

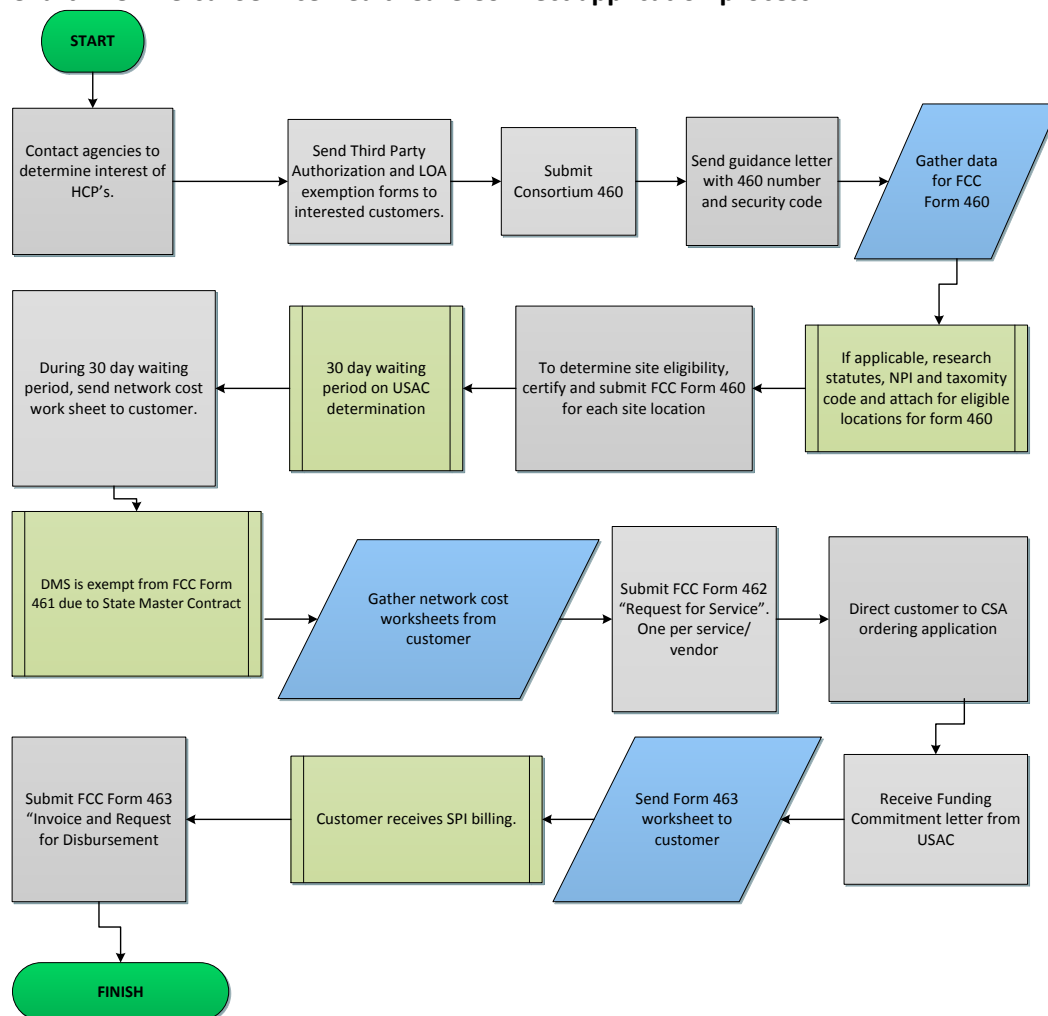
**Broadband Florida Q1 2014 PPR Report Details
Project Attachment – Technical Assistance (Grants)**

Question 2. Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for the next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.

Planned Major Activities and Mitigation Strategies for the Next Quarter

Our focus is on broadband-related resource development for healthcare community anchor institutions. Specifically, the team is maximizing the **Federal Communications Commission HealthCare Connect Fund** to support broadband discounts to state agency healthcare provider sites (see Chart 1). The team's goal is to return the maximum amount of Universal Service funding to these healthcare providers. We have three staff members now, Shannon Parker, Jackie Archer and Melanie Simmons. Ms. Parker, our newest staff member, specializes in outreach, data collection, and validation. Ms. Archer manages data for reporting and entering into the Universal Service portal. Ms. Simmons manages program reporting, tracking, and external relations with the Universal Service and the beneficiaries of the HealthCare Connect program.

