

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$3,000,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** AK/North Slope

**Congressman:** Young, Don (AK 00)

**Senators:** Murkowski, Lisa (AK), Sullivan, Dan (AK)

**Recipient:** Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Mrs. Clover McNeil

**Mailing Address:** 4300 B Street, Suite 501 Anchorage, AK 99503

**Email Address:** clover@astac.net

**Phone Number:** 907-564-2680

**Project Description:** Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. will utilize \$3,000,000 in Community Connect grant funding to construct 70 mile fiber route to eliminate the current satellite backhaul that supports the existing customers, build approximately a 5 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises system to benefit approximately 150 residents and 37 businesses, and upgrade an existing wireless system to an LTE network in the Atquasuk, North Slope Borough, Alaska service area. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to this remote area by improving their economy, educational access, public safety and quality of life. A community center will be provided in an existing building where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 150

**Other Funding:** \$3,570,011

**Total Project Cost:** \$6,570,011

**RUS ID:** AK1412-B23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$844,023**

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: ND/Barnes

Congressman: Armstrong, Kelly (ND 00)

Senators: Cramer, Kevin (ND), Hoeven, John (ND)

Recipient: BEK Communications Cooperative

Recipient Contact: Derrick Bulawa

Mailing Address: 200 E Broadway Steele, ND 58482

Email Address: derrick@bektel.com

Phone Number: 701-475-2361

Project Description: BEK Communications Cooperative (BEK) will utilize grant funding provided by Rural Development to spark economic opportunities, facilitate educational aspirations, enhance healthcare and bolster public safety, in the unserved area of Morton County, in south central North Dakota with deployment of a 48.66 mile Fiber-to-the Home network, and the much-needed services it can deliver. BEK will connect the Community Connect Proposed Funded Service Area to their existing network by using its existing crossing under the Missouri River. This will bring all the current and future BEK services and capabilities to this area in desperate need. This project will bring high-speed broadband capabilities to 125 households who otherwise have no broadband or lesser quality services such as dial-up or satellite, all of which offer speeds below the Rural Utilities Service defined broadband service level or lack the ability to deliver real-time services like, distance learning, video streaming, remote healthcare, work from home Virtual Private Networks and access to agricultural sites online. The proposed fiber network will be very flexible for future growth and will support the implementation of new technologies and new services anticipated in the future.

People Who Will Benefit: 396

Other Funding: \$198,063

Total Project Cost: \$1,042,086

RUS ID: ND1401-E23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,960,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** WV/Monongalia

**Congressman:** McKinley, David (WV 01)

**Senators:** Capito, Shelley (WV), Manchin, Joe (WV)

**Recipient:** ClearFiber, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Chad Henson, Jr.

**Mailing Address:** 384 Patteson Drive Morgantown, WV 26505

**Email Address:** [chenson@myclearfiber.com](mailto:chenson@myclearfiber.com)

**Phone Number:** 304-482-2659

**Project Description:** ClearFiber, Inc. will construct a fiber-to-the- premises network to 2,308 households in portions of Monongalia and Marion counties in West Virginia with grant funding provided by Rural Development Community Connect. ClearFiber, located in Morgantown, Monongalia County, West Virginia, will construct a broadband network in an area with no access or limited access to the internet. This new broadband network will support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will assist in economic, educational, and healthcare challenges.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 2,308

**Additional Funding:** \$294,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,254,000

**RUS ID:** WV1407-A23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,307,250**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** TX/Clay, TX/Archer

**Congressman:** Thornberry, Mac (TX 13)

**Senators:** Cornyn, John (TX), Cruz, Ted (TX)

**Recipient:** Comcell, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Clifford Humpert

**Mailing Address:** 10184 State Hwy 25E Windthorst, TX 76389

**Email Address:** cliffhumpert@comcell.net

**Phone Number:** 940-423-6201

**Project Description:** Comcell, Inc, will utilize funding provided by Community Connect to construct a fiber to the premise network and a wireless broadband network in Newport, Texas. The proposed area covers 73 square miles and 150 households located in Clay, Jack, and Montague counties of Texas. Broadband speeds of 1Gbps on the proposed fiber network and 100 Mbps on the wireless network will be available. The investment will also set up six computer access points with free internet access within the Newport community center. This project will provide community members improved access to public safety, education, and health care services.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 344

**Other Funding:** \$354,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,661,250

**RUS ID:** TX1412-A23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,386,350**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** KY/Lee

