

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,335,069.00

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: MN/Crow

Congressman: Stauber, Pete (MN 08)

Senators: Klobuchar, Amy (MN), Smith, Tina (MN)

Recipient: Consolidated Telephone Company

Recipient Contact: Joe Buttweiler

Mailing Address: 1102 Madison Street Bainerd, MN 56401

Email Address: joe@goctc.com

Phone Number: 218-454-1275

Project Description: This Rural Development investment will be used to construct a 67-mile Fiber-to-the-Premises system to benefit 1,102 residents and 20 businesses in the Irondale Township, Crow Wing County, Minnesota service area. Subscribers will have access to service up to 1 Gbps, expanding access to economic, educational, health care, and public safety opportunities. A Community Center will be provided in a renovated space in the Irondale Township Town Hall where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,102

Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$412,071.00

Total Project Cost: \$2,747,140.00

RUS ID: MN1403-B23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,147,863.00

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: MN/Crow Wing, MN/Todd

Congressman: Nolan, Rick (MN 08),

Senators: Franken, Al (MN), Klobuchar, Amy (MN)

Recipient: Consolidated Telephone Company

Recipient Contact: Kristi Westbrook

Mailing Address: 1102 Madison Street Brainerd, MN 56401

Email Address: kristi@goctc.com

Phone Number: 218-454-1105

Project Description: The Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) will utilize funds provided by Community Connect to construct a Fiber-to-the-Home broadband system providing state-of-the-art services to 250 households and 8 businesses in and around Moran Township, Todd County, Minnesota. A Community Center will be located within the Moran Township Town Hall where residents can access two computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice and broadband services so that they may be better able to access the economic, health care, educational, and quality of life opportunities such services enable. CTC, headquartered in Brainerd, Crow Wing County, Minnesota provides advanced telecommunication services to 10 exchanges in Minnesota as the incumbent local exchange carrier and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in numerous areas surrounding their ILEC exchanges with a total of approximately 13,000 customers.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,519

Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$379,035.00

Total Project Cost: \$2,526,898

RUS ID: MN1403-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,109,007.00

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: MN/Carlton

Congressman: Nolan, Rick (MN 08)

Senators: Franken, Al (MN), Klobuchar, Amy (MN)

Recipient: Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Recipient Contact: Chris Berini

Mailing Address: 1720 Big Lake Rd Cloquet, MN 55720

Email Address: chrisberini@fdlrez.com

Phone Number: 218-878-2625

Project Description: Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa will use funds provided by Rural Development Community Connect to construct a Fiber-to-the-Premises system to provide state of the art broadband services to underserved residents and businesses within the Big Lake area of the Fond du Lac Reservation. This will enable the residents of this area to access improved economic development, education, health care, and public safety opportunities. An existing Community Center will receive improved service as a result of this grant, and will make computer terminals and WiFi available for community members free of charge during the grant period.

People Who Will Benefit: 149

Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$703,002.00

Total Project Cost: \$2,812,009.00

RUS ID: MN1402-C23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,953,464.00

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: MN/Aitkin

Congressman: Stauber, Pete (MN 08)

Senators: Klobuchar, Amy (MN), Smith, Tina (MN)

Recipient: Mille Lacs Energy Coop

Recipient Contact: Stacy Cluff

Mailing Address: 36559 US Highway 169 Aitkin, MN 56431

Email Address: scluff@mlecmn.com

Phone Number: 218-927-8227

Project Description: Mille Lacs Energy Coop will utilize funding from Community Connect to construct a Fiber-to-the-Premises network to 235 establishments in portions of Rice River Township and Spaulding Township in Aitkin County, Minnesota. This includes Tribal land and facilities of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative, located in Aitkin, Aitkin County, Minnesota, will construct a broadband network to support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will assist in economic and business development as well as telehealth and educational improvements.

People Who Will Benefit: 444

Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$344,729.00

Total Project Cost: \$2,298,193.00

RUS ID: MN1404-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,802,777.00

Program: Community Connect Grants
State/County: MN/St. Louis
Congressman: Nolan, Rick (MN 08)
Senators: Franken, Al (MN), Klobuchar, Amy (MN)
Recipient: Northeast Service Cooperative
Recipient Contact: Lyle McVey
Mailing Address: 5525 Emerald Avenue Mountain Iron, MN 55768
Email Address: lmacvey@nesc.k12.mn.us
Phone Number: 218-748-7623
Project Description: The Northeast Service Cooperative (NESC) proposes a Fiber-to-the-Home, or last mile project, on the Fond du Lac Reservation in order to address the lack of broadband availability to the rural population, critical public services, and businesses. NESC will partner with the Fond du Lac Band of Superior Chippewa and provide broadband on portions of the Fond du Lac Reservation.

Update: This award was transferred to the Fond du Lac Band of Ojibway in FY 2016. The project remains intact, with Fond du Lac as the recipient of grant funds. Fond du Lac continued to work with NESC on the project.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,510
Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$1,136,854
Total Project Cost: \$3,939,631
RUS ID: MN1402-B23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,834,531.00

Program: Community Connect Grants
State/County: MN/Carlton
Congressman: Nolan, Rick (MN 08)
Senators: Franken, Al (MN), Klobuchar, Amy (MN)
Recipient: Northeast Service Cooperative
Recipient Contact: Lyle McVey
Mailing Address: 5525 Emerald Avenue Mountain Iron, MN 55768
Email Address: lmacvey@nesc.k12.mn.us
Phone Number: 218-748-7623
Project Description: The Northeast Service Cooperative (NESC) proposes a Fiber-to-the-Home, or last mile project, on the Fond du Lac Reservation in order to address the lack of broadband availability to the rural population, critical public services, and businesses. NESC will partner with the Fond du Lac Band of Superior Chippewa and provide broadband on portions of the Fond du Lac Reservation.

Update: This award was transferred to the Fond du Lac Band of Ojibway in FY 2016. The project remains intact, with Fond du Lac as the recipient of grant funds. Fond du Lac continued to work with NESC on the project.

People Who Will Benefit: 2,868
Additional Funding: Applicant Contribution: \$1,103,201.00
Total Project Cost: \$3,935,732.00
RUS ID: MN1402-A23