Community Connect Awards – New Mexico

2009 Grant Awards:

Agavue, LLC Los Cerrillos, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $550,950
Contact: Scott Schooley (505) 246-6990
County: Santa Fe; 3rd Congressional District
Rural Utilities Service funds will be used to provide wireless broadband services to the community of Los Cerrillos, New Mexico. Free broadband Internet access will be offered at the community center for two years. Agavue will also provide free computer training to local residents at the center.

Agavue, LLC Manzano, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $550,950
Contact: Scott Schooley (505) 246-6990
County: Torrance; 1st Congressional District
Agavue will use Rural Utilities Service funds to provide wireless broadband services to the community of Manzano, New Mexico. A new community center will be built, where free broadband Internet access will be offered to local residents for two years. The center will also serve as the town hall and emergency services facility.

2008 Grant Awards:

GEO PCS, LLC Black Rock, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $856,611
Contact: Gregory Ofili, (404) 457-3235
County: McKinley; 3rd Congressional District
Rural Development funds given to GEO PCS, LLC will be used to provide broadband services to residents, businesses, and public entities of Black Rock, New Mexico. The community will enjoy the cost savings and convenience of health management, through a video conference network, linked to nearby healthcare facilities and the state Telemedicine network, as well as educational, economic, and public safety benefits.
GEO PCS, LLC Salem, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $857,161
Contact: Gregory Ofili, (404) 457-3235
County: Dona Ana; 2nd Congressional District
GEOPCS, LLC will use Rural Development funding to provide broadband services to Salem, New Mexico. With broadband, the community expects to see local economic development, tele-work resource development, entrepreneurial resource development, and improvement of educational resources. A community center will be built with the funds, providing free broadband access to residents for two years.

2006 Grant Awards:

Pueblo of Laguna Pauguate, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $550,908
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Pauguate. Grant funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.

Pueblo of Laguna Seama, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $550,908
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Seama. Funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.

Pueblo of Laguna Encinal, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $550,908
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Encinal. Funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.
Pueblo of Laguna Mesita, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $487,971
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Mesita. Funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.

Pueblo of Laguna Paraje, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $527,736
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Paraje. Funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.

Pueblo of Laguna Laguna, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $633,939
Contact: Governor Roland Johnson, 505-552-6654
County: Cibola
Rural Development funds will be used to deploy a wireless broadband system to the village of Laguna. Funding will also aide in renovating the existing community center. This is a village that does not have POTS, imagine what bringing the Internet will do for communications on this reservation.

2005 Grant Awards:

Pueblo of San Juan San Juan, NM
Grant Amount: $565,963
Contact: Joe Garcia, 505-852-4400
County: Rio Arriba
San Juan Pueblo is one of the smallest pueblos in New Mexico, with 2,342 persons residing on approximately 19,000 acres. The project will provide access needed to strengthen the Pueblo’s vocational and educational goals and attract new business on tribal lands. It consists of the installation of wireless telecommunications to twelve critical community facilities in seventeen different locations, and 90 tribal residences. The community facilities house eighteen tribal departments including the San Juan Community School, the Governor’s office and tribal library, wellness center and diabetes program, boys and girls club, senior citizen’s center, law enforcement and tribal courts, and community health and Indian child welfare. Ninety tribal residences will be connected to the wireless system, allowing children and adults to participate in the educational programs remotely as well.
Sacred Wind Communications, Inc. Huerfano, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $436,461
Contact: John Badal, 505-250-1284
County: San Juan
This wireless network broadband project will serve Huerfano, current population 379, located in a remote and rural section in the northeast of the Navajo Nation. Poverty, isolation, inferior health care, insufficient public safety, and poor educational service are part of this community’s way of life. The project will bring broadband connectivity to the following locations: Huerfano Chapter House, the Huerfano Ha’naadal’ii Community Center, the senior center, and the Ha’naadal’ii Dormitory School. Residents will benefit by receiving preventative health information and medical alerts, receiving crime alerts, conducting e-commerce, enrolling in university and certificate programs, and receiving online job training. Students will benefit by after school academic research training and information about college applications and financial assistance. The project will offer free basic computer, Internet and webpage design classes at the community center.