**Congressman:** Barr, Garland Andy (KY 06), Rogers, Harold (KY 05)

**Senators:** McConnell, Mitch (KY), Paul, Rand (KY)

**Recipient:** Crystal Broadband Networks, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Nidhin Jonson

**Mailing Address:** 5860 Main Street Clay City, KY 40312

**Email Address:** njohnson@crystalbn.com

**Phone Number:** 630-206-0447

**Project Description:** Crystal Broadband Networks, Inc. (Crystal Broadband) will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$2,386,350 to construct a Fiber-to-the Premises network to 101 establishments to the service area of Beverly/Field, Bell County, Kentucky. Crystal Broadband 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. A community center will be established where residents can access broadband service, free of charge, for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 477

**Other Funding:** \$406,375

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,792,725

**RUS ID:** IL1403-K51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,126,579**

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: UT/Emery

Congressman: Curtis, John (UT 03)

Senators: Lee, Mike (UT), Romney, Mitt (UT)

Recipient: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc.

Recipient Contact: Mr. Rod Moore

Mailing Address: 445 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Email Address: rmoore@emerytelcom.com

Phone Number: 435-749-0463

Project Description: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc will receive Community Connect funding to construct a 32 mile Fiber to-the Premises system to benefit 360 residents and 4 businesses in the Old La Sal, San Juan County, Utah 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 an existing building where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

People Who Will Benefit: 360

Other Funding: \$198,808

Total Project Cost: \$1,325,387

RUS ID: UT1404-D51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$3,000,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** WV/Hardy

**Congressman:** Mooney, Alex (WV 02)

**Senators:** Capito, Shelley (WV), Manchin, Joe (WV)

**Recipient:** Hardy Telecommunications, Inc

**Recipient Contact:** David Sherman

**Mailing Address:** 2255 Kimseys Run Rd Lost River, WV 26810

**Email Address:** communityconnect@hardynet.com

**Phone Number:** 304-897-9911

**Project Description:** Hardy Telecommunications, Inc. will utilize grant funding provided by Community Connect to construct a 56 mile Fiber to-the-Premises network passing 600 establishments located in the Carpers Pike, Hampshire County, West Virginia service area. This network will support service at levels up to one gigabit per second for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to residents of the service area by improving their economic, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be established in a facility within the proposed funding service area, where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 1,880

**Other Funding:** \$454,997

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,454,997

**RUS ID:** WV1409-A23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$3,000,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** VA/Buchanan

**Congressman:** Griffith, Morgan (VA 09)

**Senators:** Kaine, Tim (VA), Warner, Mark (VA)

**Recipient:** iGo Technology, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Steven Van Dyck

**Mailing Address:** 1103C Plaza Drive Grundy, VA 24614

**Email Address:** steve@igotechnology.com

**Phone Number:** 276-935-8307

**Project Description:** iGo Technology, Inc. recieved \$3,000,000 from Community Connect to extend their existing 2016/2017 Community Connect grants to enhance broadband opportunities to an additional 820 homes and businesses. Central Appalachia and southwest Virginia is beautiful but has a rugged mountainous terrain which causes unique challenges when installing infrastructure. The people of the area have struggled for decades because of a century-old reliance on coal as an economic driver. The people are generally poorly educated which has led to low wages. Average household incomes are far below the national average and even farther below wages offered in other parts of Virginia. This investment in broadband infrastructure will in turn increase opportunities for employment, education, and services along these relatively poor rural communities located in far southwest Virginia in the Appalachian Mountains. The Bee Community Center will used to fulfill the grant's purpose.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 1,941

**Other Funding:** \$450,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,450,000

**RUS ID:** VA1410-C23



## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,053,815**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** IL/Jo Daviess

**Congressman:** Bustos, Cheri (IL 17)

**Senators:** Duckworth, Tammy (IL), Durbin, Richard (IL)

**Recipient:** Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Jesse Shekleton

**Mailing Address:** 793 US Route 20 West Elizabeth, IL 61028

**Email Address:** jshekleton@jocarroll.com

**Phone Number:** 800-858-5522

**Project Description:** Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. will receive funding from Community Connect to construct a 57 mile Fiber-to-the Premises system to benefit 772 residents and 2 businesses in the Galena Territory, Jo Daviess County Illinois 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 an existing building where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

  

**People Who Will Benefit:** 722

**Other Funding:** \$459,050

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,512,865

**RUS ID:** IL1404-A23

## USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,953,464

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:	<p>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.</p>
People Who Will Benefit:	444
Additional Funding:	\$344,729
Total Project Cost:	\$2,298,193
RUS ID:	MN1404-A23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$845,400**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** OK/Pushmataha, OK/Le Flore

