

Neighborhood Tech Connection (NTC) - Draft A Growing Program of the Community Living Campaign (CLC)

When CLC adopted the tagline – ***helping seniors and people with disabilities age and thrive at home*** - we didn't recognize how prophetic it would be. The pandemic has changed so many things about our lives, but what remains important has not changed – to have social connections and support, to have purpose and a reason to get up each day, to help others facing isolation and loneliness, to express our creative side and learn new things. These important elements and the themes of CLC's work guide our growing NTC Program.

Community-Building – cultivating and strengthening the support and friendships needed, now serving neighbors across the city and beyond.

NTC supports the robust on-line activities of the Community Connector Networks, made necessary by shelter-in-place orders. We have 100 individual sessions in December alone on Zoom are supported by tech hosts who help guide new participants into using Zoom successfully. This includes weekly Zoom trainings.

Empowerment – building the skills and tools needed to live a good life, including how to use new technology, finding employment opportunities on-line, or being a strong advocate when you can't show up in person.

NTC is hosting a growing number of training and tutoring sessions in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Spanish. Efforts support our employment program, SF ReServe, and we are finding ways to strengthen on-line advocacy through email and social media, including technical support for the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) seeking to help their members move their organizing and public policy advocacy on-line.

Advocacy – One aspect of our advocacy has been to increase the funding and availability for devices, internet access, training and support. The shelter-in-place orders have made expanding access and support a critical component of many aspects of life, including health, social connections, food access and more.

NTC was an important part of this year's Keep Us Connected Campaign, along with a host of other non-profit partners, which generated an additional \$300,000 to expand DAS SF Connected Program. Together with the SF Tech Council, we seek to bring innovative ideas to bridge the digital divide for older adults, people with disabilities, and those seeking to be allies to increase equity for communities across the City.

Neighborhood Tech Connection is waiting to hear from you...

Just Getting Started? NTC can help with free or low-cost access to the internet and devices, as well as tutoring, training and support to help seniors and people with disabilities get on-line. Contact Peter@sfcommunityliving.org or call 415-821-1003.

Get Connected with a Tutor or Training Session

Chinese language sessions available morning and afternoon Monday through Friday and Saturday morning. Contact Wanda@sfcommunityliving.org

Spanish language sessions available - contact Yvan@sfcommunityliving.org for schedule.

Sessions in English available on Tuesday afternoon and Fridays 11:00 to 1:00. One on one tutoring also available – Contact Peter@sfcommunityliving.org or call 415-821-1003.

Host a Zoom Training for your group – we are currently doing Zoom trainings for Network for Elders in the Bayview will be available to host a training for our group. Contact peter@sfcommunityliving.org.

Find a Reason to Connect – CLC's On-line Calendar

Find something for everyone at <https://sfcommunityliving.org/events/> once you learn how to use Zoom– exercise classes, wellness sessions, cooking demonstrations, writing and memoir groups. Also, special programming focused on neighborhood resilience, art and music adventures, how to access services, gardening tips, and more. Folks are learning new things and meeting new people who share their interests. You can get a monthly calendar by signing up for the CLC Newsletter.

Paid and Volunteer Opportunities

Paid Tech Tutors (for beginning learners) – help new tablet and computer users learn basic skills in a remote one-on-one or group setting. Training provided and time paid directly or through our SF ReServe Program if eligible. Looking for help in English, Spanish, Cantonese, Tagalog and more.

Volunteer Tech Buddy – be paired with a local resident who just got a new device and is looking for support and encouragement as they learn.

This program is funded, in part, by the Dept. of Disability and Aging's **SF Connected Program**. For more information, contact them about other groups providing training and support. Contact Paulo.Salto@sfgov.org or call the DAS Services line at 415-554-6700.