

📶 DIGITAL EQUITY INITIATIVE

Digital Ally Project (DAP)

Connecting Digital Communities — equipment, training, and local stewardship to close the digital divide for good.

We're not delivering one-time fixes. We're building **community capability** — the infrastructure, the skills, and the trusted local people who keep digital access alive long after the grant check clears.



Digital Ally Project

Digital Access Is Now Basic Access

In 2024, nearly every essential service — healthcare appointments, job applications, housing assistance, education — requires a reliable internet connection and a working device. For millions of Americans, that requirement is an insurmountable wall.

The barriers hit hardest in communities that can least afford them: **veterans** navigating complex benefits systems, **rural families** miles from the nearest library, **older adults** isolated by interfaces designed for digital natives, and **low-income households** forced to choose between groceries and a data plan.

📄 **The gap is compounding.** Without connectivity, people can't access the very programs designed to help them — creating a cycle of exclusion that deepens with every system that moves online.

Communities don't just need a hotspot dropped off at the door. They need **connectivity and trusted local support** working together — because a device without guidance is just another barrier.

Centering Communities with the Highest Barriers

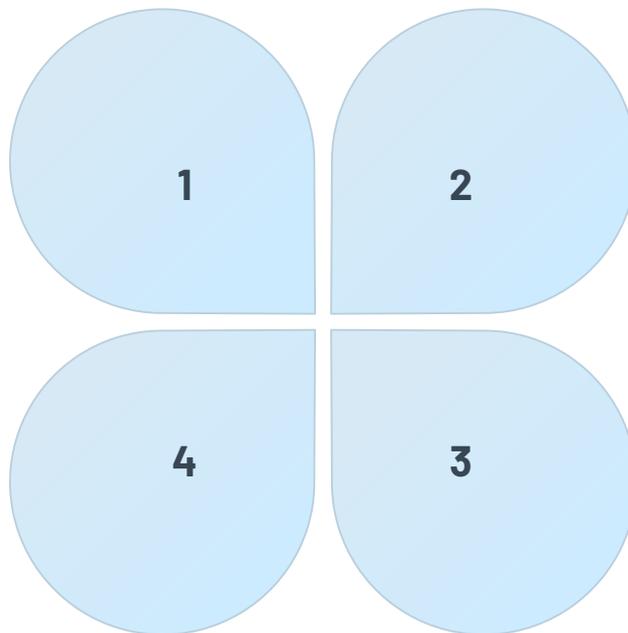
DAP begins where the need is greatest — with people and communities facing compounding disadvantages across income, geography, age, and identity. Our early work prioritizes "**survivability sectors**": food, housing, water, and healthcare — the essentials no one should lose access to because of a digital gap.

Veterans

Navigating benefits, telehealth, and employment services that have moved almost entirely online.

Low-Income Households

Stretching limited resources while competing demands make devices and data plans a luxury.



Rural Communities

Facing infrastructure gaps where broadband and tech support simply don't reach.

Older Adults

Overcoming isolation and unfamiliar interfaces to stay connected to health and social services.

Our approach: **listen first, then build alongside community partners** who already hold trust and context.

