National Rural Health Day

- Proud Supporter of National Rural Health Day
- Learn more at powerofrural.org
Webinar Tips and Notes

• Your phone &/or computer microphone has been muted.
• If we do not reach your question, please contact your regional TRC. There may be delays in response time: https://telehealthresourcecenter.org/contact-us/
• Please fill out the post-webinar survey.
• Closed Captioning is available.
• Please submit your questions using the Q&A function.
• The webinar is being recorded.
• Recordings will be posted to our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/c/nctrc
About the Network of the National Library of Medicine

NNLM Offers
• Funding
• Outreach
• Training

National Initiatives
• Confronting Health Misinformation
• Bridging the Digital Divide
• Environmental Determinants of Health

www.nnlm.gov
Libraries as Telehealth Access Points

Libraries are equipped to serve as *telehealth access points*.

- Community anchors
- Digital access/connectivity
- Private, safe spaces
Library Telehealth Takes Many Forms

- Device Lending
- Infrastructure Updates
- Staffing
- Partnerships
- Privacy
Kearns Library, Utah
Pottsboro Area Library, Texas
Delaware Libraries Telehealth Services
Telehealth 101: What Libraries Need to Know

Libraries across the United States are beginning to offer patrons access to telehealth services as a strategy for addressing inequities in digital access to healthcare. Explore library telehealth programs, why they are important, and how it enables greater access to quality healthcare. Join us for this self-paced, 3 hour course.

Register on nnlm.gov/training

Scheduled facilitated Moodle course

Three one hour modules

CHIS credit available
Course Objectives

- **Recognize** the different approaches/models to providing telehealth access within libraries.
- **Identify** infrastructure-related resources available to the library for providing telehealth services.
- **Describe** the role of the library in support of digital skills training for telehealth.
- **Discuss** considerations such as privacy and policy for offering telehealth access within libraries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Service</th>
<th>Delaware Libraries</th>
<th>Hawaii State Public Libraries</th>
<th>Pottsboro Area Library (Texas)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Device lending: Provide mobile hotspots for patrons to access telehealth on their own devices</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Device lending: Provide laptops for patrons to check-out for telehealth appointments</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library infrastructure: Dedicate or repurpose existing library space and/or technology for private telehealth access (i.e. meeting room, storage room, etc.)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library infrastructure: Develop new library space and/or technology for private telehealth access (i.e. kiosk, mobile cart, etc.)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library staffing: Support existing library staff to understand scope of service and impact on workflows</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library staffing: Engage telehealth navigators and/or community health workers dedicated to telehealth support for patrons</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community partners: Engage healthcare providers, telehealth resource centers, community health workers, Accountable Care Networks, or others to co-design scope of services</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community partners: Consider evolving telehealth model into teleservices model with additional partners - connecting patrons to employment, social service, and other critical community infrastructure</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privacy: Ensure patron privacy for telehealth services (i.e. sound dampening panels, white noise machines, etc.)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privacy: Evaluate and/or update library privacy policies (i.e., create a consent or release of liability form specifically for telehealth)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Numbers Reached

 Reached 41 States!

- **151** registered
- **88** started training
- **53** completed
- **12** from MCMLA

*Darker = higher registration*
What Learners Said

“The most useful aspect was being able to see how other libraries are using telehealth services and being exposed to new resources for telehealth information and funding.”

“Colleague discussion and recorded dialogue about implementing telehealth helped me think about how different groups that use my library could be affected by adjustments [we'd] have to make to implement these services.”

“Being exposed to existing telehealth programs was invaluable. The fact that both programs were quite different in setting / funding was great to see as well.”

“The offered list of funding opportunities has motivated me to consider this for my library. Seeing specific examples of telehealth helps me imagine this in my own library as well.”

