

OBAE Helps Distribute Donated Computers to Ruidoso Disaster Victims

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Bringing Connectivity to Your Community



Office of Broadband Access and Expansion and Albuquerque Nonprofit Distribute Donated Computers to Ruidoso Disaster Victims



Donated computers are helping Ruidoso disaster victims



DiverseIT technicians train community members during the computer distribution event in Ruidoso

Today, the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion (OBAE) and Adelante DiverseIT, an Albuquerque nonprofit, distributed 40 donated computers to victims of the Salt and South Fork Fires and subsequent flooding in Ruidoso.

Adelante DiverseIT repaired, refurbished and prepared the computers for use. The unique program teaches people with disabilities, seniors, people of color and women how to use and service computer technology.

“This computer donation campaign is targeting New Mexicans in need, particularly those impacted by disasters,” said Jennifer Nevarez, a member of OBAE’s Broadband and Digital Equity Support Team. “What’s vital here is to get these computers into their hands, and we need more donations to help New Mexicans.”

The donated computers were distributed by OBAE and Adelante DiverseIT throughout the day at a church in Ruidoso. Nonprofits and emergency recovery organizations in the region collaborated to identify local residents and organizations in need. Adelante DiverseIT technicians provided hands-on training and assistance at the distribution site. Windstream, a local internet service provider, supported the effort with funding.

“Adelante is focused on moving our communities forward,” said Jill Beets, Vice President of Marketing for Adelante DiverseIT. “We’re happy to partner with OBAE during this national Digital Inclusion Week. The Ruidoso area has suffered great losses this year, and we are happy to give something back to that community.”



Access to computer and other hardware is a key barrier identified in New Mexico’s Digital Equity Plan, which outlines a range of goals and initiatives to ensure that all New Mexicans and communities have the technology, skills and capacity needed to benefit in the digital world.

As part of the state’s commitment to support digital equity and inclusion, OBAE continues to work with Digitunity, a national nonprofit organization focused on advancing digital equity through computer ownership. OBAE and Digitunity are connecting individual and corporate donors with regional nonprofits that can help get donated computers refurbished and distributed to New Mexicans.

If you have a computer you’d like to donate, go to: <https://connect.nm.gov/computers>.

If you have any questions about the donation campaign, you can contact Jennifer Nevarez at Jennifer.nevarez@connect.nm.gov

If you have questions about any of these opportunities, please contact us via email at Broadband@doit.nm.gov.

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