

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,828,547

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: ND/Kidder, ND/Morton

Congressman: Cramer, Kevin (ND 00)

Senators: Heitkamp, Heidi (ND), Hoeven, John (ND)

Recipient: BEK Communications Cooperative

Recipient Contact: Derrick Bulawa

Mailing Address: 200 E Broadway Steele, ND 58482

Email Address: derrick@bektel.coop

Phone Number: 701-475-2361

Project Description: BEK Communications Cooperative (BEK) will use funds provided by Rural Development Community Connect grants to construct a fiber to the home broadband system providing state of the art services to 126 households in Morton County, North Dakota. A community center will also be located within a facility at a local park, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge, and will be contributed as part of BEK's matching fund contribution. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. BEK, headquartered in Steele, Kidder County, North Dakota provides advanced telecommunications services to 20 exchanges in South-Central North Dakota as the incumbent local exchange carrier and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in several areas surrounding their ILEC exchanges with a total of approximately 9,000 customers.

People Who Will Benefit: 331

Other Funding: \$549,155

Total Project Cost: \$3,377,702

RUS ID: ND1401-D23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,813,443

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: TN/Marion, TN/Franklin, TN/Warren

Congressman: DesJarlais, Scott (TN 04)

Senators: Alexander, Lamar (TN), Corker, Bob (TN)

Recipient: Ben Lomand Communications, LLC

Recipient Contact: Lisa Cope

Mailing Address: 311 North Chancerty Street McMinnville, TN 37110

Email Address: lisacope@benlomand.net

Phone Number: 931-668-4131

Project Description: Ben Lomand Communications , LLC (Ben Lomand) will utilize Community Connect grant funding to construct new state of the art Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) facilities to facilitate offering high speed broadband, voice, and video in a service area remotely located at the northernmost adjoining borders of Franklin and Marion Counties in Tennessee. Ben Lomand, headquartered in McMinnville, Warren County, Tennessee, is a competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) for the PFSA area. Through this grant, state of the art voice, video, and data services will be available to all 265 households within the service area, bringing positive economic benefits to all by increasing educational, health care, and public safety opportunities and facilitating 21st century lifestyles within the community. A community center will also be established within the service area where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi free of charge for at least two years.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,044

Other Funding: \$320,021

Total Project Cost: \$2,133,464

RUS ID: TN1406-B23

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

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: NC/Cherokee, GA/Towns

Congressman: Collins, Doug (GA 09), Meadows, Mark (NC 11)

Senators: Burr, Richard (NC), Isakson, Johnny (GA), Perdue, David (GA), Tillis, Thom (NC)

Recipient: Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation

Recipient Contact: Mr. Daniel Frizzell

Mailing Address: 875 Main Street East Young Harris, GA 30582

Email Address: daniel.frizzell@brmemc.com

Phone Number: 706-379-3121

Project Description: Blue Ridge Mountain EMC (BRMEMC) will use \$3,000,000 of funds provided by Rural Development's Community Connect program to construct a high-speed fiber-optic network to all homes and businesses located within the Hanging Dog & Grape Creek, Cherokee County, North Carolina Proposed Funded Service Area. This area is a remote and rural community in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina. BRMEMC is a rural electric cooperative and broadband services provider headquartered in Young Harris, Towns County, Georgia and serves two North Carolina counties and three Georgia counties. This investment will enable the construction of a high-speed, active Ethernet fiber-optic network which will enable BRMEMC (and its affiliates) to offer voice, video, and data services to the 865 households and seven businesses within the area. The technology will allow for increased opportunities to access economic development, health care, educational, and quality of life resources that high quality communications services can bring to communities. A community center will also be established in a local general store where residents can access computer access terminals and WiFi service, free of charge.

People Who Will Benefit: 2,044

Other Funding: \$450,013

Total Project Cost: \$3,450,013

RUS ID: GA1403-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,987,850

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: OK/Le Flore, OK/Bryan

Congressman: Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

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

Recipient: Choctaw Nation

Recipient Contact: Dara McCoy

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1210 Durant, OK 74702

Email Address: grants@choctawnation.com

Phone Number: 580-924-8280

Project Description: Choctaw Nation will utilize funds from Rural Development to construct a hybrid fiber-to-the-home and fixed wireless system on unserved portions of the Choctaw Nation and the Hodgen, Le Flore County, Oklahoma service area, passing approximately 300 households and 15 businesses. All customers will receive at least 25 Mbps/3 Mbps data service with service tiers up to 1 Gbps/100 Gbps available on the FTTH system. This project will increase access to high quality broadband Internet service, increase economic development, health care, educational, and public safety opportunities for this unserved community. The project will also deploy a Community Center in the Hodgen School, where members of the community can access computer terminals and WiFi service, free of charge. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, headquartered in Durant, Bryan County, Oklahoma, is a sovereign tribal government covering approximately 10,613 square miles in Southeastern Oklahoma.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,515