**Congressman:** Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

**Senators:** Inhofe, James (OK), Lankford, James (OK)

**Recipient:** Oklahoma Western Telephone Co mpany

**Recipient Contact:** Dustin Hillary

**Mailing Address:** 102 E Choctaw Street Clayton, OK 74536

**Email Address:** dustin.hillary@hillcom.net

**Phone Number:** 580-529-2700

**Project Description:** Oklahoma Western Telephone Company will use funding provided by Community Connect to construct a 11.2 mile Fiber-s located i n the LeFlore County, Oklahoma service area. This network will support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to LeFlore County by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided where residents can access the internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 297

**Other Funding:** \$164,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,009,400

**RUS ID:** OK1417-A23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,396,440**

Program:	Community Connect Grants
State/County:	KY/Jackson
Congressman:	Rogers, Harold (KY 05)
Senators:	McConnell, Mitch (KY), Paul, Rand (KY)
Recipient:	Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative Corp
Recipient Contact:	Johnie Stidham
Mailing Address:	1080 Main Street S. McKee, KY 40447
Email Address:	michael.stidham@prtc.org
Phone Number:	606-287-0050
Project Description:	<p>Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative Corp will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$2,396,440 to construct a 47.5 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network passing 269 residences, four businesses, and one essential community facility located in the Primrose, Lee County, Kentucky, service area. This network will support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to Lee County by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.</p>
People Who Will Benefit:	665
Additional Funding:	\$359,467
Total Project Cost:	\$2,755,907
RUS ID:	KY1409-A51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,266,986**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** KY/Jackson

**Congressman:** Rogers, Harold (KY 05)

**Senators:** McConnell, Mitch (KY), Paul, Rand (KY)

**Recipient:** Peoples Telecom, LLC

**Recipient Contact:** Johnie Michael Stidham

**Mailing Address:** 1080 Main Street S. McKee, KY 40447

**Email Address:** Michael.Stidham@prtc.org

**Phone Number:** 606-287-0050

**Project Description:** Peoples Telecom, LLC will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$1,266,986 to construct a 27.6 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network passing 137 households and one business located in the Cressmont, Lee County, Kentucky service area. This network will support service at levels up to one gigabit per second for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to the residents of the proposed funded service area by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 295

**Additional Funding:** \$190,050

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,457,036

**RUS ID:** KY1410-A51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,643,900**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** OK/McCurtain

**Congressman:** Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

**Senators:** Inhofe, James (OK), Lankford, James (OK)

**Recipient:** Pine Cellular Phones, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** John Callaham

**Mailing Address:** 210 N Park Dr. Broken Bow, OK 74728

**Email Address: '** johncallaham@pine-net.com

**Phone Number:** 580-584-4100

**Project Description:** Pine Cellular Phones, Inc. will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$2,643,900 to construct a 21 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network passing 153 households and four businesses located in the Divide, Pushmataha County, Oklahoma service area. This network will support service at levels up to one gigabit per second for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to the service area by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided in an existing building where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 367

**Additional Funding:** Applicant Contribution: \$408,400

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,052,300

**RUS ID:** OK1419-A51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,544,250**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** OK/McCurtain

**Congressman:** Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

**Senators:** Inhofe, James (OK), Lankford, James (OK)

**Recipient:** Pine Telephone Company, Inc.

**Recipient Contact:** Jerry Whisenhunt

**Mailing Address:** 210 W 2nd St Broken Bow, OK 74728

**Email Address:** [jwhiz@pine-net.com](mailto:jwhiz@pine-net.com)

**Phone Number:** 580-584-3355

**Project Description:** Pine Telephone Company, Inc. will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$2,544,250 to construct a 32 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network passing 168 households and eight businesses located in McCurtain County, Oklahoma service area. This network will support service at levels up to one gigabit per second for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to McCurtain County by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 416

**Additional Funding:** \$394,400

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,938,650

**RUS ID:** OK1413-E51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$3,000,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** WV/Preston

**Congressman:** McKinley, David (WV 01)

**Senators:** Capito, Shelley (WV), Manchin, Joe (WV)

**Recipient:** Preston County Economic Development Authority

**Recipient Contact:** Roberta Baylor

**Mailing Address:** 330 East Main Street, Suite 100 Kingwood, WV 26537

**Email Address:** robertabaylor@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** 304-329-2299

**Project Description:** Preston County Economic Development Authority will utilize a Community Connect grant of \$3,000,000 to construct a 83.4 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network in northern Preston County , West Virginia. The proposed area has a population of 3,545 and the system passes 1,337 households. The service area includes the towns of Clifton Mills, Hazelton, Lenox, and Cuzzart. This network will provide broadband speeds starting at 25 Mbps and going up to 2 Gbps . This project will provide broadband service that fosters economic growth and deliver enhanced educational, healthcare, and public safety services to rural customers. A Community Center will be provided where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 3,545