Our Mission and Vision

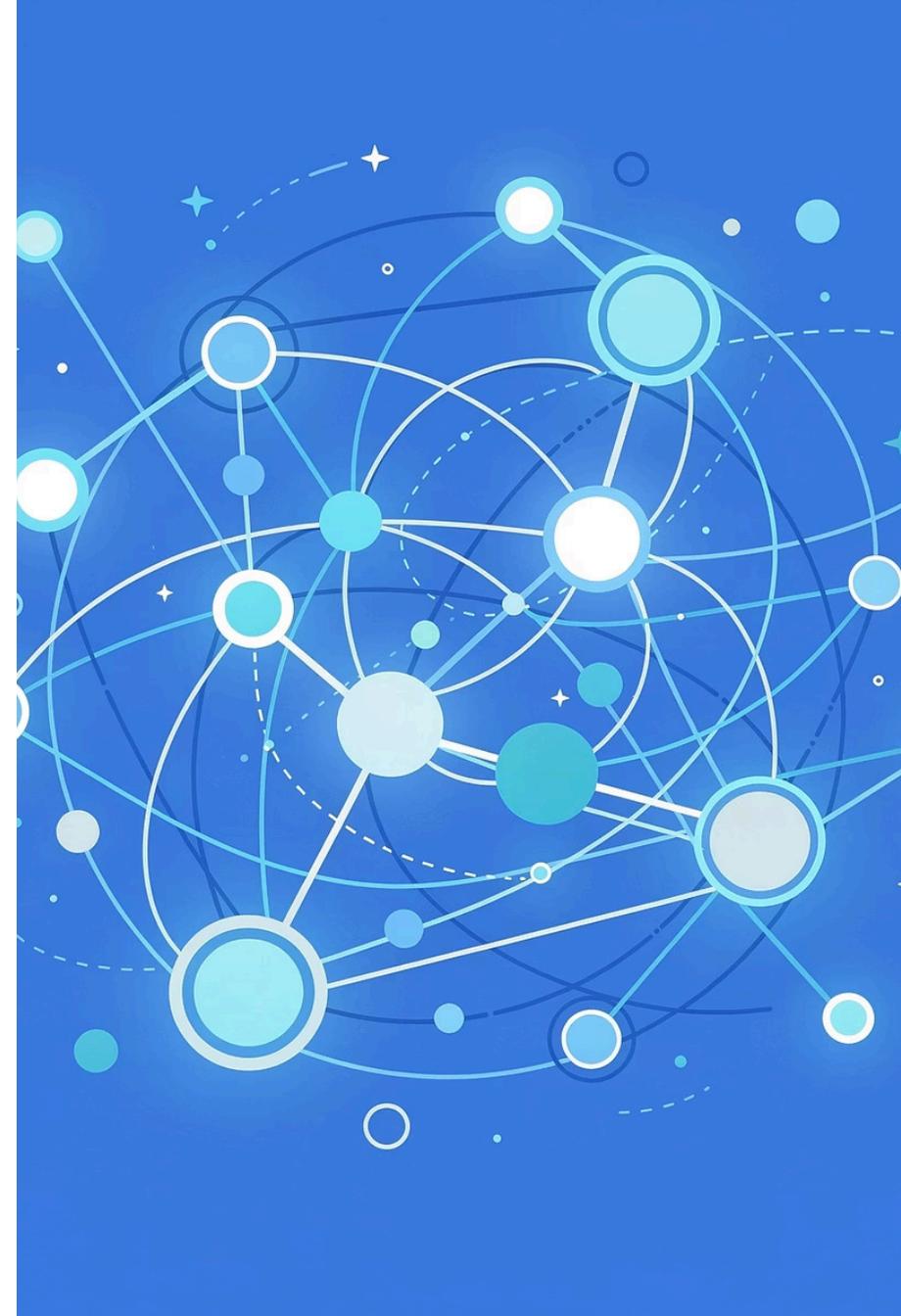
Mission

Bridge the digital divide through strategic partnerships, Digital Ambassador programs, and hands-on advisory support — delivering tools, training, and lasting community infrastructure.

We don't build dependency. We build capability — the kind that stays in the community long after we step back.

Vision

A digitally inclusive society where every community has the **tools, skills, and local support** to thrive sustainably — not just survive the next technology cycle, but lead their own digital futures.



How We Create Durable Digital Equity

DAP's impact rests on a **three-pillar model** designed so that no single element works in isolation. Infrastructure without training gathers dust. Training without partnership doesn't scale. Together, they create change that compounds.



Infrastructure & Tools

Devices, secure connectivity solutions, routers, hotspots, and field-ready equipment deployed where the gaps are deepest.



Training & Stewardship

Digital Allies and Technology Stewards — local people trained to teach, troubleshoot, and sustain progress in their own communities.



Partnership & Advisory

Capacity-building for nonprofits, libraries, and community organizations so they can embed digital support into their existing programs.

This model ensures that when DAP's direct engagement ends, the community retains the infrastructure, the knowledge, and the people to keep going.

We Train Local People to Become the Support System

The heart of DAP is the **Digital Ally** — a trusted community member who becomes the go-to person for digital guidance, long after any workshop ends. These aren't IT specialists parachuted in from the outside. They're neighbors, librarians, veterans' advocates, and community health workers equipped with new skills.

