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Organization:	**Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District**
Project Name:	**Sparking Broadband Use in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan**
Project Type:	**Sustainable Broadband Adoption**
State:	**Michigan**
Federal Award:	**$3,165,207**

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Public school students in the 7th through 12th grades in the Eastern Upper Peninsula region of Michigan lack reliable access to high-speed Internet at their schools. The **Eastern UP Intermediate School District** proposes to increase subscribership in the Eastern Upper Peninsula region by providing 3,500 computers with supporting software to economically disadvantaged students in Chippewa, Luce, and Mackinac Counties. Under the project, qualified families would receive vouchers for discounted broadband access through local broadband provider Lighthouse after participating in a workforce and computer training program delivered in partnership with the Tri-County Economic Development Agency and Michigan WORKS! .

The project aims to foster more advanced and robust use of technology by demonstrating the educational value of computers in the home, while communicating to parents and other community members the value of using broadband to support health, finances, and occupational training.

The Sparking Broadband Use project also proposes to:

- Provide computer skills and broadband training to as many as 10,000 residents over the life of the project, offering approximately 43,000 annual training hours focusing on online connectivity, career building, government services, and education.

- Complement BTOP infrastructure awards to fellow Michigan entity Merit Network to expand and enhance access, infrastructure, and adoption in the Upper Peninsula.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Covering 4,000 square miles in one of the most remote and economically disadvantaged populations in Michigan, the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District (EUP) has been a leader in Michigan's one-to-one computing efforts for over a decade. EUP employs technology-based solutions to support public schools in deploying effective teaching and learning techniques across significant geographic spaces. With the advent of improved mobile and IP technology, EUP seeks to transform schools in rural and remote areas through anywhere/anytime learning while spiking broadband adoption and use in the region.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Lighthouse
- Tri-County Economic Development Agency
- Michigan WORKS!

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