

## **2013 Community Connect Broadband Grant Program Award Summaries**

### **ALASKA:**

**Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc.**

**Community: Glacier View and Chickaloon**

**Grant Amount: \$2,941,246**

**Contact: Eric Anderson 907-761-2795**

**County: Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska**

**Congressional District: AK-00 (project); AK-00 (awardee)**

The Community Connect grant to Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc. (MTA) will provide funding to construct fiber optic cables from MTA's existing fiber cables out to existing copper and microwave fed equipment sites and add one new site. The project will enable MTA to expand its current broadband service offerings in the community so that customers will have the ability to subscribe to service with speeds ranging from 5 Mbps to 10 Mbps. MTA is working closely with the Matanuska Susitna Borough School District to provide enhanced broadband service to the Glacier View School. The project will also fund the construction of a community center where all residents will have access to free service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) for at least two years.

### **KENTUCKY:**

**Crystal Broadband Networks**

**Community: IdaMay, Kentucky**

**Grant Amount: \$480,420**

**Contact: Nidhin Johnson, 877-319-0326**

**County: Lee County, Kentucky**

**Congressional District: KY-06 (project); KY-06 (awardee)**

The Community Connect grant funding from the RUS will be used to deploy high speed broadband internet services to the area of IdaMay, Kentucky using Hybrid Fiber Coax Technology. The project also calls for deploying video and voice services to the entire service area. The community of IdaMay is often threatened by severe weather conditions, including tornadoes. Having access to real time weather radar and national weather updates are critical to saving lives. Service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) will allow the community's fire and rescue personnel the ability to receive virtual real time weather warning updates.

**Crystal Broadband Networks**

**Community: Lambric/Rousseau, Kentucky**

**Grant Amount: \$704,600**

**Contact: Nidhin Johnson, 877-319-0326**

**County: Breathitt County, Kentucky**

**Congressional District: KY-05 (project); KY-06 (awardee)**

Crystal Broadband Networks will deploy service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) to the areas of Lambric and Rousseau using Hybrid Fiber Coax Technology. The project also calls for deploying video and voice services to the entire service area. The communities of Lambric and Rousseau are prone to severe weather conditions, including storms, floods and tornadoes. This project will enable these communities to have access to real time weather radar and national weather updates. A community center will be made available as part of the project which will provide free service at the Broadband Grant Speed to all residents in Labric and Rousseau for at least two years.

**NEVADA**

**Arizona Nevada Tower Corporation**

**Community: Upper White River Valley**

**Grant Amount: \$442,468**

**Contact: Kevin Hayes 702-454-2682**

**County: White Pine, Nevada**

**Congressional District: NV-02 (project); NV-03 (awardee)**

The Upper White River Valley is a tiny, isolated community surrounded on three sides by magnificent mountains. Population size and topography have left the area without access to broadband service and many of the conveniences most Americans take for granted. Though it is a vibrant agricultural area, the valley lacks access to broadband services, leading to lost educational opportunities and stunted economic development. The Upper White River Valley's Community Connect Grant project takes aim at this dearth of broadband and seeks to increase educational, economic and even entertainment opportunities to all residents living in the Upper White River Valley. RUS grant funds will be used to deliver sufficient broadband capacity in the community to allow each and every resident access to service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) at a reasonable cost.

**NORTH DAKOTA:**

**BEK Communications Cooperative**

**Community: Rural Barnes County North**

**Grant Amount: \$3,000,000**

**Contact: Derrick Bulawa 401-475-2361**

**County: Barnes County, North Dakota**

**Congressional District: ND-00 (project); ND-00 (awardee)**

BEK Communications Cooperative's (BEK) Community Connect project will provide an opportunity to transform citizens in the underserved area of Northern Rural Barnes County, North Dakota by empowering them with Fiber to the Home (FTTH) technology. BEK will connect the service area to its existing network with fiber optic back-haul. The project will bring

high-speed broadband capabilities to customers who otherwise have no broadband or lesser quality services such as dial-up, satellite or wireless services, all of which offer speeds below the RUS defined broadband service level of 3 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) and the lack the ability to deliver real-time services like IP Voice and IP Video. The proposed fiber network will introduce new capabilities not found today in these rural community's educational, healthcare and public safety institutions.

**BEK Communications Cooperative**

**Community: Rural Barnes County South**

**Grant Amount: \$3,000,000**

**Contact: Derrick Bulawa (401-475-2361)**

**County: Barnes County, North Dakota**

**Congressional District: ND-00 (project); ND-00 (awardee)**

BEK Communication Cooperative (BEK) will utilize RUS grant funding to serve a very rural and sparsely populated area in the southern portion of Barnes County, North Dakota. The area to be served has suffered from out migration of its population and consolidation of farmsteads. BEK already provides advanced services to over 7,000 homes within 65 miles of the service area and is well suited to extend its existing services to this needy area. BEK will use RUS funding to deploy broadband service using Fiber to the Home (FTTH) technology. The project will bring high-speed broadband capabilities to customers who otherwise have no broadband or lesser quality services such as dial-up, satellite or wireless services, all of which offer speeds below 3 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) and lack the ability to deliver real-time services like IP Voice and IP Video. The proposed fiber network will introduce new capabilities not found today in these rural community's educational, healthcare and public safety institutions.

