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Contact: Jessica Scadron - jessica@everyoneon.org, 415-713-9150

EveryoneOn Receives \$500,000 Grant from MUFG Union Bank Foundation to Expand High-Demand Digital Inclusion Programs in Underserved Communities in the Bay Area, Los Angeles and San Diego

Grant will fund EveryoneOn's digital skills trainings and broadband adoption efforts in underserved communities of color, delivering short- and long-term positive educational, economic and civic engagement impact

Los Angeles, C.A., January 27, 2022 – <u>EveryoneOn</u>, a national organization that unlocks social and economic opportunity by connecting families in underserved communities to affordable internet service and computers, and delivering digital skills trainings, will use a \$500,000 investment from the MUFG Union Bank Foundation to get more people connected to broadband, and train them to use and navigate the internet once they are online.

Funding will be used to expand EveryoneOn's foundational programs and services:

- Trainings for nonprofit organizations: Informational and capacity-building trainings that empower organizations to address the digital divide in their communities;
- Trainings for individuals: Customized trainings that include computer donations for class participants and essential digital skills such as setting up a computer, creating an email address, banking online and searching for employment;
- Offer Locator Tool: Nationwide database searchable by zip code of low-cost internet service and device options provided by internet service providers and device providers;
- Enrollment Assistance Hotline: One-on-one support to help individuals sign up for low-cost internet available through various internet service providers and the federally funded Affordable Connectivity Program;
- Enrollment Events: In-person device distributions and low-cost internet sign-up events for community members in select cities.

COVID-19 revealed the severity of the digital divide and the challenges it creates, particularly in underserved communities of color. Existing digital inequities deepen educational and economic gaps for both individual households, and impede community economic development. The negative impact of the pandemic on underserved communities will become more critical as programs, services, and other products continue to transition to digital platforms. Increased financial support enables EveryoneOn to scale its programs to address this urgent issue.

"As the pandemic continues to unfold in underserved communities that have little to no internet access and digital skills, economic disparities will worsen," said Norma Fernandez, CEO of EveryoneOn. "The MUFG Union Bank Foundation funding comes at a time when we are ready to expand, and allows us to respond to communities' growing demand for our programs."

"The pandemic has exacerbated a longstanding digital divide that disproportionately affects low-income households and Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities," said Kathy Patoff, Chief Operating Officer of MUFG Union Bank Foundation. "Our investment in



EveryoneOn is an investment in digital inclusion, which is the foundation for educational and economic opportunity in a digital economy.

About EveryoneOn

Since 2012, <u>EveryoneOn</u> has helped people in underserved communities unlock social and economic opportunity by connecting them to low-cost internet and devices, and providing digital skills trainings. The organization collaborates with government, community organizations, nonprofits, foundations and corporations to deliver services that give individuals and families the power to use the internet. EveryoneOn has connected over 890,000 people to the internet, provided more than 5,000 devices and delivered digital skills trainings to hundreds of participants nationwide. To learn more, visit <u>www.everyoneon.org</u>, and follow on Twitter, Linkedin, Facebook and Instagram @EveryoneOn.

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