Other Funding: \$450,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,437,850

RUS ID: OK1416-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,147,863

Program: Community Connect Grants

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

Congressman: Nolan, Rick (MN 08), Peterson, Collin C. (MN 07)

Senators: Klobuchar, Amy (MN), Smith, Tina (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 in and around Moran Township, Todd County, Minnesota. A community center will also 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 telecommunications 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

Other Funding: \$379,035

Total Project Cost: \$2,526,898

RUS ID: MN1403-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,799,911

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: NC/Camden, VA/Northampton

Congressman: Jones, Walter B. (NC 03), Taylor, Scott (VA 02)

Senators: Burr, Richard (NC), Kaine, Tim (VA), Tillis, Thom (NC), Warner, Mark (VA)

Recipient: Eastern Shore Communications, LLC

Recipient Contact: Ronald van Geijn

Mailing Address: 23120 Lankford Highway Cape Charles, VA 23310

Email Address: rvgeijn@esvc.us

Phone Number: 757-695-2080

Project Description: Eastern Shore Communications, LLC (Eastern Shore) will utilize grant funds to build a hybrid fiber and fixed-wireless high-speed network capable of servicing the proposed funded area with speeds of at least 25 megabits downstream and 3 megabits upstream. The program will provide access to free internet service for residents of the county through computers installed at a local community center of the art services passing approximately 3,000 households in the Camden County, North Carolina service area. A community center will also be established within a library in the service area, where residents can access 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. Eastern Shore, headquartered in Cape Charles, Northampton, Virginia provides high-speed broadband internet services to both residential and commercial customers in numerous cities in three states, including Berlin, Ocean City, Hughesville, and Pocomoke, Maryland, Chincoteague, Wallops Island, Accomac, Exmore, Cape Charles, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, and Norfolk, Virginia, and Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

People Who Will Benefit: 8,019

Other Funding: \$270,000

Total Project Cost: \$2,069,911

RUS ID: VA1413-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,084,072

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: UT/Emery, UT/San Juan

Congressman: Curtis, John (UT 03)

Senators: Hatch, Orrin (UT), Lee, Mike (UT)

Recipient: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc.

Recipient Contact: Mr. Rod Moore

Mailing Address: 445 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Email Address: rmoore@emerytelecom.com

Phone Number: 435-748-3154

Project Description: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc. (Emery) will utilize funds from Community Connect to provide fiber-to-the-premises service to the community of Mexican Hat and Halchita, San Juan County, Utah, passing 111 households. These unserved households will gain access to state of the art voice, video, and data services, enabling access to the economic development, health care, educational, and quality of life opportunities advanced communications facilitates. A Community Center will also be located within the Mexican Hat-Halchita School, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. Emery, headquarter in Orangeville, Emery County, Utah is a "non -profit" cooperative that was formed to service the needs of the residents in east-central Utah and is part of the larger Emery Telecom corporate family, which has been providing telecommunications service since 1950. Emery will be utilizing \$367,777 of its own funds to help construct the project.

People Who Will Benefit: 296

Other Funding: \$367,777

Total Project Cost: \$2,451,849

RUS ID: UT1404-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$449,894

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: UT/Emery, UT/San Juan

Congressman: Curtis, John (UT 03)

Senators: Hatch, Orrin (UT), Lee, Mike (UT)

Recipient: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc.

Recipient Contact: Mr. Rod Moore

Mailing Address: 445 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Email Address: rmoore@emerytelecom.com

Phone Number: 435-748-3154

Project Description: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc. (Emery) will utilize funds from Community Connect to provide fiber-to-the-premises service to the community of La Sal, San Juan County, Utah, passing 178 households. These unserved households will gain access to state of the art voice, video, and data services, enabling access to the economic development, healthcare, educational, and quality of life opportunities advanced communications facilitates. A community center will also be established, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. Emery, headquartered in Orangeville, Emery County, Utah is a "non-profit" cooperative that was formed to service the needs of the residents in East-central Utah and is part of the larger Emery Telecom corporate family, which has been providing telecommunications service since 1950.