“I am so fired up, I would be searching for grant opportunities instead of writing this evaluation.”
Bridging the Digital Divide: Telehealth and Libraries

*Telehealth's Double-edged Sword*

Dr. Katherine Gergen Barnett  
Boston Medical Center  
Dr. Rebecca Mishuris  
Mass General Brigham  
Dec. 5 @ 1 p.m. EST/11 am. MST
Future Plans

**Telehealth Forum**

Pilot project until January 2024

Open to selected group interested in telehealth

Nationwide membership

Provides a vehicle for sharing information and asking questions

Hope to have more info soon
How to Us

Region 4

George Strawley
gorge.strawley@utah.edu

Dana Abbey
dana.abbey@cuanschutz.edu
AZ Public Libraries Telehealth Services

NCTRC Webinar Nov 16

Malavika Muralidharan BS MLS
Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records
mala@azlibrary.gov
Arizona State Library – Telemedicine Program

- A Division of the Secretary of State – Arizona
- State Library Branches take care of
  - Archives and Public Records
  - Arizona Talking Book Library
  - E-rate – reimbursements for internet and internal connections
  - Broadband related projects
- Library Development including
  - Digital Inclusion, Online Resources
  - Tribal Libraries
- Law and Research
Challenges to health care

Distances - Redlake Chapter to Tuba City Regional Healthcare Walk in Clinic = 24 miles
Broadband — Availability and affordability
Childcare- when caregivers themselves needs health-care


Taking time-off from work- it sometimes takes half/full day to take a family member to and from their healthcare appointment

22 officially recognized Tribes in AZ – mostly rural.
Arizona Libraries – a vision for TeleHealth

• **To Provide Connectivity:**
  • Libraries have connectivity through E-rate funding and during COVID, provided WiFi in parking lots.
  • Employed Navigators funded through LSTA to assist patrons
  • Mobile Broadband: Where possible, Mobile Vans equipped with WiFi Antennae to go out into the community. Now these will provide Health kits and computers to connect to their Health services.

• **To Provide Equipment:** Provide Libraries with Health Kits Digital scale; blood pressure cuff; no touch thermometer); EKO stethoscope  software and license; Glucometer; pulse-oximeter; weigh scale; Laptops.

• **To Encourage Partnerships:** The State Library is partnering with SWTRC and U of A Telehealth team and with County Health Dept. and U of A Nursing School of Nursing to get an RN and student nurses visit the libraries.

• **To Provide Training:** Train Health Navigators, and Community Health Workers.

• **To Serving the unserved or underserved:** especially those who do not have broadband access at home and connecting patients with Health Care providers several hundred miles away.

*To pilot a program that is replicable and sustainable throughout Arizona Libraries.*
Why Libraries? : Private Conversations in Public Places

Libraries have internet access, are trusted place, are in every community, have the equipment needed – computers with camera, scanner, many can provide the space and tech help needed, customer care, and some have private rooms/ kiosks and more.

Librarians are caring, customer friendly and tech savvy.

“Libraries can do for telehealth what they did for broadband: Provide low-income folks with access to digital and healthcare literacy.”

- Craig Settles - a huge advocate of Telehealth in Libraries
These nurses help library patrons with hygiene, behavioral issues, immunizations, and substance abuse issues. They also direct people to the appropriate channels to help with healthcare, transportation, getting valid ID, or setting up appointments, as many of these individuals do not have access to a phone. They are advocates for health care and caregiver for those needing assistance.
Arizona: what has been done pre-COVID
Resources and Programs -2

- **Pima County Public Library**
  - One of the 1st in the country with a Registered Nurse visiting the Library 4 days a week and helping the homeless since 2012

- **Many libraries**
  - Loan Hot Spots and I-pads to patrons to use at home.

- **Many libraries**
  - Provide Health related information eg Medline Plus, HealthCare.gov, COVID-19 resources

- **Many libraries provide**
  - Nutrition, Wellness, Fitness, Yoga Programs for adults and children

- **Now 500,000 households in AZ** are signed up for ACP
  - Arizona Schools and Libraries applied for $200 M for Hot Spots and devices- ECF

- **And now…**
  - Will provide meeting rooms and health kits for making their telehealth meetings with their Health Service Provider
Arizona: what has been done so far?

Provide Access to Health Information

Healthcare.gov
Information about the Health Insurance Marketplace health plans for individuals and businesses as available through the Affordable Care Act.

