



**Chicana/Latina
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Chicana Latina Foundation Final Report for The California Emerging Technology Fund June 2017

Background

During this grant period CLF consistently and effectively participated in various meetings with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Commissioners, hearings, partner collaborative, school presentations and weekly CETF conference calls. Additionally, there were meetings and strategizing sessions with California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) staff on how best to inform policy makers about the needs and challenges

Chicana Latina Foundation is grateful for the opportunity to work with CETF and our sister community organizations in providing information about the plight of our un-connected communities to *Connect Communities*. As an education focused organization, we know that our students are at a constant disadvantage in their academic pursuits if they don't have access to the technology that is required now days to compete academically and professionally.

Here are highlights of our efforts to educate the community, corporate partners and public officials on the need for affordable internet connectivity and digital literacy training.

July 2016

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- July 9: CLF Alumnae Conference – Presentation to 55 CLF alumnae on the current status of our low income communities' ability to access and adopt broadband. Received signed postcards from alumnae and supporters outlining the needs of their communities related to the Digital Divide.

August 2016

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- August 18: California Public Utilities Commission hearing. We were part of community organizations sharing our experiences working directly with parents who were concerned about their children's poor grades due to lack of internet connection and computers at home.

September 2016

- Weekly CETF Calls

October 2016

- October 14: CLF Annual Dinner, presentation to 650 attendees on the importance of internet connectivity and computers for our low income communities, particularly those in rural areas. Collected several hundred signed postcards from the attendees supporting our efforts to close the Digital Divide.

- October 20: CETF Board of Directors. CLF executive Director organized and moderated a panel of community organizations to provide expert testimony on the barriers of broadband adoption. Rich and powerful discussion of community leaders and CETF Board members.

November 2016

- Weekly CETF Calls.

January 2017

- January 10 -11: Olga Talamante and Alicia Orozco participated for 2 days of informational visits with several legislators representing the districts in which we live and work to make them aware of the needs of our students based on our experience of working one on one assist low-income Latinas subscribe to an affordable service.
- January 11: Alicia was interviewed as part of the CETF educational video on the best ways to close the Digital Divide. Attended reception for CPUC Commissioner Cathy Sandoval. Met the new commissioners and set up follow up meetings.

February 2017

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- February 4: CLF leadership Institute. Shared with the 45 participants the ways in which they could get involved in their communities to help their families get connected. Collected signed postcards. Olga Talamante met with new CPUC Commissioner Rechtschaffen as part of a Greenlining coalition meeting where we raised several issues affecting our low income communities, including housing, gentrification, environmental concerns and the Digital Divide

March 2017

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- March 1: Olga Talamante participated in meeting at the CPUC with Commissioner Guzman Aceves related to the challenges of the Digital Divide in our communities.

April 2017

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- April 26: Alicia Orozco participated in hearing in Sacramento related to the challenges of the Digital Divide in our communities.

May 2017

- Weekly CETF Calls.
- May 30: Alicia Orozco participated in CPUC meetings with Commissioners Randolph and Guzman Aceves related to the challenges of the Digital Divide in our communities.