

Greetings!

As winter and the holidays quickly approach us, we're excited to share with you our latest updates. Much like you, our fall season has been extremely busy!

We've been laser focused on our mission: to provide free, high-speed mobile connectivity to as many high school students across the country, as quickly as possible. In a little over one year, we've connected 180,000 high school students across 180 districts in 33 states!

"I am the mom of a high school sophomore and we just received our hotspot. We have not had the internet for several years and my son is a straight A student and he has been going to the library. Many of his assignments are online and it's been difficult for him and I just really wanted to say that he is so excited and it's going to make his homework much, much easier."

1MPF Parent
Portland, OR

We're also putting a priority focus on supporting our districts to help ensure their students are using the internet access in ways that will help dramatically increase their academic and life accomplishments.

In the end, it's all about making sure America's high school students have the connectivity outside of school that they need to thrive.

Connecting America's High School Students as Quickly and Effectively as Possible

When we began working toward our mission we were bullish on how quickly we could connect one million students. Now, with a year and a half under our belts, we've learned that the effort required to get these devices into the student's hands is significantly more complicated, including the challenge of identifying which students actually need the connectivity.

A critical part of our program's success involves the help and coordination with our partner districts and their teams. They are absolutely essential in executing the program within their schools and ensuring the devices get to the students who need them. By working together, we can make a big impact in these students' lives, because once a student is connected, they are able to accomplish more.

We love how this quote from Brianne Neil, a high school teacher at Cypress Park High School, describes the opportunity we can unleash for students once they receive their connected device:

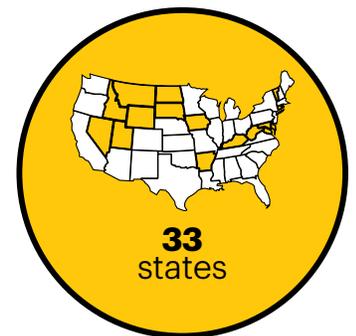
“Teachers often have to believe our students’ dreams before they even dream them. It’s what we do. Today, I was able to give them the hope to dream their own dreams. Thanks to the 1Million Project, my kids are connected. The door of opportunity has been opened and they are running through it! The ripple has begun, how far will it go? Will one of my kids be on the team that cures cancer? Will one of my kids create the “next smartphone”? Will one of my kids create a lasting legacy in their community? Yes, I believe they will.”



We also know that not every district has the dedicated resources needed to execute this program effectively. Unfortunately, in these cases, we aren’t as successful as we’d like to be. But, we continue to work with these schools and offer support so that we can connect as many students as possible, as quickly as possible.

The opportunity to unleash even more potential also fuels us to continuously improve the execution of the program. In fact, we are currently revamping specific areas and are excited about the changes we will be making for the next school year in order to get more devices to more students sooner.

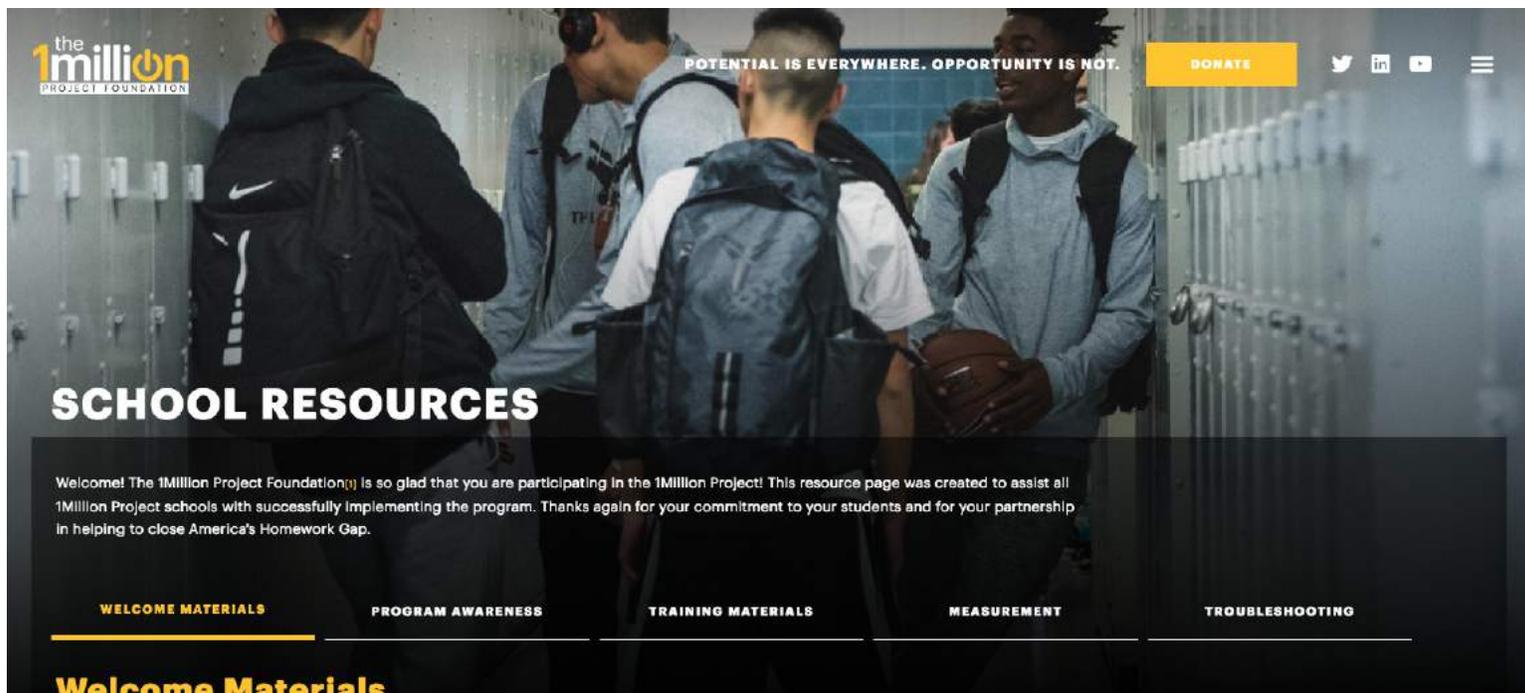
With 180,000 students connected across more than 1,800 high schools in 33 states, we’re optimistic about the level of potential these students can reach now that one barrier is removed from their lives.



