



## FREE LAPTOP COMPUTERS WITH COMPUTER TRAINING!

*Are you in need of a computer and computer training but are unable to afford it? Are you aware of others who need these benefits? If so, please read the information below.*

The digital divide or the gap between those who have and don't have access to technology, the internet, and equipment is a persistent problem affecting communities across America. It is estimated that 18 million Americans do not have high-speed internet in their homes and 46% of Americans do not own a computer.

This issue disproportionately affects lower-income communities and people of color. Digital equity also has a number of positive downstream effects including enabling individuals to have greater participation in society and the economy, wider career opportunities, and higher levels of employment, as well as enabling the survival and recovery of small businesses.

The Community Council of Metropolitan Atlanta is partnering with Human-I-T, an organization that specializes in providing digital literacy services to under-served communities across the U.S. The goal of the Digital Empowerment program is to holistically address the digital divide by providing equipment, education, and digital access to communities in need that have low digital adoption.

Visa and Human-I-T are launching this program next in Atlanta, with initial funding for the distribution of 1,000 computers plus training to individuals in the community. In addition to the computer, recipients will receive foundational skills training, financial literacy training, and support with low-cost internet access. This program will target individuals, students, families, and small business owners.

### **PROGRAM DETAILS:**

- Participant Qualifications: ○ Low-income individuals, students, families, and seniors ○ Small Business Owners
- Participants will receive a Chromebook laptop free of charge upon registering for the digital literacy course. All laptops are paired with one year of tech support and a hardware warranty.
- Access to a free digital program that helps adults with little to no experience learn basic computer skills at their own pace. Learners can choose which lessons to study, so they can focus on the digital skills need most. To ensure their success in the program, learners are joined by digital literacy coordinators who help them progress through the material and develop a positive association with technology.
- The program is accompanied by a free financial literacy course that can be accessed upon completing two modules of the digital literacy program. Community-Based Organizations and Partnerships in Atlanta:

If you are interested and can attend the session on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 10:00 am, please contact Norma Joy Barnes at 404-935-5859 (office) or 404-217-4207 (cell). Please share this opportunity with others.

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