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City of Racine Named One of Nation's Digital Inclusion Trailblazers for 2025

RACINE, WI — The [National Digital Inclusion Alliance](#) (NDIA) named the City of Racine as a [2025 Digital Inclusion Trailblazer](#), recognizing the City of Racine's efforts to close the digital divide.

Digital inclusion – access to affordable high-speed internet, devices, and digital skills training – is essential to participating and thriving in today's world. Recognizing the ongoing needs of the community, the City of Racine continues in its efforts towards digital equity.

“The City of Racine's vision is to be a community where every member can actively participate and thrive in our digital society, and the lives of all residents of Racine will be improved through equitable access to the internet, devices, and digital skills training,” stated Racine Chief Information Officer Adele Edwards. “We are proud to be recognized as a Visionary Digital Inclusion Trailblazer and are expanding our digital access effort into Southeast Wisconsin with even more partners.”

This year, the City of Racine joins 58 other Digital Inclusion Trailblazers, paving the way for digitally inclusive communities across the US.

“Nonprofits, libraries, churches, and other community organizations can't reach digital equity on their own. For everyone to thrive in today's digital world, we need all hands on deck,” said Angela Siefer, NDIA executive director. “NDIA's Digital Inclusion Trailblazer program exemplifies the key role of local governments in building digital opportunities for all of their residents.”

Trailblazers provide models for other local governments to aspire to as communities build digital inclusion ecosystems. The City of Racine achieved Trailblazer status by prioritizing digital inclusion through sustained, community-driven collaboration. Central to this effort is the Digital Divide Roundtable (DDR), a three-year initiative that convened more than 125 participants from over 55 community-based organizations, and public and private institutions committed to advancing digital equity citywide.

Through the DDR, the City and its partners delivered concrete, resident-focused outcomes, including the City of Racine Digital Equity Plan, Racine Digital Literacy Fairs, annual Digital Inclusion Week programming, and the Digital Connectivity and Navigators Grant Program. These initiatives work in tandem with public resources like the City's Digital Inclusion StoryMap, which helps residents understand Racine's digital equity challenges and the City's approach to closing gaps in access and skills.

The Trailblazer program [identifies seven categories](#) of current best practices. Each applicant's materials are verified for accuracy, assessed for community impact, and [posted in an interactive map and searchable database](#) on NDIA's website. By sharing materials with open-sourcing, NDIA provides community advocates and local governments ways to continue learning, connect with trailblazing peers, and plan their own digital inclusion solutions.

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About National Digital Inclusion Alliance: NDIA advances digital equity by supporting community programs and equipping policymakers to act. Working collaboratively with over 2000 affiliates, NDIA advocates for equitable broadband access, tech devices, digital skills training, and tech support. For more information, visit digitalinclusion.org.