Background

The UC Davis Health System in cooperation with California Telehealth Network (CTN) has been awarded a Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

The Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) at the University of California is uniquely positioned to interact with Californians where they live and work. As the parent organization for UC Cooperative Extension, ANR has been selected to provide consumer focused content and tools that libraries, community colleges and UC extension centers need to support customer healthcare literacy via broadband access.

For this project, ANR will make healthcare information directly available to the members of the 15 Model eHealth Communities. This differs from other portions of the BTOP grant that are focused on providing information to healthcare professionals. The deliverables will be freely available to the users without access registration or limitations.

What is ExploreHealth?

ExploreHealth is the name of the website developed for urban and rural California populations who are underutilizing broadband tools. Its consumer education content has two primary goals:

1. Help first-time users of the Internet understand what the Web is and how to use web browsers.
2. Provide links to trustworthy sources of reliable health information about many common health conditions.

Get Online: Tutorials built into the site simply explain the web, web browsers and how to search for information.

Get Healthy: If the user is comfortable moving onto a search, links are already provided that help patients and consumers access information about:
- weight loss
- hypertension
- diabetes
- influenza
- risk of disease
- health & wellness websites
Get Advanced: Provides information to help the users most comfortable using technology connected to the Internet to share their experiences, manage their health, and even make use of mobile applications.

How is ExploreHealth accessed?

There will be three primary ways the audiences in the 15 Model eHealth Communities will be able to get to the content provided by the ExploreHealth website:

- Any browser on any private computer connected to the Internet.
- Computers available for public use at public libraries and community centers.
- Tablet kiosks provided by the ExploreHealth program.

The public URL is: http://explorehealth.ucdavis.edu
An example kiosk URL is: http://info.ucanr.org/ehealth-kiosk/index.php?id=eh01

The video demonstrating how to use one’s fingers to use the touch screen is unique to the kiosk. We are also offering branding in the form of brief statements/logo for the hosting office to appear on the kiosk home screen.

The ExploreHealth website is designed to display correctly on any Mac or Windows computer. It will work on all Android OS mobile devices. The iOS (Apple mobile) devices will not fully display all the site offers. In particular, the tutorials explaining what a Web browser is and how to conduct a search will not function on iOS devices. The links to information will function. Using HTML5 Responsive Programming the site will display well on all devices.

The tablet kiosks provided by the ExploreHealth program will be available in secure floor, countertop, and wall mount versions.

Languages

By early September we will be offering the user the choice of English or Spanish for all of the text content created for this project. The US government health sites linked to the ExploreHealth sites often offer content in several languages including Spanish, Korean, Chinese and others. The kiosks make no sound so use in a lobby or waiting area is appropriate.
Hosting the kiosk

There is no cost to the host site for the kiosk. Upon completion of the project, the host location can take ownership of the kiosk.

The website and the kiosks are designed to require little or no local administration. Host sites will be asked to display a small flyer holder that will contain the URL and information about the ExploreHealth website. This will help the user return to the site when they have access to any computer, not just the ones at sites participating in the project. The flyers will be provided by the ExploreHealth project.

The touchscreen has a fingerprint resistant surface, but occasional cleaning may be required. Instructions and materials for the 30-second cleaning will be provided to host locations.

Kiosk Project Contact Information

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