



## Smart Housing Tool Kit

The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) has partnered with the Non-Profit Housing Association (NPH) of Northern California and other affordable housing organizations to promote the adoption of Smart Housing policies at the federal, state, and local levels of government. In 2011, NPH staff researched best practices in affordable housing technology, vendors, services, support, and training and undertook a literature search of existing programs and resources. NPH and CETF developed the Smart Housing Tool Kit to assist affordable housing developers with information and resources about broadband connectivity and implementation of networks.

The Smart Housing Tool Kit is a dynamic document that can be updated, expanded, and customizable by housing organizations in different regions of the state. Among other topics, it includes:

- A directory of technology and service providers, with references to developers and existing installations.
- A primer on terminology and major considerations in selecting a technology provider.
- Case studies of existing non-profit affordable housing developments that provide exemplary models of various installation, service and training options.

<http://www.nonprofithousing.org/bbtoolkit/>

The screenshot shows the website for the Smart Housing Tool Kit. At the top, it reads "PROVIDING INTERNET ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESIDENTS" and "an NPH toolkit for staff and developers". There is a Google Custom Search box. Below the header is the NPH logo and the tagline "THE VOICE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING". A navigation menu includes "OVERVIEW", "BEST PRACTICES", "TIPS FOR STAFF", "RESOURCES", and "WIRELESS VS. WIRED". The main content area features a "Welcome" message, a quote from Cheryl Canavari, and information about the toolkit's funding from CETF. A sidebar on the left lists "POPULAR RESOURCES" such as "GLOSSARY", "DEVELOPER DOS AND DON'TS", "BEST PRACTICES", "COMPUTER LAB TIPS", and "VENDOR AND RESOURCE INVENTORY".

**PROVIDING INTERNET ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESIDENTS**  
an NPH toolkit for staff and developers

Google™ Custom Search   x

THE VOICE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

OVERVIEW | BEST PRACTICES | TIPS FOR STAFF | RESOURCES | WIRELESS VS. WIRED

**POPULAR RESOURCES**

- GLOSSARY**  
Find out what common technology terms like LAN and Ethernet mean.  
[Click here](#)
- DEVELOPER DOS AND DON'TS**  
Learn how to plan for broadband access in your new building.  
[Click here](#)
- BEST PRACTICES**  
Learn from others' mistakes and success stories.  
[Click here](#)
- COMPUTER LAB TIPS**  
Keep your computers and equipment secure and functioning well.  
[Click here](#)
- VENDOR AND RESOURCE INVENTORY**  
Your marketplace for paid and free resources for technology issues.  
[Click here](#)

**Welcome**

Affordable housing developers and owners do more than provide affordable housing, they provide opportunities for their residents to help improve their lives, including access to the Internet.

This toolkit is for all of you who are responsible for maintaining the computers, equipment, and networks serving the residents in your buildings. It is a guide to figuring out solutions for the day-to-day challenges that arise from providing [broadband](#) services to your residents. We hope you will find it helpful.

*"A guide book would have been helpful when we started this adventure."*

-Cheryl Canavari  
Mission Housing

This toolkit is made possible through funding from the California Emerging Technology Fund.

CETF mobilizes leadership statewide to close the Digital Divide by accelerating the deployment of broadband and other advanced communication services to underserved communities and populations.