2004 Grant Awards:

Pueblo of San Ildefonso Pueblo San Ildefonso, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $472,906
Contact: Dale Martinez, 505-455-2273
County: Santa Fe
The 450 people of Pueblo of San Ildefonso and the surrounding communities of El Rancho, Jacona, La Mesilla, Jaconita and Nambe will receive basic broadband services from this project. The Pueblo will employ broadband wireless technology to reach locations where only slow (14.4Kb/sec), expensive (long-distance) wireline Internet connections exist. In addition to providing residential access, the project will enable the Pueblo government to enhance and streamline core public services including Head Start, tribal courts, cultural and social services, and community health outreach efforts.
2002 Grant Awards:

Pueblo of Pojoaque Pojoaque Pueblo, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $579,767
Contact: Mr. Jim Pierce: (505) 455-3254
County: Santa Fe County
Pueblo of Pojoaque is one of nineteen federally recognized Native American Indian Pueblos in the State of New Mexico. The current tribal population consists of 333 persons. Pueblo of Pojoaque will use RUS community-oriented connectivity grant funds to provide wireless broadband access to nine critical community facilities, 16 tribal businesses, 80 tribal residences and one 3,000 square foot I.T. Community Learning Center. All of these facilities will receive broadband transmission service free of charge for at least two years from the date of installation. The I.T. Community Center will be open and available for use by the community six day a week, thirteen hours per day on Monday through Friday and eight hours on Saturday. By providing broadband telecommunications service to the community, this project hopes to attract new business and grow local business on the tribal lands, create new job opportunities, provide tribal police, courts and legal departments with real-time access to the National Crime Information and New Mexico Crime Information on traffic violators, and support a rural medical center with connectivity to regional centers.

Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. Columbus, New Mexico
Grant Amount: $199,960
Contact: Judy Bruns (520) 384-2231
County: Luna County, NM
Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc., an RUS borrower, is an incumbent local exchange carrier serving telephone subscribers in southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona. The applicant proposes to use RUS grant funds to provide digital subscriber line (DSL) broadband service to the Village of Columbus, New Mexico. The village is located in poverty-stricken southern Luna County where the unemployment rate is 14.2 percent, 55 percent of the households earn less than $15,000 in annual income, 50 percent of the adult population have less than a ninth grade education, and only six percent of the population possess a bachelor’s degree. The community relies on distant providers for medical, police, and fire and rescue services. The project will result in broadband access to all residents of the community who desire such service. In addition, the project will include the establishment of a community center which will be located in the village library. The community center will aid residents in developing online
UpHi.net L.L.C. Mountainair, New Mexico  
Grant Amount: $444,488  
Contact: Darlene F. Campbell (505) 847-0036  
County: Mountainair  
UpHi.net L.L.C. will use RUS grant funds to provide high-speed wireless Internet technology to the participating community organizations including the police department, volunteer fire and rescue department, senior center, public library, medical clinic, and elementary and high schools. The police and fire departments will be able to interact with national databases as well as recruit and train via the internet. The local, small medical facility will be able to obtain the latest in medical treatments, and access referrals. The grant funds will also be used for the construction of the community public access building. The population of 1,116 will benefit from this grant.

Ramah Band of Navajos Ramah Band of Navajos, New Mexico  
Grant Amount: $607,600  
Contact Person: Jay Moolenijzer: 505-775-7110  
County: Cibola  
This applicant plans to use RUS Grant funds to make broadband connectivity accessible to those living on the Ramah Band of Navajos Reservation via microwave technology. As a result significant economic, educational and social barriers will be removed. Broadband telephonic communications will be made available to all critical institutions and every household of the Ramah Band of Navajos, thereby creating jobs and educational opportunities and access to mainstream America.