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Tech Goes Home Receives Support from Crown Castle to Expand Digital Equity Work in Eastern Massachusetts

July 15, Boston, MA -- Today, <u>Tech Goes Home</u> (TGH) announced new support from <u>Crown Castle</u>, the nation's largest provider of communications infrastructure, which will help TGH expand its work to address digital inequity in Eastern Massachusetts.

For more than two decades, TGH has partnered with state government, local government, and community-based organizations to provide internet connectivity, digital devices, and digital skills training to individuals and families in need. TGH's training programs help ensure that students, workers, seniors, and others have the digital tools and knowledge necessary to access telehealth, employment, education, and other critical resources online. Crown Castle's generous support will allow TGH to reach more learners throughout Eastern Massachusetts.

The partnership with TGH is a part of Crown Castle's Connected by Good initiative to work with community partners to improve spaces where people connect, promote public safety, and, in this case, advance access to education and technology.

"We are so grateful to Crown Castle for recognizing the urgency of the digital divide in our communities and for contributing to help TGH continue our impactful work," said TGH Co-CEO Theodora Hanna. "As our communities begin the long road to recovery from COVID-19, addressing digital inequity -- providing people the devices, connectivity, and digital skills they need -- will be critical to ensuring an equitable and sustainable recovery."

COVID-19 deepened the digital divide throughout the communities where TGH works. Recent research shows that 34% of American households making less than \$30,000 a year, have had trouble paying for high-speed internet during COVID-19. In Boston and across Massachusetts, many students struggled to participate in online learning during the pandemic because they didn't have digital devices or an internet connection at home; similarly, many seniors had trouble keeping in touch with loved ones and struggled to access vaccines, in part because they lacked the necessary resources and digital skills.

"Digital inequity impacts all of our communities," said Crown Castle Public Affairs Manager Ashley Greenspan. "As the nation's leading provider of communications infrastructure, Crown Castle knows the vital importance of digital access. We're thrilled to support Tech Goes Home to bring devices, connectivity and digital literacy to thousands of adults and families in Massachusetts."

About TGH

Tech Goes Home is a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the digital inequities that pose a significant barrier to opportunity and success for thousands of students, workers, and families in Greater Boston and beyond. Working in partnership with schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations, Tech Goes Home provides curated support - including access to digital devices, network connectivity, and robust training in how to utilize digital resources - to help individuals and families pursue economic mobility, support academic achievement, access critical resources, and engage with their community and loved ones. You can learn more about Tech Goes Home's work, and ways to become involved, at techgoeshome.org.

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