

Memorandum

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought attention to, specifically in low-income communities, pre-existing inequalities of resources that marginalized groups encounter. The lack of internet access within neighborhoods and communities experiencing poverty results in declining academic performance and reduced access to the job market. The residents in the segregated and low-income communities have limited access to job websites, online interviews, and online courses. The Affordable Connectivity Program is administered by the Federal Communication Commission that supports low-income households that are struggling to afford internet service. However, Rural regions and segregated communities have received a lack of funding towards said services. An equitable response would be a collaboration between the FCC and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to improve, or rebuild, internet infrastructures in the low-income communities, upgrading their service from 3G to 5G, and supply local internet infrastructures in upcoming and existing affordable housing developments under a federal plan called the United Interstate Web Act. To assist with passing the Act, job search websites, such as LinkedIn, Indeed, etc., would help campaign with the federal government to push the Internet providers to construct needed services. The job search websites would also be incentivized by the policy as it brings more members to their programs while also giving job search opportunities for the users. Collaboration between the FCC and HUD would be regulated with the Universal Services Administrative Company who controls the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). By working with cities, the organization will authorize the improvements and additions of local small internet antennas connected directly to the affordable homes, which provide 5G coverage as well as affordability without changing major city zoning

laws. To fund these developments, they would provide tax breaks and cash payments, or subsidies, for the participating internet companies, listed on the ACP's site.