MedlinePlus Health Information
Current, reliable, easy-to-understand information about health issues, medications, and treatments in over 40 languages.

MyHealthfinder
Resources on a wide range of health topics selected to bring you the best, most reliable health information on the Internet.

COVID-19 Research Database from ProQuest
Stay up to date with the current research coming from open-access and other resources about Coronavirus and the pandemic.
Arizona Libraries during COVID

Wi-Fi in Parking Lots * More digital services * Staff producing programs from home * Curbside service* Mobile Vans with Hot Spots * Distributing free COVID kits *
Extending TeleHealth Services through Libraries: Pima County was selected as they had prior experience. In Pima County the Ajo and Arivaca Libraries were chosen as they were rural, remote south of the check-point, where getting to health care was a challenge. This project was supported with LSTA funds in partnership with the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center of U of A and expert consultation from NAU.

**HealthConnect Telehealth in Libraries Package** • laptop with ZOOM, HD camera, echo cancelling microphone • digital stethoscope • digital scale • blood pressure cuff • pulse oximeter • no touch thermometer • anti-microbial tents to provide space for training and screening • tables & chairs • cleaning supplies

**Our Team:** Michelle Simon and Ken Zambo, Karyn Pretchel-Altman (Pima County) Mala and Erin Lorandos (State Library) Janet Major (U Of A SWTRC) and Dr. Kim Shea and her students (U Of A School of Nursing)
Partnerships and Collaborations

- A partnership with U of A Health Sciences provides student nurses to assist patrons if needed.
- A partnership with the County Health Services provides Nurses to visit the library and assist patrons and mentor the accompanying student nurses.
- Arizona Telemedicine program through the SWTRC provides resources and support and expertise.
- State Library through IMLS-LSTA grants making available medical portable kits.
- State Library also helps Libraries obtain broadband funding through E-rate.
- AZBSN and ADIN provide partnerships with organizations that are interested in assisting with telehealth.
- Connect Arizona an initiative of the State Library has Digital Navigators that assist with Technology and getting internet at home through the ACP
Pilot was inaugurated at the Arivaca Health Fair

- 15 plus partners participated
- Several Live Health Screenings Demos
- 120 Visitors (out of population of 629-2020 census)
- 36 Covid Vaccines
- 26 Pima County One Stop Visits
- 22 Arizona Talking Book Visits
- 23 Book Mobile Visits
- 472 Community Resource Table Visits
- Lions free Reading glasses supply to library

GOALS:

✓ Build Partnerships and Collaborations
✓ Raise awareness of Library services and resources in the area of Health
✓ Serving the unserved and those in need.
Lions Club Eye test

RN and Student Nurses from UA

Arivaca, AZ Health Fair Oct 2022

Medical Helivac

Outdoor Nutrition Tent

Health Kit and demo connecting online to a Doctor

Ambulance
Desert Senita Annual Ajo Community Health, Wellness & Resource Fair

AJO Health Fair Jan 2023

- 236 Visitors of a population of 3600
- 25 plus partners participated
- 21 Eye Test done by Lions and free Reading glasses supply to library
- 25 visitors to Arizona Talking book Visit TABLE
- 14 Mammogram Visits
- 30-40 ACP information flyers taken

Bingo card – visitors had to visit and collect information and get their card stamped from all display tables to enter a raffle.

GOALS:
- Build Partnerships and Collaborations
- Raise awareness of Library services and resources in the area of Health
- Serving the unserved and those in need.
“The folks who stopped by and took time to learn about the Health Connect Equipment were very excited about the option of visiting with their physicians in faraway places for check ins. The drive time saving seemed to get their attention a lot.” – Daniela, Librarian, Ajo Library.
Some results:
• Over 150 visitors at the Tribal Library!
• 5 Families signed up for ACP through Coconino County Health & Human Services
• Arizona Talking book participation
• Organized demos of the Telehealth meeting with a live nurse practioner from the U.of A School of Nursing
• Increased awareness of Library resources
• Distributed Library book bags with hygiene kits

A visitor’s comment: “I had to take a whole day off to take my elderly father to his doctor appointment in Flagstaff and find care for my young children, The library is 5 mins drive from my home and I can take my father and kids there and pick them up when he is done – I don’t lose my day’s pay or pay for day care.”

