategic Partnerships

- Established relationships with stakeholders
 - Building on relationships with Grantees
- Ensuring representation of various sectors
 - Five focus areas
- Common understanding
 - Purpose, Outcome and Process
- Accountability
- Commitment to transparency
- Trust



Partnership for the Public Good – Community Agenda Meeting



Existing Partnerships/Initiatives are Key to Success

2. Say Yes Buffalo

- Support to City of Buffalo residents and Buffalo Public Schools students and families
- Range of stakeholders including public, private, government, community-based organizations, parents, youth and student voice

3. WNY Nonprofit Support Group

- Key themes from counties on nonprofit needs in recovery

4. Partnership for the Public Good

- Community organizing
- Flexibility to meet communities where they are
 - Guidance and capacity building
- Advocacy
 - Long-term change/sustainability

VIRTUAL LEARNING SUPPORT CENTERS
October 5 - December 30, 7:30am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri

In-person community centers where Buffalo students, K-8 can participate in remote instruction and receive supervision, support, meals, and WiFi connectivity.

- ✓ VLSC sites will be available at no cost to most Buffalo families with income under 85% of the State Median Income. *
- ✓ Transportation will NOT be provided.
- ✓ Registration and applications will be handled by the VLSC sites individually.
- ✓ A list and map of these sites can be found at SayYesBuffalo.org/SupportCenters.

*Family Size	Income Threshold
1	\$52,794
2	\$68,255
3	\$84,317
4	\$100,377
5	\$116,437
6	\$132,498
7	\$148,559
8	\$164,620

Presented by the County of Erie's Live Well Erie Cares 421 Child Care Funding, Buffalo Public Schools, and Say Yes Buffalo.

Say Yes Buffalo – Virtual Learning Support Centers



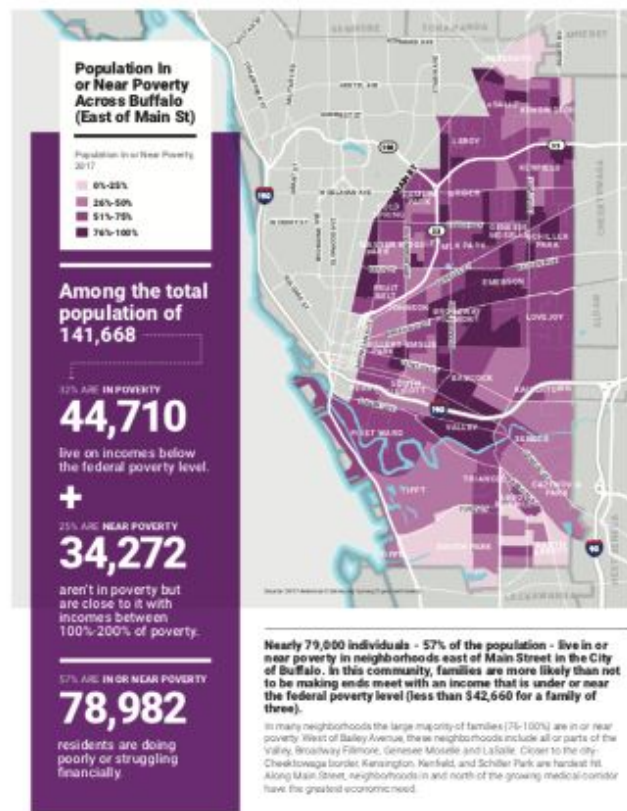
Existing Partnerships/Initiatives are Key to Success

5. Community Conversations

- Focused on organizations with leaders of color

6. Mobile Safety-Net Team (MSNT)

- Formed to meet a community need by the Foundation (2008)
- Greater understanding of communities in our region
 - Rural & Urban
 - Diverse group of stakeholders
 - Data and information—Numbers In Need
 - <https://numbersinneed.org>



MSNT – Numbers in Need Report



Where We are in the Process

1. Needs Assessment—intentional to connect the dots

- Working with our community partners – complementary efforts, both public and private
 - Opportunity to hear from the City of Buffalo's Needs Assessment RFP
 - WNYNSG– Stakeholder Conversations
- Opportunity to hear from the community
 - Forming authentic collaborations to expand efforts

2. Digital equity lens – training and sustainability

- Experiential learning opportunities
- Community coalitions—existing and new
- Workforce and employment opportunities



City of Buffalo – West Side



Lessons Learned

1. Build the capacity of orgs. – “only shop in town”
2. Process is an outcome – don’t let urgency and outside pressure get in the way
3. Despite a complex landscape remain focused on complementary solutions
4. Plug into existing groups and coalitions
5. Building trust and strong partnerships takes time



