A Roadmap for Public-Private Partnerships

Housing Authorities and Apartment Building Owners

▶ **Action 1: Install Free Wi-Fi Networks in Low-Income Apartment Buildings**

Housing authorities and apartment owners can help close the affordability gap by installing free Wi-Fi networks in their buildings. In addition to eliminating the barriers that many tenants face in signing up for broadband service, this amenity will help attract tenants and increase tenant satisfaction. Apartment owners can leverage federal infrastructure funds to cover up-front costs and outsource the design, installation, and maintenance of these networks.

▶ **Action 2: Help Residents Enroll in the Affordable Connectivity Program**

When installing free Wi-Fi networks in a building is not an option, housing authorities and apartment owners should proactively educate tenants on the availability of the Affordable Connectivity Program and help them enroll in the program.

School Districts

▶ **Action 1: Identify Unconnected Students Using K-12 Bridge to Broadband**

School districts in eleven states have taken advantage of EducationSuperHighway's K-12 Bridge to Broadband data exchange program to understand the connectivity status of 3.5 million students and the best ways to connect those who lack home broadband. According to the Council of Chief State School Officers, collecting this data on an annual basis is now a best practice to ensure all students have equal access to educational opportunity. Unlike family surveys, which are time-consuming to implement and suffer from low response rates, K-12 Bridge to Broadband makes collecting this information on a recurring basis in a FERPA compliant fashion quick and easy for school districts.

▶ **Action 2: Conduct Outreach to Unconnected Families to Enroll Them in the Affordable Connectivity Program or District Provided Internet Access Solutions**

As a trusted institution, school districts are uniquely positioned to help unconnected families overcome the barriers that prevent them from accessing affordable broadband programs. By leveraging data to identify unconnected students and implementing outreach programs to help families enroll in either the Affordable Connectivity Program or a district-provided Internet access solution, districts can reduce the inequities faced by students without home broadband connections.