1

Digital Literacy

Practical skills for navigating online services, applications, and everyday technology tools.

2

Privacy & Safety

Protecting personal information, recognizing scams, and practicing safe browsing habits.

3

Accessible Tech Support

Patient, jargon-free troubleshooting tailored to each learner's comfort level and needs.

4

Resource Navigation

Connecting community members to services, programs, and additional support networks.

📌 **The outcome:** Communities can troubleshoot, teach, and sustain digital progress locally — without waiting for external help.

Years 1–5: A Colorado-Based Foundation with Measurable Impact

Year 1: Research & Discovery

Identify technology needs and efficiency opportunities across survivability-sector nonprofits in Colorado.

1

2

3

Years 4–5: Scale & Measure

Expand proven models, measure partner efficiency improvements, and document replicable frameworks for other regions.

Years 2–3: Deploy & Train

Launch digital navigator partnerships across at least 3 sectors.
Begin training and advisory programs with libraries and community hubs.

This Year's Intern Cohort: A 12-Person Problem-Solving Engine

Twelve interns are tackling real community barriers right now — across **food accessibility, housing stability, privacy, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.**

Their deliverables are tangible: needs assessments, pilot programs, training content, partner enablement toolkits, and measurable improvements that partners can use immediately.

Our Learning Model Is Designed for Speed and Dignity

DAP's education approach is built on modern learning science — not a one-size-fits-all curriculum. We meet learners where they are, move at their pace, and respect the knowledge they already carry.



Learn by Doing

Real tasks produce real outcomes. Learners work on practical challenges — setting up email, navigating a benefits portal, securing a device — with coaching support, not lectures.



Collective Learning

Teams and peer groups create built-in accountability and encouragement. People learn faster when they're learning alongside others facing similar challenges.