Building C

A sho



THE POINT

WHERE COMMUNITY AND CREATIVITY CONNECT



South Bronx Community Resiliency





Strategic Focus

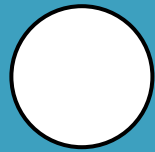
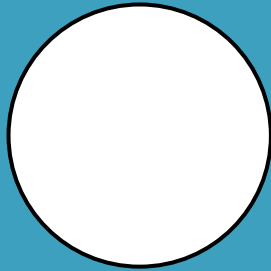


Bx.C.R.E. Model

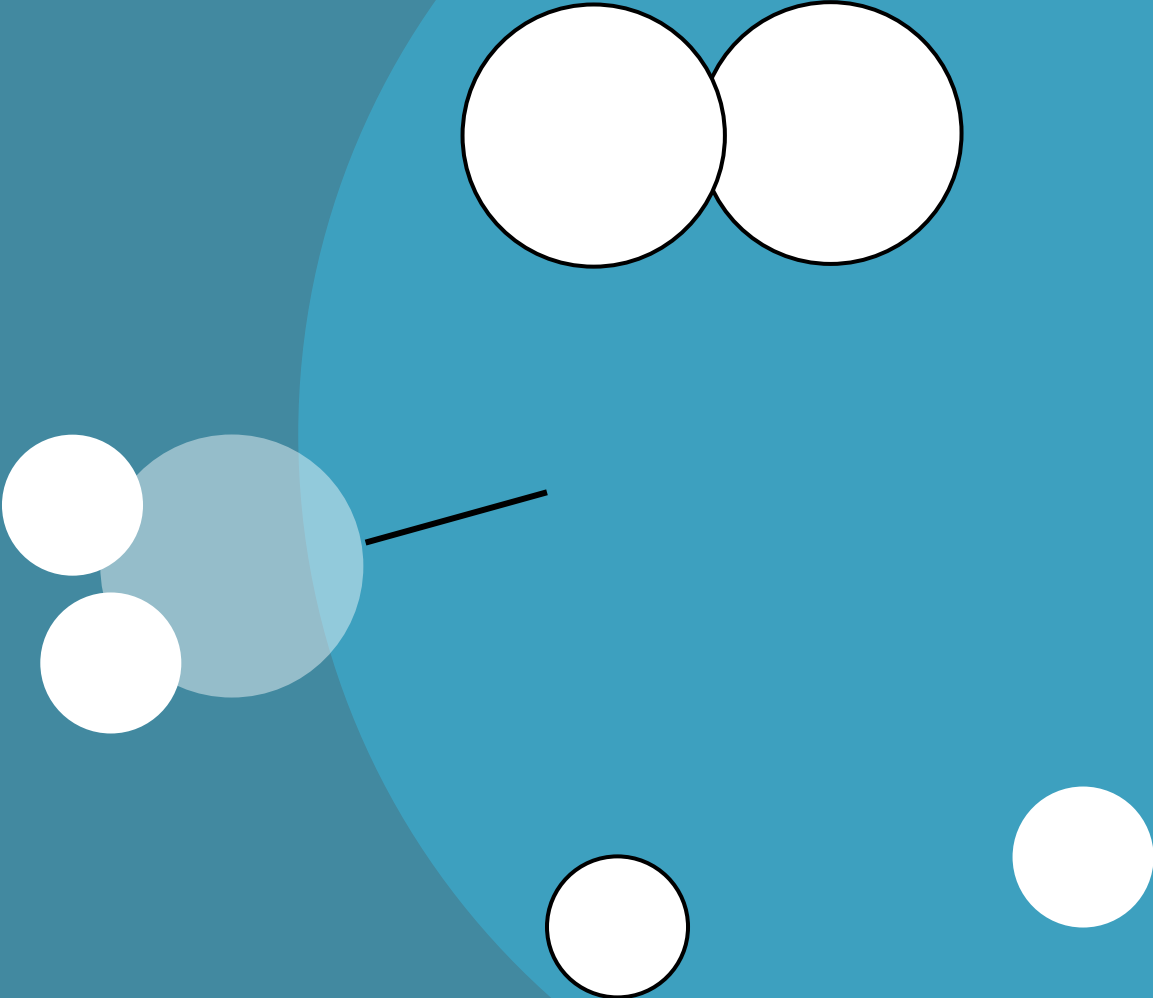
Each area of need is led by a



The Bronx Community



The Bronx Community





er 8, 2020
g Communi
and Webinar