People Who Will Benefit: 455

Other Funding: \$112,474

Total Project Cost: \$562,368

RUS ID: UT1404-B23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$839,520

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: UT/Grand, UT/Emery

Congressman: Curtis, John (UT 03)

Senators: Hatch, Orrin (UT), Lee, Mike (UT)

Recipient: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc.

Recipient Contact: Mr. Rod Moore

Mailing Address: 445 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Email Address: rmoore@emerytelecom.com

Phone Number: 435-748-3154

Project Description: Emery Telecommunications & Video, Inc. (Emery) will utilize funds from Community Connect to provide fiber-to-the-premises service to the community of Castle Valley, Grand County, Utah, passing 191 households. These unserved households will gain access to state of the art voice, video, and data services, enabling access to the economic development, health care, educational, and quality of life opportunities advanced communications facilitates. A community center will also be established, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. Emery, headquartered in Orangeville, Emery County, Utah is a "non-profit" cooperative that was formed to service the needs of the residents in East-central Utah and is part of the larger Emery Telecom corporate family, which has been providing telecommunications service since 1950.

People Who Will Benefit: 400

Other Funding: \$209,880

Total Project Cost: \$1,049,400

RUS ID: UT1404-C23

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

Program:	Community Connect Grants
State/County:	NC/Madison
Congressman:	Meadows, Mark (NC 11)
Senators:	Burr, Richard (NC), Tillis, Thom (NC)
Recipient:	French Broad Electric Membership Corporation
Recipient Contact:	Jeff Loven
Mailing Address:	3043 NC-213 Highway Marshall, NC 28753
Email Address:	jeff.loven@frenchbroademc.com
Phone Number:	828-649-2051
Project Description:	<p>French Broad Electric Membership Corporation (French Broad) will use \$3,000,000 of funding provided by Community Connect to bring high-speed internet to the greater Laurel community located in Madison County, North Carolina. This area in the Northwestern portion of the county includes over 1,000 homes and businesses and currently has very limited access to high-speed internet service. This project would include construction of fiber optic lines on existing power poles throughout the community. These lines would then branch off and connect each home or business directly to the internet and would be a 100% fiber solution. This is the fastest, most reliable service available and would enable people in the greater Laurel community to receive the same level of service that others enjoy in the more urban areas.</p> <p>Having high-speed broadband in this area will help retain residents and stimulate growth. It will allow business expansion, creating more jobs and also allow people to work from home. It will provide children additional educational opportunities in a technology-driven system and give the elderly more health care flexibility.</p> <p>French Broad, headquartered in Marshall, Madison County, North Carolina has been in business for 77 years, serving a five county area of Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee. For the past 20 years, French Broad has been building and expanding a fiber optic network, currently over 350 miles has been deployed serving 350 customers and expanding daily.</p>
People Who Will Benefit:	1,899
Other Funding:	\$450,000
Total Project Cost:	\$3,450,000
RUS ID:	NC1401-A23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,128,950

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: OK/McCurtain, OK/Pushmataha

Congressman: Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

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

Recipient: Pine Telephone Company

Recipient Contact: Lee Brown

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

Email Address: leebrown@pine-net.com

Phone Number: 580-584-3300

Project Description: Pine Telephone Company (Pine) will utilize funding provided by Community Connect to construct a fiber to the home broadband system providing state of the art services to 163 households in 16 businesses in Moyers, Pushmataha County, Oklahoma. A community center will also be established within the service area, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. Pine headquartered in Broken Bow, McCurtain, Oklahoma provides advanced telecommunications services to 5 exchanges in Southeastern Oklahoma as the incumbent local exchange carrier and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in several areas surrounding their ILEC exchanges with a total of approximately 4,500 customers.

People Who Will Benefit: 381

Other Funding: \$340,400

Total Project Cost: \$2,469,350

RUS ID: OK1413-B23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$1,391,949

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: OK/McCurtain, OK/Pushmataha

Congressman: Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

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

Recipient: Pine Telephone Company

Recipient Contact: Lee Brown

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

Email Address: leebrown@pine-net.com

Phone Number: 580-584-3300

Project Description: Pine Telephone Company (Pine) will utilize funding provided by Community Connect to construct a fiber to the home broadband system providing state of the art services to 163 households in 16 businesses in the Cloudy/Little River Range, Pushmataha County, Oklahoma area. A community center will also be established within the service area, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge.