A special thank you to all of our school districts for helping us reach these numbers and for pressing onward to connect more students each and every day. We couldn’t do this work without you!

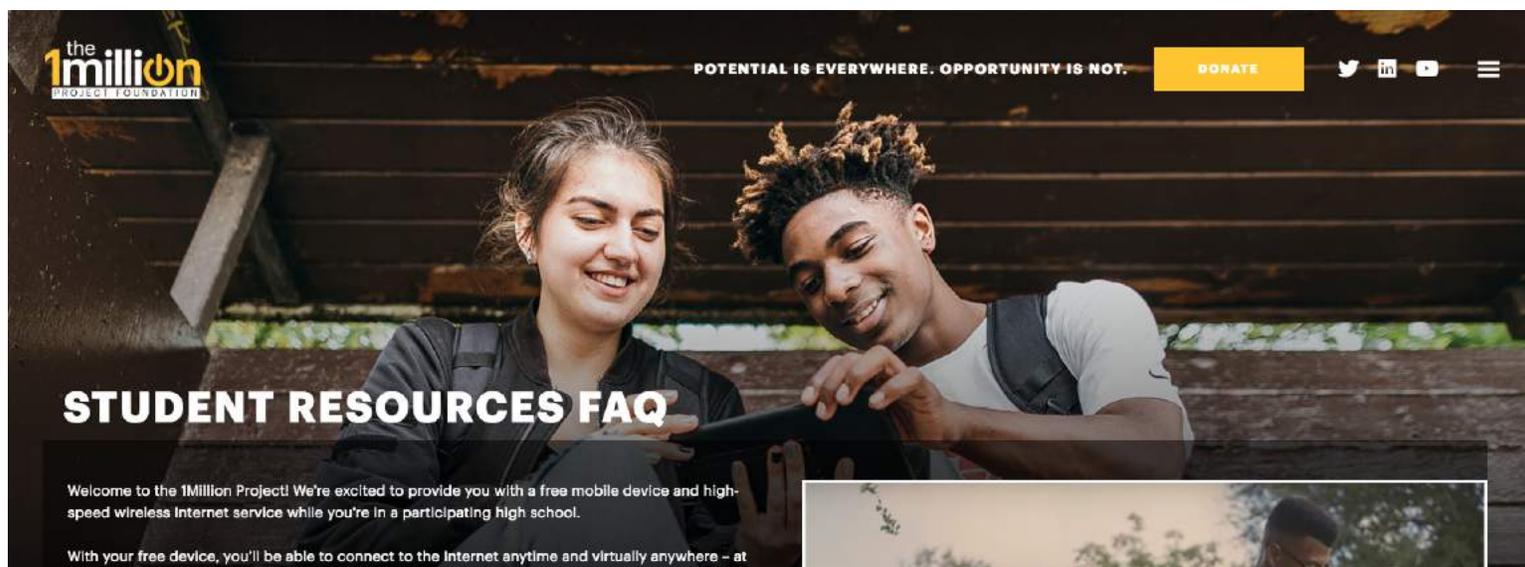
Connecting America's High School Students as Quickly and Effectively as Possible

One of the most helpful things we can do for our partner schools is lightening their lift when it comes to executing the program. We hear frequently from schools that one of their challenges is making sure that students and parents are aware of the 1Million Project opportunity.



