About a year ago Michelle Duke, Associate Director of Communications and Administration at Tenderloin Housing Clinic (THC), approached CTN to see if we might provide training to their staff. This was an arena CTN had also been thinking about—advancing beyond Basic Digital Literacy to job-ready competence. And so we proceeded with shared enthusiasm. Read more about Teaching Beyond the Basics on the CTN blog.

Volunteer Spotlight: Kevin Di
As a part of CTN’s partnership with the San Francisco Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development, we have placed volunteers in three Neighborhood Access Points across the city, which provide various workforce services to connect clients to employment. One of these sites is America Works, a Specialized Access Point, focused on providing services for the re-entry or criminal justice involved population. Since late March, Kevin Di has been on-site providing assistance to clients in the computer lab at America Works. Read more about Kevin’s experience on the CTN blog.

Overcoming Language Barriers with Translation Apps

CTN provides bi-weekly training to a group of Austin residents through the HACA/Austin Pathways Lab Apprentice Program. These trainings prepare the students to serve more than 500 affordable-housing residents with the goal of increasing their digital skills to help them re-enter the workforce.

Last week, CTN Development Director Calvin Clites worked with the HACA Apprentices on how to communicate with residents who speak different languages. Read more about the training on the CTN blog.

Farewell Joanna and Welcome Eric!
In August, Program Manager Joanna Bell is heading to Harvard's Kennedy School to pursue graduate studies in public policy on full scholarship. While we are sad to see her go, we celebrate her achievements with CTN. Her confidence, skill and ease in the SF Connected Program Manager role quickly freed resources to build new programs and expand our impact. And, she's been a key member on ambitious projects to offer digital literacy volunteer training online and more substantially capture the progress of learners engaged by our tutors. Harvard is lucky to have Joanna at the Kennedy School. The future is bright with her focus and energy in it!

We welcome Eric Babb as the new Program Manager. Eric is a Kansas native with a background in teaching at the high school and college level. As a lecturer at the University of Kansas, Eric was the College Algebra course coordinator, supervising a staff of teaching assistants and tutors. While at KU, Eric oversaw the development of a blended learning classroom that combined short instructional videos and group activities to help learners at all levels. With a focus on curriculum development, Eric hopes to build upon the strong foundation at CTN and continue to support and motivate volunteers and those working to bridge the digital divide. Eric has degrees from the University of Kansas in Secondary Math Education and Civil Engineering. Learn more about the CTN staff by visiting our website.

Volunteers needed in Central Texas!
CTN’s digital literacy programs are in full swing in Austin-area non-profit partner sites and we are seeking volunteer computer tutors and assistants. To learn how to get involved visit our website or contact Jessica Looney at jessica@communitytechnetwork.org.