**Additional Funding:** \$450,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,450,000

**RUS ID:** WV1408-A23



## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$3,000,000**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** VA/Scott

**Congressman:** Griffith, Morgan (VA 09)

**Senators:** Kaine, Tim (VA), Warner, Mark (VA)

**Recipient:** Scott County Telephone Cooperative

**Recipient Contact:** Bill Franklin

**Mailing Address:** P. O. Box 487 Gate City, VA 24251

**Email Address:**

**Phone Number:** 276-452-7201

**Project Description:** Scott County Telephone Cooperative will utilize grant funding provided by Community Connect to construct a Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) over-lash to upgrade its current broadband infrastructure in the Dungannon area of Scott County, Virginia where there is not 10/1 Mbps (10/1) service available. The proposed project upgrade will provide 592 customers a more robust broadband infrastructure with greater reliability and higher networking speeds of up to one (1) Gig to each location. This development will promote health care facilities and the County Government to consider locating in this community. With more robust infrastructure in place, more businesses may now consider locating to this area which should create jobs and promote economic development.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 592

**Additional Funding:** \$450,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,450,000

**RUS ID:** VA1401-M23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$137,429**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** NV/Douglas

**Congressman:** Amodei, Mark (NV 02), McClintock, Tom (CA 04)

**Senators:** Cortez Masto, Catherine (NV), Feinstein, Dianne (CA), Harris, Kamala (CA),  
Rosen, Jacky (NV)

**Recipient:** Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California

**Recipient Contact:** Mr. Serrell Smokey

**Mailing Address:** 919 Highway 395 South Gardnerville, NV 89410

**Email Address:** serrell.smokey@washoetribe.us

**Phone Number:** 775-265-8600

**Project Description:** Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California will receive grant funding from Community Connect to construct a fixed wireless system passing 60 households and a population of approximately 400 in the Woodfords Community, Alpine County, California service area. This community is under the jurisdiction of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. The system will serve the area from a single tower site co-located on an existing water tower, providing service of at least 25 megabits per second to all subscribers in the service area. A community center will be provided in the Woodfords Library where residents can access the Internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 216

**Other Funding:** \$24,252

**Total Project Cost: RUS** \$161,681

**ID:** NV1401-B23

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,933,204**

**Program:** Community Connect Grants

**State/County:** NC/Columbus

**Congressman:** Foxx, Virginia (NC 05), Rouzer, David (NC 07)

**Senators:** Burr, Richard (NC), Tillis, Thom (NC)

**Recipient:** Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation

**Recipient Contact:** Jody Souther

**Mailing Address:** 1400 River Street Wilkesboro, NC 28697

**Email Address:** jodysouther@myriverstreet.net

**Phone Number:** 336-973-6128

**Project Description:** Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation will utilize Persistent Poverty funds to finance a Community Connect grant of \$1,933,204 to construct a 42.65 mile Fiber-to-the-Premises network passing 347 households located in the Fair Bluff, Columbus County, North Carolina service area. This network will support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to Columbus County by improving their economy, educational access and quality of life. A community center will be provided where residents can access the internet free of charge for at least two years.

**People Who Will Benefit:** 347

**Additional Funding:** \$290,646

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,223,850

**RUS ID:** NC1402-A51

## **USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$637,500**

Program:	Community Connect Grants
State/County:	PA/Warren
Congressman:	Scanlon, Mary Gay (PA 05)
Senators:	Casey, Robert (PA), Toomey, Patrick (PA)
Recipient:	Youngsville Television Corporation
Recipient Contact:	Thomas Mott
Email Address:	tmott@youngsvilletv.com
Phone Number:	814-563-3336
Project Description:	Youngsville Television Corporation will receive a Community Connect grant of \$637,500 to construct a Fiber-to-the- Premises network to 240 homes and businesses within the Cherry Grove community in Warren County, Pennsylvania. Youngsville Television dba Blue Fiber, located in Youngsville, Warren County, Pennsylvania, will construct a broadband network to support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will assist in economic opportunities, economic development, and economic growth.
People Who Will Benefit:	462
Additional Funding:	\$112,500
Total Project Cost:	\$750,000
RUS ID:	PA1403-A23