

NTIA Quarterly Supplement
Partnership for a Connected Illinois | 7/1/14-9/30/14

Data Collection

- Collected data from 170 Illinois broadband providers for the tenth and final submission to the National Broadband Map. Seven new providers were added for the first time, and 57 providers reported changes to their service areas. The complete data was submitted to the NTIA on October 1, 2014.
- Shared information about Illinois broadband via our website, with 8,292 unique individuals visiting Broadbandillinois.org during the quarter, viewing an average of 4.24 pages each. Since its inception in early 2011, the website has had visitors from 159 countries around the globe, or 82% of the world.
- Updated the “find broadband” and “request broadband” tools on the website. 1,444 individuals used the “find broadband” tool during the quarter, and 36 individuals requested better broadband access through the “request broadband” tool.
- Updated website mapping tools, carrier, and county maps based upon new data gathered.
- Performed extensive spatial analysis to arrive at the number of Illinois occupied households within a three mile and one mile buffer of known fiber in the state.
- Assisted seven broadband providers with the new FCC Form 477 filing requirements, upon their request.
- Created a set of maps for the University of Chicago showing cell phone use by community area in 2013, for use in a research report.

Impact/Capacity Building

- Developed initial versions of the following plans to implement through the remainder of NTIA funding and to continue the work from the last five years:
 - PCI Strategic Vision Plan
 - Public Information Strategic Plan
 - GIS Work Plan
 - Chicago Regional Strategic Plan
 - Economic and Community Development Support Strategic Plan
- Facilitated five sub-committee meetings of the Broadband Deployment Council.
- Completed IBOP reports for the months of June, July, and August.
- Continued daily interaction with consumers, providers, and officials through the use of social media, with the following results:
 - Facebook fans have increased by 18%, with as many as 1,411 views of posts.
 - Twitter followers have increased by 15%, using daily themes to increase engagement. Both the Illinois Senate Democrats and Illinois Senate Republicans have marked tweets “favorite” and retweeted posts to their combined 6,323 followers.
 - LinkedIn followers have increased by 16%, with a reach of up to 529 professionals.
 - Attended part of “Social Media Week” held in Chicago to learn more on best practices of social media interaction for non-profit organizations.
- Shared more than 100 articles on technology and broadband via our website, social media, and a weekly news roundup newsletter on an ongoing basis.

- Assembled talking points on Broadband Investment and Economic Impact in Illinois for the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.
- Collaborated with the Springfield Business Journal for an article titled “Illinois a Leader in Broadband Internet Coverage,” which was published in their September issue.
- Served on the following committees: Digital Leadership Innovation Project, Eliminate the Digital Divide, Alliance for Health Population, Governor’s Office of Health and Transformation Asset Based Community Development, Health Workforce Implementation Group
- Attended the NTIA’s Midwest Workshop on “Building a Broadband Community Roadmap” and met stakeholders similar to PCI from other states.
- Attended the SSTI Conference in Chicago focusing on “Regional Prosperity through Innovation.” Joined breakout sessions on topics such as underserved communities, entrepreneurship, building innovation ecosystems, and more.
- Attended the Wireless Internet Service Providers Association (WISPA) Midwest Roundup, discussing getting broadband to every corner of the state.
- Participated in the 2014 IEMA Conference.
- Attended the press briefing hosted by Governor Pat Quinn regarding new broadband networks, and promoted the press release issued by the Governor’s office.
- Collaborated with the following entities in order to spur additional infrastructure, connectivity, and investment in Illinois Broadband Initiatives:
 - 1871
 - Affordable Colleges Foundation
 - Benton Foundation
 - Blandin Foundation
 - Center for Digital Inclusion
 - Clearwave Communications
 - Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln
 - Connect Ed
 - ConnectSI
 - DeKalb Advancement of Technology Authority (DATA)
 - DigEdu
 - Gigabit Squared
 - iFiber
 - Illinois Century Network
 - Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
 - Illinois Medical District
 - Illinois Science and Technology Coalition
 - Illinois Ventures for Community Action
 - Local Initiatives Support Coalition
 - Lumity
 - Man-Tra-Con
 - Mayer Networks
 - Midland Center for Entrepreneurship
 - Northern Illinois University
 - Office of Governor Pat Quinn
 - Pritzker Venture Capitol Group
 - Rural Health Net

- Site Selection Magazine
- T6 Broadband
- UC2B
- Wisper ISP

Technical Assistance

- Conducted a Chicago Broadband Meetup in person and virtually, discussing Big Data and Small Data, and its intersection with high speed Internet. Panelists were Jon Gant, Director, Center for Digital Inclusion and Bruce Montgomery, CEO, Technology Access Television.
- Assisted the City of Carbondale with their gigabit community project, including meetings with the Downtown Advisory Council, meeting with city officials, and working with Frontier Communications, WisperISP, and Clearwave Communications to coordinate efforts.
- Provided technical assistance to the City of Chicago regarding a research report PCI sponsored in 2012 about broadband adoption in the city.
- Discussed municipal broadband networks with the City of Kankakee and the City of Carbondale.
- Assisted seven individuals who contacted us by phone or through email, unhappy with the lack of broadband coverage or options in their community. Did research into carriers available at the specific address and discussed the results with each individual. In one instance, worked with a local wireless carrier to expand services to the household.
- Participated in the Illinois State Fair by distributing “Find and Request Broadband” postcards in the Governor’s tent.
- Attended City Club luncheon featuring Dan O’Neill of Smart Chicago Collaborative and connected with City of Chicago representatives.