

## Presidents report Jan 10 2023

### December CTT

We held a Dec Chatham Tech Talk meeting on telehealth. Attendance was very good.

Presenters Theresa Thackler and Illa Mapp from UNC Health presented on their system for in-home patient care. UNC has a new virtual care program. If you are admitted to one of 4 UNC hospitals, and you live within 30 miles of the hospital, and your medical status allows it, you may be allowed to move from a hospital environment to your own home. You will still be under the same hospital care program using digital communications and on-site treatment when you need it. This includes on-site blood work and even x-rays. Advanced Care At Home: <https://www.unchealthcare.org/.../advanced-care-at-home/>

This program resulted in increases the happiness of patients, reduced the risk of infection, and allowed the hospital to use beds & resources for other patients, and potentially lowered costs to insurers.

They mainly focus on adult geriatric care. UNC would be pleased to tell other groups about their system.

Duke Tech Solutions has been working with telecos and cable companies to set up technologies in homes to permit or extend aging-in-place. As people age, their children may need to start checking on their well-being more often. They need to help them with their technology, help them with doctor visits, remind them to take their medicine, etc. At some point, some older people that live far from their children will require assisted living. Technology can help families care for their elderly and delay the move to a full-time facility, maybe eliminate the need. They can also be used in telehealth especially for long-term, chronic care. These technologies can integrate together smart-home devices with communication systems in a way that unburdens the elderly from needing to learn complicated systems. Communications systems can reduce loneliness also. Did you know that social isolation is as damaging as 15 cigarettes per day?

<https://duketechsolutions.com/telecom-for-healthcare/>

### Digital Inclusion

We will hold two public events in January.

We have 30/35 registered for Mosaic. And 7/35 registered for Siler City. We posted flyers in downtown and visited Hispanic Liason, meeting with Illana, also met with Tych, Shirille, and Jasmin of CIS. Handout Books for the event have been printed. Liz Mauney will help facilitation and note-taking. Bryan Thompson will attend and help answer questions. Jesse will attend and present about RHRNP. We

have posted flyers on Nextdoor, FB, LI, GG, Chatlist, possible article in CN+R, video on Chatham Journal. Kayley shared. Library will share. Etc.

### **STEM CTT Event**

Erin Denniston (STEM educator) can present. We will have a quick demonstration and contest for the participants.

### **Digital Inclusion Plan**

The County has hired an assistant, Breton Hart to help Bryan Thompson. Bryan says about 1/3 has been reviewed with county departments. Not much progress over last month due to holidays and budget cycle.

### **Digital Inclusion Help**

We continue to get email requests and complaints about internet availability. I was interviewed by Evey at CN+R for article on internet outage outside Siler City. I am trying to connect Duke Tech Solution with the County for help in making plans. I met with Conterra Networks and Insight and suggested 2 areas for extending network (Chicken Bridge and Goldston). They will share their analysis.

The handout book for the January public events will contain information on DI Help programs.

### **STEM Club**

Planned for Feb-March. CIS has just started to gather a list of children (waited until after winter break).

### **Marketing**

Met with Alex Centeno who lives in PBO and is a Digital Marketing expert. He made suggestions and will make a proposal to help.