Chart 1: Universal Service HealthCare Connect application process



First Quarter Major Accomplishments

During the first quarter of 2014, two consortia for the HealthCare Connect Fund were established with positive results. The team received Third Party Authorization letters from the Florida Departments of Health and Juvenile Justice. These letters allow our staff to apply to the Fund on their behalf. A consortium for each agency was created by filing a consortium Form 460 for each. During this process it was determined that Florida Department of Juvenile Justice's urban sites did not meet the eligibility criteria and it is our understanding that the Federal Communication Commission is deliberating whether sites like Juvenile Justice's might be eligible in the future. We recommended that the agency not proceed with their application to the Fund until the Commission decides eligibility of these sites. However, the Florida Department of Health's consortium is moving forward and encompasses the majority of healthcare provider sites. Approximately 400 Department of Health Form 460s, one for each site, will be submitted to determine eligibility and we anticipate a savings of over \$1 Million in the first year of the program.

We also provided technical assistance to other health care providers who are eligible to use Florida Department of Management Services enterprise telecommunication services. These organizations include Florida State University College of Medicine, Desoto and Hendry Memorial Hospitals, and others. We provided advice to assist in their applications.

Deliverables

The remainder of the first quarter report describes performance based on major grant activities. These performance measures are tracked and refined to address unforeseen challenges. The quarterly deliverables are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Grant Deliverables for the Grants Assistance Team from the NTIA Grant Scope

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| 1. Research, Review and documentation of Universal Service based funding programs |
| 2. Determine Community Anchor Institutional grant applicants and needs |
| 3. Communicate grant opportunities to stakeholders |
| 4. Provide technical assistance and program management support to grant applicants |
| 5. Incorporate grant program research results into grant database and web portal |
| 6. Provide quarterly report and newsletter to stakeholders of quarter activities and results |
| 7. Continue Grant Program outreach and awareness building with public and private institutions |
| 8. Grant program Training to Community Anchor Institutions |
| 9. Document funding program requirements for applicants |

Research, Review and Document Federal Funding Programs

The team is focused on developing and implementing applications for the Universal Service Healthcare Connect fund. Analysis from previous quarters showed that our best return on time invested is assisting applicants to access this Fund.

Determination of Community Anchor Institution Needs

As we prepared the agency applications, we assessed broadband speeds and evaluated bandwidth needs. The Florida Department of Health is planning to increase bandwidth to eligible sites when the funds become available. We are awaiting the Third Party Authorization letters from the Florida Departments of Veterans Affairs and Children and Families who have, respectively, 29 and 22 potentially eligible sites. We are consulting with these organizations to determine their needs for broadband and other related services.

Communicate Grant Opportunities to Stakeholders

The team has concluded outreach for the Healthcare Connect Fund. Until the end of the grant, the team will act as a consultant to the agencies to assist their fund applications.

Provide Technical Assistance and Program Management Support to Grant Applicants

In the first quarter, the team assisted on the consortia applications and provided consulting to other HealthCare Connect applicants.

Universal Service HealthCare Connect Fund

State agency consulting clients:

1. Florida Department of Health
2. Florida Department of Children and Families
3. Florida Department of Veterans Affairs
4. Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (suspended application)

Other consulting Clients:

1. Florida State University
2. Hendry Memorial Hospital
3. Desoto Memorial Hospital
4. Community Health IT

Incorporate Grant Program Research Results into Grant Database and Broadband Florida Initiative Web Portal

The team is fully engaged in building a portal to host the funding opportunity database, facilitate outreach, store recorded webinars, and enable outreach subscription and dissemination.

Continue Grant Program Outreach and Awareness Building with Public and Private Institutions

The Team concluded our outreach efforts. For the remainder of the grant until November 2014, we are focused solely on the Universal Service Healthcare Connect Program application and management for consulting clients.

Grant Program Training to Community Anchor Institutions

A training program for the agencies will be developed in the third quarter of 2014 and followed by training sessions in the fourth quarter of 2014. The training will allow each agency to sustainably manage their consortium into the future.

Document Funding Program Requirements for Applicants

The following chart shows the progress of the Department of Health application. "Updated Descriptions" documents the progress of updating the address, clinic and site activities and IT Director for each site. The remaining tracking data concern the eligibility Form 460 for each site and include denied, pending and accepted (meaning eligible) number of sites. The team just started the 460s process for the Department of Health in the first quarter.

Chart 2: Florida Department of Health Universal Service Application: Form 460 Progress: March 30 2014.