The screenshot shows the 'SCHOOL RESOURCES' page on the 1Million Project website. The header features the logo, the slogan 'POTENTIAL IS EVERYWHERE. OPPORTUNITY IS NOT.', a 'DONATE' button, and social media icons. The main heading is 'SCHOOL RESOURCES'. Below it is a welcome message: 'Welcome! The 1Million Project Foundation is so glad that you are participating in the 1Million Project! This resource page was created to assist all 1Million Project schools with successfully implementing the program. Thanks again for your commitment to your students and for your partnership in helping to close America's Homework Gap.' A navigation bar includes links for 'WELCOME MATERIALS', 'PROGRAM AWARENESS', 'TRAINING MATERIALS', 'MEASUREMENT', and 'TROUBLESHOOTING'. The 'Welcome Materials' link is highlighted in yellow.

We launched a new school resources section on our website that is full of materials to assist schools during their entire rollout process, including onboarding information, program awareness resources, training tools, and more.



The screenshot shows the 'STUDENT RESOURCES FAQ' page on the 1Million Project website. The header features the logo, the slogan 'POTENTIAL IS EVERYWHERE. OPPORTUNITY IS NOT.', a 'DONATE' button, and social media icons. The main heading is 'STUDENT RESOURCES FAQ'. Below it is a welcome message: 'Welcome to the 1Million Project! We're excited to provide you with a free mobile device and high-speed wireless Internet service while you're in a participating high school.' A secondary message states: 'With your free device, you'll be able to connect to the Internet anytime and virtually anywhere - at'. The background image shows two students looking at a tablet together.

Similarly, we developed another resources section specifically for students that includes information on how to use their device, how to turn on the hotspot function and connect to another device, what's included in their monthly plan, and common FAQs. We hope all schools are directing students to this site if they have any questions about the program or their device.

Coming Together to Share Key Insights and Best Practices

We recently held our second in-person District Advisory Council meeting in Kansas City on Nov. 6-7. This council serves as the sounding board for the 1Million Project team, and is made up of 18 district representatives whose high schools are participating in the program.

As expected, our energetic and vocal council engaged in discussions on key topics such as:

- Getting devices into students hands faster
- Ensuring students are using the devices most effectively
- Making our communications resources even more helpful and compelling



One of the common themes we hear from our districts is how they can tap into some of the methods and procedures other schools are using to successfully execute the program. To this end, we held our first best practices webinar on an important topic: Device Usage.

Three school districts whom each have particularly high data usage among their students presented during a special webinar attended by many of our 180 districts. The insights they shared were extremely helpful for other schools to hear about first-hand.

What do Kansas City and Atlanta have in Common?

More 1Million Project students, that's what! Beginning in January and continuing into Year 3, we'll be doubling down in these two regional communities to help close the homework gap for each of their eligible high school students.

In the Kansas City metro area, many low-income communities still lack internet access. In fact, 32.8% of households in Kansas City, KS, and 24.4% in Kansas City, MO, do not have reliable internet access.¹ In response, we reached out to all of the surrounding school districts and are excited to add 13 new districts to the 1MP family, reaching an additional 3,000 students and bringing our total to approx. 6,500 students!

And, with Sprint's headquarters campus located in Overland Park, KS, Sprint employees were excited to volunteer to activate all 3,000 devices during holiday-themed gatherings.



In Atlanta, nearly 29% of households either do not have a computer or do not have internet access.² In response, we've begun additional targeted outreach and are hoping to add an additional 10,000+ students from local school districts at the beginning of the upcoming school year.

Supporting the 1Million Project

As we engage more deeply with districts, schools and students, we continue to hear amazing stories about how the 1Million Project is helping students achieve their academic goals. We're excited to capture many of these voices and perspectives, and to share them with you. We hope you are as moved as we are by these short videos.

We also working to be more "social." To this end, we invite you to follow us on our new 1Million Project [twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) accounts. We are passionate about closing the homework gap and frequently blog or tweet on trends, studies, and timely information about this issue.

Please join us in this conversation, share your stories, insights and pictures using #1MillionProject.



Supporting the 1Million Project

We hope you know we're working hard to achieve our outrageous goal of providing free, high-speed connectivity to one million high school students. And although we're fortunate to have incredible support from Sprint, we nonetheless have to raise a significant amount each year to cover our operating costs and to secure devices.

If you are inspired by our work, please consider making a tax deductible donation to the 1Million Project.

The 1Million Project Foundation team wishes you a wonderful holiday season and we look forward to continue sharing our journey with you as we work to close America's opportunity gap.

[Click here to donate!](#)

If you have any questions for our team, please email us at 1Million@1MillionProject.org.

Or, if you would prefer to opt-out of receiving our quarterly emails, please reply to this email with a message that says "opt-out."