**OKLAHOMA:**

**Medicine Park Telephone Company**

**Community: Acme**

**Grant Amount: \$933,000**

**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**

**County: Grady County, Oklahoma**

**Congressional District: OK-04 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

RUS grant funding will be used to deploy advanced Fiber-to-the-Home service to the Acme area. The service area is located in the Rush Springs Sandstone Mountains in southwestern Oklahoma. Through this project residential customers will be able to enjoy speeds of up to 100 Mbps from their homes, while business customers will have access to speeds of up to 1 Gig service, if needed. The project will also deploy voice and video service to the entire service area. Medicine Park Telephone will also offer a "Lifeline" type service for broadband to those who meet the same qualifications as the FCC Telephone Lifeline Service. The project will provide free service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) to all Critical Community Facilities, including a fire station, sheriff's office and school.

**Medicine Park Telephone Company**

**Community: Agawam**

**Grant Amount: \$833,000**

**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**

**County: Grady County, Oklahoma**

**Congressional District: OK-04 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

Medicine Park Telephone Company will utilize RUS grant funding to deploy wireless broadband service to the Agawam area. Through this project residents will be able to enjoy speeds of up to 20 Mbps from their homes, while business customers will be able to access up to 100 Mbps service. The project will also deploy voice service to the entire area. With the severe weather in Oklahoma, constant communication with local TV stations via the Internet is vital. Medicine Park Telephone will also offer a "Lifeline" type service for broadband to those who meet the same qualifications as the FCC Telephone Lifeline Service.

**Medicine Park Telephone Company**

**Community: Cookietown**

**Grant Amount: \$867,000**

**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**

**County: Cotton County, Oklahoma**

**Congressional District: OK-04 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

RUS grant funding will be used to deploy advanced Fiber-to-the-Home service to the Cookietown area. The service area is located in the southern portion of the Wichita Mountains in Southwestern Oklahoma. Residential customer will be able to receive service with speeds up to 100 Mbps from their homes, while business customer will have access up to 1 Gig. The project will also provide voice service and cable TV service. The grantee will also offer a "Lifeline" type service for broadband to those who meet the same qualifications as the FCC Telephone Lifeline Service. The project will provide service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) for free for two years to all Critical Community Facilities in the service area.

**Medicine Park Telephone Company**

**Community: Saddle Mountain/ Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge**

**Grant Amount: \$1,600,000**

**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**

**County: Comanche and Kiowa Counties, Oklahoma**

**Congressional District: OK-04 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

RUS grant funding will be used to deploy advanced Fiber-to-the-Home service. Residential customers will be able to receive service with speeds up to 100 Mbps from their homes, while business customer will have access up to 1 Gig. The project will also provide voice service and cable TV service. With the severe weather in Oklahoma, constant communication with local TV stations via cable and the Internet is vital. The grantee will also offer a "Lifeline" type service for broadband to those who meet the same qualifications as the FCC Telephone Lifeline Service.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA:**

**County of Orangeburg**

**Community: Pleasant Branch**

**Grant Amount: \$1,009,565**

**Contact: Harold Young, 803-533-6101**

**County: Orangeburg County, South Carolina**

**Congressional District: SC-06 (project); SC-06 (awardee)**

The County of Orangeburg will use RUS grant funding to deploy a FTTP broadband system to serve residents and businesses in the Pleasant Branch community. Pleasant Branch is located in the western portion of Orangeburg County and is a persistent poverty county. Through the Community Connect project, service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) will be provided to all residents and businesses throughout Pleasant Branch. Additionally, service will be provided to all Critical Community Facilities for free for at least two years.

## **TENNESSEE:**

**Scott County Telephone Cooperative**

**Community: Stanley Valley**

**Grant Amount: \$2,607,000**

**Contact: William Franklin, 276-452-9119**

**County: Hawkins, Tennessee**

**Congressional District: TN-01 (project); VA-09 (awardee)**

RUS grant funding will be used to construct a broadband IP Ethernet network with one gigabyte of bandwidth for locations throughout Stanley Valley, Tennessee. The system will tremendously benefit the community by boosting the local economy and promoting long term economic development. All Critical Community Facilities in the service area will receive free service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) for two years and a community center will be established in the community where local residents will also have access to free service for at least two years.

## **TEXAS:**

**Texhoma Fiber, LLC**

**Community: Sunset**

**Grant Amount: \$863,000**

**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**

**County: Montague, Texas**

**Congressional District: TX-13 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

Texhoma Fiber will utilize RUS grant funding to deploy advanced fixed wireless internet service to the area of Sunset, Texas. The area is located in southern Montague County and will serve homes around the London B. Johnson National Grassland Area. Residential customers will have access to service with speeds of up to 20 Mbps to their homes and business will have service with speeds up to 100 Mbps. The project will also provide a community center where members of the public will have access to free service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) for at least two years and all Critical Community Facilities in the service area will enjoy free service for at least two years.

**Texhoma Fiber, LLC**  
**Community: Ringgold**  
**Grant Amount: \$978,000**  
**Contact: Dustin Hiliary 580-529-2700**  
**County: Montague, Texas**  
**Congressional District: TX-13 (project); OK-04 (awardee)**

RUS grant funding will be used to deploy advanced Fiber-to-the-Home service to the community of Ringgold, Texas. Residential customer will be able to receive service with speeds up to 100 Mbps from their homes, while business customer will have access up to 1 Gig. The project will also provide voice and cable TV service. The grantee will offer a "Lifeline" type service for broadband to those who meet the same qualifications as the FCC Telephone Lifeline Service. The project will also provide service at the Broadband Grant Speed of 5 Mbps (upload and download speeds combined) for free for two years to all Critical Community Facilities in the service area. Additionally, a community center will be made available as part of the project which will provide free service at the Broadband Grant Speed to all residents in the service area for at least two years.