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Tech Goes Home and Jewish Vocational Service Partner to Provide Workers Across Massachusetts with Digital Tools and Training

June 10, Boston, MA -- Today, <u>Tech Goes Home</u> (TGH) announced a new partnership with <u>Jewish Vocational Service</u> (JVS) to connect hundreds of workers across Massachusetts with the digital tools and skills they need to find employment and complete key job responsibilities online, including remote work, and access other critical resources online.

Since its founding in 2000, TGH has worked with a diverse network of community and nonprofit organizations to provide individuals and families with digital devices, internet connectivity, and skills training to overcome persistent barriers to digital access and expand economic opportunity. Advancing digital equity is a key element of building a more inclusive and resilient workforce; today, across the country, one third of workers <u>lack basic digital literacy skills</u> for navigating technology and the internet, and many more lack computers or access to the internet.

Through the partnership announced today, JVS will fund TGH programming for up to 500 learners over the next year, and will work actively with TGH staff to identify learners who will benefit from expanded digital access and literacy. Each participant in the TGH programming will receive a new computer or tablet, access to high-speed internet, and 15 hours of skills training focused on key competencies to help workers find and participate fully in employment opportunities, and practice other critical skills.

"We are proud to be partnering with JVS to provide workers and families with the digital tools and skills they need to overcome barriers and advance their lives," said TGH Co-CEO Daniel Noyes. "Access to the internet and digital devices is an essential part of life today. Yet thousands of workers and families, especially from low-income communities and communities of color, lack the technology they need to take advantage of opportunities offered by the digital world - like applying for jobs and participating in remote work. COVID-19 has only deepened these challenges, and we look forward to working with JVS to help address digital inequity across Massachusetts."

"We know that a strong, inclusive workforce is essential for a strong economy," said JVS Chief Operating Officer Kira Khazatsky. "For many workers and families, lack of digital skills has been a barrier to economic opportunities for too long. As we recover and rebuild from COVID-19, it is critical that we equip workers and families with the tools and the skills they need to participate in today's workforce. We are excited about the opportunity to work with Tech Goes Home to help address the digital divide, for the sake of workers, families, and our economy.

About Tech Goes Home

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 <u>techgoeshome.org</u>.

About Jewish Vocational Services:

Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonsectarian organization founded in 1938. JVS serves more than 16,000 individuals annually, and is one of the largest community based providers of adult education and workforce development services in Greater Boston. JVS's mission is to empower individuals from diverse communities to find employment and build careers, while partnering with employers to hire, develop, and retain productive workforces. In support of this mission, JVS provides a wide range of adult education, vocational training, job readiness, career counseling, and job placement services, as well as related supportive services. Learn more about JVS at jvs-boston.org.

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