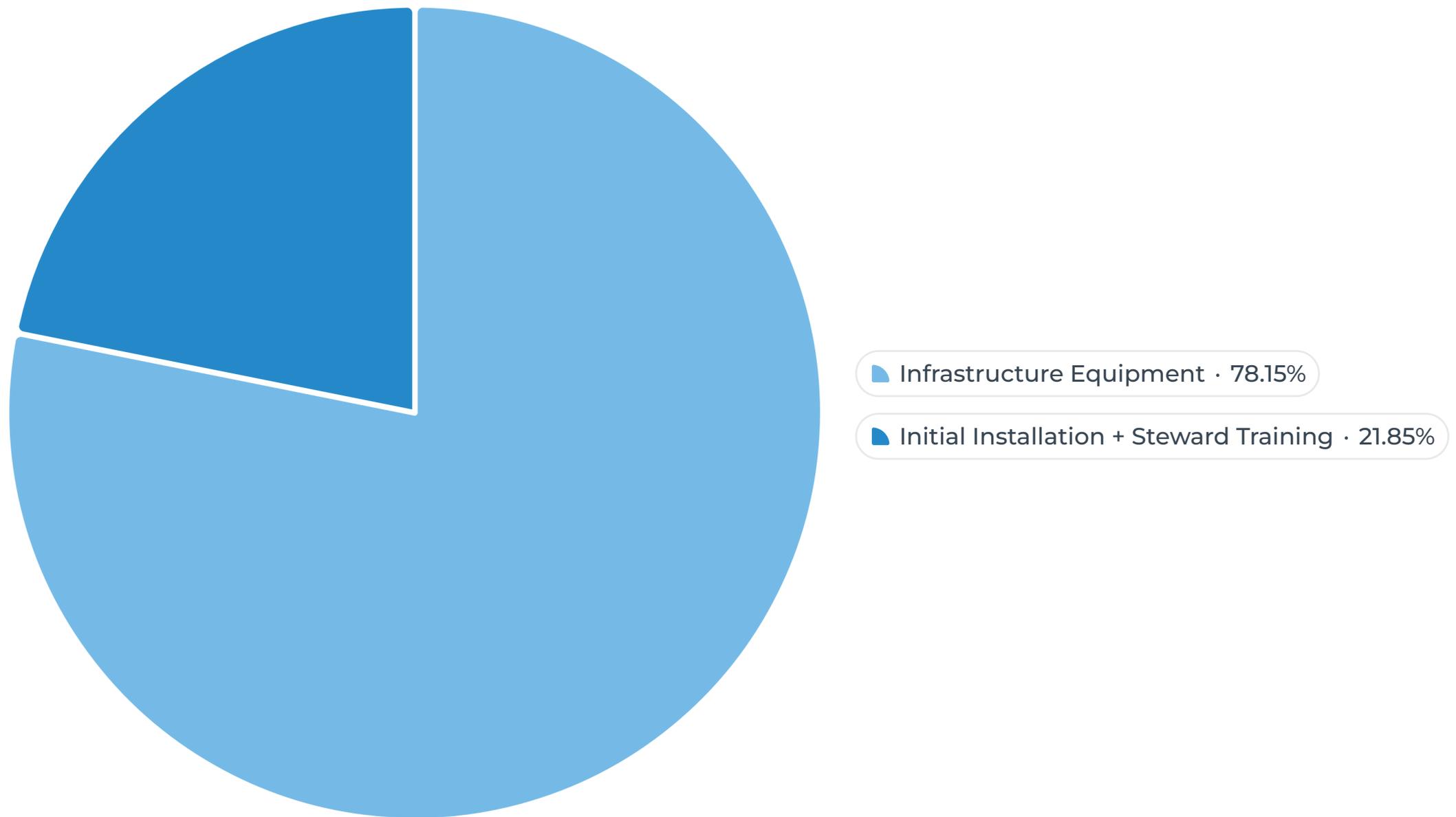
Individualized Pathways

No assumptions about starting points. Every learner gets a pathway shaped by their goals, comfort level, and the specific digital skills that matter most to their daily life.

The fastest way to build confidence is to help someone accomplish something real — today, not after a 12-week course.

Connecting a Digital Community: The \$18,000 Campaign (Phase 1)

Every dollar of the **\$18,000 campaign** maps directly to a deliverable that puts equipment in hands, skills in minds, and support systems in communities. Here's how the investment breaks down:



Equipment (Infrastructure)

Purchase and stage core connectivity infrastructure for community sites: radios, antennas, mounting hardware, power/UPS protection, and essential spares. This creates the backbone needed for reliable access

Installation + Steward Training

Train community members to install, maintain, and safely support the network. Includes hands-on setup, troubleshooting, privacy/safety basics, and accessible support practices—so help stays local and respectful.

Backbone is Built → Now We Scale Access Cheaply and Locally

With foundational infrastructure costs covered, our focus shifts to expanding access by leveraging affordable, maintainable solutions and empowering communities through hands-on training and continuous support.

\$300

BYOD Homestation

Community-configured devices

\$50

Mobile Adapter

Portable connectivity for all

Community Workshops (Phase 2)

- Hands-on sessions to get households connected and confident
- Focus on essential services: food access, housing stability, healthcare, jobs
- Built for low bandwidth + high trust (plain language, privacy-first)

Crowdsourced Homestations (BYOD)

- Bring your own compatible device—we teach, configure, and provision it
- Designed to be affordable, maintainable, and locally supported
- Ideal for homes that need stable access for essential services and learning

Ongoing Learning + Support

- Steward office hours + peer support so learning continues after install
- Simple guides + troubleshooting playbooks for neighbors teaching neighbors
- Creates a “community learning loop” (new members onboard continuously)

Mobile Adapters

- Low-cost mobile connectivity option for families, field work, and mutual aid
- Great for outreach teams, volunteers, and “on the move” access
- Fast to distribute and easy to support

Join Us – Build the Infrastructure and the Stewards

Digital access should be **durable, local, and equitable**. Here's how you can help make it so.



Donate

Contribute to the \$18,000 campaign. Every dollar funds equipment, training, or sustained community support.



Partner

Offer training venues, sponsor equipment, host interns, or co-design programs with us for your community.



Refer

Know an organization that could benefit? Connect them to DAP for a free needs assessment and consultation.

\$18K

Campaign Goal

12

Interns Deployed

3+

Sectors Served

5yr

Commitment

"Let's make digital access durable, local, and equitable."