Our Team
Dr. Kim Shea (UA School of Nursing), Janet Major (SW Telehealth Resource Center), Mala Muralidharan, Erin Lorandos (AZ State Library), Pearl Goldtooth (Tuba City Public Library), Lauren Clementino and Linda Tillson (Coconino County Librarians) Mark Cesare (Coconino County IT Head).
Tuba City Health Fair Sept. 2023
The Future is here: Resources and Lessons Learned

- **Partnerships and Collaborations:** are essential
  - Lions Club – eye screening, dental check-up, mammo-screening, vitals check-up, yoga, nutrition, local health services, local fire-station and more …

- **Raising awareness:**
  - **Existing programs and services:** like The Talking Book Library, ACP, Free Digital Resources, Nutrition/Wellness programs for patrons via video conferencing in the library or in the parking lot or safely around the mobile van with fold-out tables and laptops.
  - **Navigator assistance:** [http://connect-Arizona.com](http://connect-Arizona.com) – community assistance with devices, navigation, and tech-support.
  - **Resource Centers:** Existence of the National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers – unparalleled resources to help navigators across the country. [https://telehealthresourcecenters.org](https://telehealthresourcecenters.org)
  - [https://telehealthresourcecenter.org/resources/toolkits/digital-health-navigation-toolkit/](https://telehealthresourcecenter.org/resources/toolkits/digital-health-navigation-toolkit/)
  - findtelehealth@nrtrc.org for telehealth appointments in several states

- **Training:** *Navigating the Telehealth Neighborhood: A Guide to Telehealth Access*

- **Reimbursements:** AHCCCS Reimbursable Service Codes for certified CHW/CHR’s which includes education and training provided for an individual patient in 30-minute increment.

- **Healthier community:** Patients will more likely honor their appointments, if they don’t have to go too far. Ensuring preventive and timely care, frequent monitoring, keeping them out of the hospitals.
What next? - 1
Sustainability

- Continue working with Libraries and replicate it in other libraries around the State
- Continue to
  - promote the availability of the Telehealth Equipment and broadband to connect to Health Care from the library,
  - continue to build partnerships with local and regional Health-Care
  - conduct regular health-related programming for the community at the library
- Loan equipment:
  - In collaboration with the American Heart Association, Pima County Public Library is now making available blood pressure kits for check out at all branches.

Karyn Prechtel-Altman, Deputy Director of Community Engagement, says, “Pima County Public Library is delighted to provide another opportunity for our community to access health information and vital resources. We’re grateful to the American Heart Association and its generous donors to the Libraries With Heart initiative for making this collaboration possible.”

Kaley Kantor, MPH, Region Sr. Community Impact Consultant with the American Heart Association, says, “We are thrilled to work with Pima County Public Library to expand health care access to those who need it most. We are happy to stand with the Library to promote the Association’s mission of being a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.”

https://www.library.pima.gov/?p=9533504
What next? - 2
Training Health Navigators for the future

- First Digital Navigators = CHR’s/AZCHW’s/Promotoras Digital Health Navigators
- Planning multiple levels of certificate training
- Creating a community of trusted navigators
- Teaching friends, neighbors and family how to use technology for health monitoring and access.
- Helping provide support for all things that increase and improve access to healthcare from transportation to babysitting.
- Preparing for what comes next – eg currently training to help communities re: their insurance and the end of the Public Health Emergency

Dr. Kimberley Shea, PhD. RN., training Nursing Students to help the community
Special Projects: Tribal Health – Preventive Care
Liver Cancer among the Tribes at LeChee Chapter, Navajo Nation

Goal:
- Creating an awareness of preventive care
- Excellent way to improve health through access to technology
- Foster digital equity while improving the health of the community

Problems being addressed:
- Distance from Health Care
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of childcare/transportation/time
- Lack of connectivity at home - Bring fiber and broadband to the Chapter Houses of the Navajo Nation - through E-rate funding. Promote ACP.

