

Press Statement

Contact: Ananda Leeke, Chief Social Media Officer aleeke@mmtconline.org (202) 261-6543

Black Churches 4 Digital Equity Hosts Black Churches Leading Digital Equity Conversations Panel

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 7, 2022): Black Churches 4 Digital Equity is hosting the Black Churches Leading Digital Equity Conversations panel on March 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. EST via Facebook Live. The panelists include Rev. Dr. Renita Weems, Co-Pastor, Ray of Hope Community Church; Rev. Dr. Leslie Callahan, Pastor, St. Paul's Baptist Church; Rev. William Lamar, Pastor, Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church; Scott Woods, Director, Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives, Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth, NTIA; and Dr. Nicol Turner Lee, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies and Director, Center for Technology Innovation, The Brookings Institution. Register here to participate.

Black Churches 4 Digital Equity is building a movement of Black church leaders advocating for digital equity. These leaders will broadly communicate throughout the nation how their communities can get connected with the Affordable Connectivity Program, Emergency Connectivity Fund, and low-cost internet options. Black Churches 4 Digital Equity was born out of the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council's (MMTC) Black Churches 4 Broadband Campaign that was launched in May 2021 and ended in July 2021. MMTC Vice President Dr. Fallon Wilson says, "The success of this campaign was evidenced by 407 Black Church leaders, including Rev. Dr. Renita Weems, Bishop Anne Henning Byfield, Rev. Traci Blackmon, and Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Wright, who all signed a letter to Vice President Kamala Harris to support a Permanent Broadband Subsidy. These leaders and others motivated members of their congregations to send nearly 2,000 emails, phone calls, and tweets to Congress in four days during the campaign."

* * *

About MMTC:

The Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) is a non-partisan, national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media, telecom and broadband industries, and closing the digital divide on behalf of its members and constituents, including owners of radio and television broadcast stations, programmers, prospective station owners, and others involved in the TMT industries. MMTC is generally recognized as the nation's leading advocate for minority advancement in communications. MMTC's vision is to achieve a fully connected, educated, healthy, and empowered society in which all communities thrive. Visit MMTC's website here.