This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. Pine headquartered in Broken Bow, McCurtain, Oklahoma provides advanced telecommunications services to 5 exchanges in Southeastern Oklahoma as the incumbent local exchange carrier and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in several areas surrounding their ILEC exchanges with a total of approximately 4,500 customers.

People Who Will Benefit: 247

Other Funding: \$265,400

Total Project Cost: \$1,657,349

RUS ID: OK1413-C23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,528,001.00

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: OK/McCurtain, OK/Pushmataha

Congressman: Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)

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

Recipient: Pine Telephone Company

Recipient Contact: Lee Brown

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

Email Address: leebrown@pine-net.com

Phone Number: 580-584-3300

Project Description: Pine Telephone Company (Pine) will use grant funding provided by Community Connect to construct a fiber to the home broadband system providing state of the art services to 167 households in 6 businesses in the Snow/Finley, Pushmataha County, Oklahoma area. A community center will also be established within the service area, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. Pine, headquartered in Broken Bow, McCurtain, Oklahoma provides advanced telecommunications services to 5 exchanges in Southeastern Oklahoma as the incumbent local exchange carrier and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in several areas surrounding their ILEC exchanges with a total of approximately 4,500 customers.

People Who Will Benefit: 374

Other Funding: \$450,400

Total Project Cost: \$2,978,401

RUS ID: OK1413-D23

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: billfranklin@sctc.org

Phone Number: 276-452-7201

Project Description: Scott County Telephone Cooperative (SCTC) will utilize funding provided by Rural Development Community Connect to construct a fiber to the home broadband system providing state of the art services to 554 households and 20 businesses in the Nickelsville, Scott County, Virginia area. A community center will also be established within the service area, where residents can access computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. SCTC, headquartered in Gate City, Scott County, Virginia provides advanced telecommunications services to 6 exchanges in Southwestern Virginia as the incumbent local exchange carrier, providing service to approximately 4,900 customers. SCTC also acts as a competitive local exchange carrier in 6 other and also provides services as a competitive local exchange carrier in several surrounding southwestern Virginia counties, passing an additional 10,000 homes with systems passing an additional 1,700 homes currently under construction.

People Who Will Benefit: 2,171

Other Funding: \$450,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,450,000

RUS ID: VA1401-L23

USDA Rural Development has approved a grant of \$2,980,559

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: AL/Marion

Congressman: Aderholt, Robert (AL 04)

Senators: Jones, Doug (AL), Shelby, Richard (AL)

Recipient: Tombigbee Electric

Recipient Contact: Brenda Overton

Mailing Address: 3196 County Highway 55 Hamilton, AL 35570

Email Address: boverton@tombigbee.org

Phone Number: 205-921-6741

Project Description: Tombigbee Electric will receive \$2,980,559 in funding from Community Connect to construct a Fiber-to-the-Premises network with to 473 residences located in Brilliant and the surrounding areas in Marion County, Alabama. This network will support service at levels up to 1 Gbps for each subscriber. This broadband network will provide significant benefits to Marion 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: 1,132

Other Funding: \$447,084

Total Project Cost: \$3,427,643

RUS ID: AL1401-A23

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

Program: Community Connect Grants

State/County: KY/Graves, TN/Weakley

Congressman: Comer, James (KY 01), Fincher, Stephen (TN 08)

Senators: Alexander, Lamar (TN), Corker, Bob (TN), McConnell, Mitch (KY), Paul, Rand (KY)

Recipient: West Kentucky Rural Telephone Coop

Recipient Contact: Mr. Bill Bartleman

Mailing Address: 237 North 8th Street Mayfield, KY 42066

Email Address: Director of Special Projects

Phone Number: 270-856-9983

Project Description: West Kentucky Rural Telephone Coop (WKRTC) will utilize funding provided by Community Connect to construct a fiber to home broadband system providing state of the art services to 406 unserved homes and businesses in and around Dukedom in Weakley County, Tennessee . A new community center will also be constructed where residents can access seven computer terminals and WiFi, free of charge. This project will allow the residents and businesses in this area to access high quality voice, video, 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. WKRTC headquartered in Mayfield, Graves County, Kentucky provides advanced telecommunications services to 22 exchanges in Kentucky and Tennessee, and will be expanding their system to this new community through this project, contributing \$450,000 of their own funds to help complete the project.

People Who Will Benefit: 1,237

Other Funding: \$450,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,450,000

RUS ID: KY1408-A23