The Preventive Care/Study
- Partnerships – NAU, UA, SWTRC, AZ State Library, County and local library, Local Community
- Funding NIH grant, LSTA grant from IMLS, E-rate
- Roles
- Planning

CHECK YOUR LIVER HEALTH!

We are looking for Navajo adults to participate in a research study about liver disease. In order to participate, you would need to:
- Participate in a 60-90 minute interview
- Answer a few questionnaires about your health
- Provide a stick prick blood sample (to assess for diabetes)
- Receive a non-invasive liver ultrasound

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST:
- Self-identify as Diné (Navajo)
- Be 18 years old or older
- Live in the Western Agency of the Navajo Nation
- Have not had:
  - History of exposure to hepatotoxic drugs
  - Previously diagnosed with liver disease or liver cancer
  - An implantable device or currently pregnant

If you are interested in being part of the study, please contact: Krystelle Boyd (Diné) or Melissa Howard (Diné)
Email: hoskaytom1@arizona.edu or mph79@naau.edu
Coll or text: (520) 627-4881

This research study is funded by the Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention (NACP). The University of Arizona Institutional Review Board and the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board (NNIR: 25.467) have approved this study.

PREVENT Cirrhosis and Cancer
Affordable Broadband to Homes

FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program - ACP

Now nearly 500,000 households in AZ are signed up for ACP Arizona.

- Up to $30 per month for broadband services purchased by eligible households and up to $75 per month for households located on Tribal lands.
- One-time discount of up to $100 on purchasing a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers for a less than $50 contribution.

Emergency Connectivity Funds - ECF

Schools and Libraries applied for $200 M for Hot Spots and devices which could go home with the student and library patron.

13 Final Mile Projects / $2.5M
Goal: 100M Homes with internet @ $10/month

Ash Fork  Pima
Beaver Creek  Sonoita
Chevelon Butte  St Johns
Cibecue (Tribal) Topock
Grand Canyon  Vernon
Holbrook  Yucca
Paloma
How is this being funded? -1

- Federal ESSER funds to AZ Department of Education – part of the America Rescue plan to support teaching and learning during and after COVID

- Arizona Broadband Development Grant
  - Total investment $212.8 Million
  - Total miles of fiber-coax deployed 3,332 miles
  - Total populations served 480,019
  - Total anchor institutions served 734

- Broadband Equity Access Deployment Grant $993 Million of $42.45 billion
  - Total match $235 M
  - BEAD Eligible BSLs 318,714 (Broadband Serviceable Locations)
  - 141,416 Underserved and 177,325 Unserved
  - 2.3 M served already

- E-rate funding
  - Recurring internet and internal connections $90-100 M yearly..
  - E-Rate Special Construction: $148M State Match $16M

Arizona Middle Mile Broadband Network
How is this being funded? -2

- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) funded 2021 $154M
- Arizona Rural Broadband Development Grant (RBDG) 2019 $3M
- State appropriated matching funds for BEAD 25% $23.6M
- State Middle Mile Program Arizona is leveraging ARPA funding to increase middle mile broadband service along I-17, I-19, and I-40 $158 M
- Pima County Middle Mile Program $42 M
- Arizona Final Mile $2.5M
- FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund supports broadband networks in rural communities $19.6 M
- FCC Connect America Fund – Phase II $28.4M

Home internet adoption rates in Arizona

Thank you

Malavika Muralidharan
E-Rate Administrator for Public Libraries
Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records
mala@azlibrary.gov

Any Questions?
Our Next Webinar

The NCTRC Webinar Series

Occurs 3rd Thursday of every month.

**Telehealth Topic:** What Will 2024 Bring for Telehealth Policy?

**Hosting TRC:** Center for Connected Health Policy (CCHP)

**Date:** January 18, 2024

**Times:** 11 AM – 12 PM (PT)

*Please check the NCTRC website for more information on the upcoming webinar.*
Please Complete Our Survey

Your opinion of this webinar is valuable to us.

Please participate in this brief perception survey (will also open after webinar):

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XK7R72F