# Addressing Digital Literacy through Regional Collaboration



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#### Capital Region Workforce Planning Area

Sacramento Employment & Training Agency (SETA), Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, North Central Counties Consortium (NCCC), YoloWorks



#### About Valley Vision

Valley Vision is a civic leadership organization dedicated to improving the livability of the Sacramento region. Through research and action, we collaborate on bold, long-term solutions that improve people's lives.

Valley Vision's efforts are concentrated in six impact areas:

- 21st Century Workforce
- Clean Economy
- Food and Agriculture
- Innovation & Infrastructure
- Healthy Communities
- Leadership & Civic Engagement





# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce Impact Area

**Regional Organizer Capital Region** 

Strong Workforce Program Regional Advisories

Future of Work

#### Valley Vision Roles:

Cluster Research Market Intelligence Gathering Action Planning **Project Management** Capacity Building Network Development System Design/Policy

**Digital Skills Initiative** 

Sac Valley Manufacturing Initiative (SVMI)

Food & Ag Workforce/ Central Valley AgPlus

#### **Capital Region Workforce Action Plan**

#### **Promising Industry Clusters**

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Energy, Construction, Utilities
- Food and Agriculture
- Future Mobility

- Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation\*
- Information & Communications
   Technologies
- Life Sciences & Health
   Services

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# **Strong Workforce Program**







- Partnership with three community college districts (7 colleges)
- Overall goal: improve the regional advisory process for career technical education programs and investments



# **Regional Talent Development Model**





A strategic framework and bridge to action for the sixcounty Sacramento Region that prioritizes our core economic initiatives and will result in a more prosperous, equitable and resilient region. Serves as region's federallydesignated <u>Comprehensive Economic Development</u> <u>Strategy (CEDS)</u>.



#### Why Inclusive Growth Matters

Inclusive economic growth is economic growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all. We create economic inclusion when:

- Cross-sector partnerships connect people and place to the growth sectors of our economy
- A more flexible, innovative and different workforce has expanded access to education and training
- Communities are involved in the decisions that impact them

#### **Brookings Institution Report on Greater** Sacramento Region

#### BROOKINGS

CITIES & REGIONS GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS U.S. ECONOMY



#### Five major areas of focus of Brookings Research

| Increase innovation<br>and business<br>dynamism            | <ul> <li>Promote entrepreneurial growth and<br/>small business development</li> </ul>                    |
|--|--|
| Develop tradable<br>clusters                               | <ul> <li>Focus on Health &amp; Life Sciences and<br/>Food &amp; Ag as clusters of opportunity</li> </ul> |
| Cultivate a<br>skilled<br>workforce                        | <ul> <li>Ready the workforce for increasing<br/>digitalization</li> </ul>                                |
| Build infrastructure<br>that complements<br>economic goals | <ul> <li>Align transportation and infrastructure investments</li> </ul>                                  |
| Improve<br>governance and<br>finance structures            | <ul> <li>Align region's institutional environment<br/>to support economic growth</li> </ul>              |

# **Digitalization is growing at every level**

#### Close to three-quarters of occupations in the region now require high or medium levels of digital skills

Share of occupations by digital skill level, the Sacramento region



Source: 'Digitalization and the American Workforce', Brookings, 2017

# **Future of Work**

- Cross-sector forum in each of four Workforce Board Areas, 2017-2018
- Captured emerging trends from employers, along with literature review nationally

#### **Future Focus Summit**



 Regional Summit in May 2018

# **Future of Work**

Supported by the Capital Region's four workforce boards: Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA), Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, North Central Counties Consortium (NCCC), and YoloWorks



Automation Risk for Jobs in the Capital Region













Golden Sierra





#### Job Automation Risk Research Overview: Project Goals

Quantify automation risk for skills and sectors in the Capital region

Share the findings and vet the data with on-the-ground experiences

Develop regional strategies to mitigate displacement and optimize new opportunities as changes to work occur

Implement strategies to adapt and grow our regional workforce

#### Capital Region Jobs & Automation Risk

Of the 1.2 million jobs in the Capital Region:

- More than 381,000 jobs are at high risk of automation
- 343,000 jobs are at medium risk
- 471,000 jobs are at low risk



## Key Findings from the Research

- **One quarter of all jobs** in the Capital Region are concentrated in industry sectors with high risk of automation
- Workers who earn less than \$14.50 per hour and have **lower levels of** educational attainment are most at risk of job loss
- Up to 47% of jobs requiring a high school diploma or less are at high risk of automation
- Workers who identify as **women** are most at risk
- Historically minoritized workers are most at risk
- The occupations least at risk in the region tend to pay more and have higher entry-level education requirements
- Interpersonal skills are difficult to automate and can play a protective role in deferring automation and potential job risk

## Results of FOW Employer Advisories

- COVID-19 has pushed automation forward several years
- Computer and media familiarity is needed and written into job descriptions
- 21st Century skills of teachability, adaptability, communication and problem solving skills are essential
- Employers across industries indicate a coachable candidate with basic to mid level digital skills can be trained on industry specific software
- Automation is at every level and is most adapted where customization is less necessary; this will change with anticipated increases in artificial intelligence and machine learning
- Accelerating need for employees trained in **multiple disciplines**
- Need for shorter and customizable training programs; less interested in degrees and certification and more interested in functional job specific skills
- Expected sustained increase in teleworking post COVID

## The Future of Work is Now

- The onset of COVID accelerated the Future of Work forward several years
- Digital skills are now necessary for every aspect of life: work, education, civil and basic needs
- More research, planning and investment is needed in digital access, connectivity and digital skills





# closing the digital divide in the Capitol Region

#### **Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium**









Infrastructure

To identify, plan, and facilitate improved broadband infrastructure across the region's 4 counties. With the other consortia in the state; state and federal agencies; and other sectors to address the digital divide.

For resources and policy changes to accelerate the deployment, accessibility, and adoption of broadband.

To improve infrastructure, expand Telehealth, Agtech and increase digital literacy throughout all areas of the region.

## **CCABC Overview**

- Managed by Valley Vision, funded by the CPUC
- Covers 4 counties in Capital Region – urban, rural, suburban
- Approximately 20,000 unserved households, thousands more underserved
- Strong partnership, collaboration model

## Broadband Report Card (2020): Barely Making the Grade



#### Further Work



- Valley Vision is partnering with Burning Glass Technologies to distill digital skill needs by demand industries and occupations to inform workforce system investment and planning
- Valley Vision is coordinating efforts of the Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion to build a backbone of sustainable efforts for the greater Sacramento Capital Region
- COVID has shown us how essential digital literacy is; sustainable efforts beyond stimulus funds are needed to build a collaborative whole to lift our region's collective workforce



Sacramento Coalition for Digital Inclusion



# **Final Thoughts**

- COVID has proven **digital literacy is essential**, especially for inclusive workforce recovery
- Sustainable efforts beyond stimulus funds are needed to build a collaborative whole to lift our region's workforce
- Research is critical to ensure limited investments are deployed wisely
- Employer/industry vetting remain essential to ground the data and ensure regional/local adjustment to inform action plans
- **Collaborative efforts are more successful**, sustainable, and efficient by reducing duplication and advancing collective effort

# **Questions?**







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