

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

47-50-M09041

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

01-04-2012

1. Recipient Name

Connected Tennessee, LLC

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

State of Tennessee

3. Street Address

618 Church Street, Suite 305,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Nashville, TN 37219-2437

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-20-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-19-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

12-31-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:

N/A

10. Broadband Mapping

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

ABG Wireless, LLC: The provider indicated they would participate during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. However, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of December 16 the provider remains non-responsive.

Birch Communications, Inc.: The provider refused to participate during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. After contact was made on November 18 the provider still refused to participate.

TNets Internet: The provider indicated they would participate during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. However, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of December 27 the provider has not submitted data.

TNWEB, LLC: The provider refused to participate during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. As such Connected Nation will conduct a field audit in an effort to estimate the provider's coverage area.

Trinity Communications LLC: The provider was non-responsive during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of December 27 the provider remains non-responsive.

Utopian Wireless Corporation: The provider was non-responsive during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of November 4 the provider remains non-responsive.

Wisper, LLC: The provider was non-responsive during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of December 27 the provider remains non-responsive.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

No data has been collected through extraction or extrapolation.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

Esri is deploying and hosting the BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. Esri houses the customized BBStat application in their highly available, monitored, and managed environment. The scope of services includes setting up a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries is also collected. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation (CN) to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

See Tennessee Q4 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connected Tennessee website (<http://www.connectedtn.org>) and received a total of 434 visits between October 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.

During this quarter, the Connected Tennessee project received a total of 64 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 4 for this quarter.

For this reporting period, 6 field verification tests were conducted. Thus far, project staff conducted multiple tests on the following providers: Ardmore Telephone Company Inc.; AT&T; Aurora Cable TV; Beasley Wireless; Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative Inc.; Big River; Cable ONE; Cellular South Inc.; Charter Communications; Clarksville Department of Electricity (d.b.a. CDE Lightband); Clearwire Corporation; Columbia Power & Water Systems; Comcast; CRU Enterprises; DotSpot Wireless; ECSIS.Net; FiberNet; Frontier Communications Corporation; High Country Online; Infostructure Cable; Jackson Energy Authority; Ken-Tenn Wireless LLC; Leap Wireless International Inc.; Level 3; Loretto Telephone; Mediacom Southeast LLC. (d.b.a. Mediacom Communications Corp.); Millington Telephone Company; Morristown Utilities; NetEase; NewWave Communications; OrbWireless.net; Planet Connect Internet; QuickRelay Wireless Communications; Rural Tennessee Wireless Broadband; Sprint Nextel; Surfmore; TDS Telecom; TEC of Jackson Inc.; Tele-Page; Inc. T-Mobile USA Inc.; Trenton Cable TV Company; U.S. Cellular; Ultra High Speed Internet; UltraNet; United Telephone Company; Verizon Communications Inc.; West Kentucky Rural Telephone; and Xpansion Networks.

To date, field validation testing has been completed against 48 companies (out of a universe of 88 viable providers) totaling 54.55% within the state.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

4.57

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connected Tennessee project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts (SMEs) in their respective areas. The project benefits by leveraging the SMEs' knowledge and skills, without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

Connected Tennessee's FTEs reported for the quarter include 1.45 FTEs for temporary, cyclical consultants and a base of 3.12 FTEs that consistently contribute to the project. All of our base positions are fully staffed.

This project is fully staffed with a base of 3.12 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
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Associate Council	1	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	3	12/13/2004
CAI Data Analyst	5	03/24/2009
Community Technology Specialist	13	09/17/2007
Community Technology Specialist	42	01/18/2010
Community Technology Specialist	55	10/10/2007
ETS Analyst	2	11/01/2007
ETS Analyst	3	08/03/2009
ETS Manager	5	07/01/2007
ETS Sr. Analyst	4	02/18/2010
Executive Director, TN	35	12/01/2004
General Council	1	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	1	11/16/2009
GIS Analyst	19	04/01/2010
GIS Service Manager	8	05/15/2007
Outreach and Awareness Manager	4	03/24/2009
Outreach and Awareness Specialist	2	09/04/2007
Outreach and Awareness Specialist	3	10/01/2007
Outreach and Awareness Specialist	5	02/02/2009
Outreach and Awareness Specialist	6	01/04/2010
Program Director	6	08/04/2008
Project Coordinator	2	04/01/2005
Project Coordinator	2	08/01/2008
Project Coordinator	43	08/01/2011
Project Management Director	4	12/16/2009
Project Manager	1	01/14/2008
Project Manager	3	01/14/2008
Project Manager	4	09/04/2007
Provider Relations Manager	6	02/17/2005
Research and GIS Analyst	1	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	1	09/19/2011
Research Analyst	2	03/22/2010

Research Analyst	2	02/01/2010
Research Analyst	12	06/01/2009
Research Analyst	71	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	72	02/16/2010
Research Manager	3	05/14/2007
State Services Manager	1	07/01/2007
State Services Specialist	2	02/02/2009

Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Throughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	69,681	38,950
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	12/20/2009	12/19/2014	99,333	43,331

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,687,887 10q. How much Remains? \$2,791,733

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$972,695 10s. How much Remains? \$158,487

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$1,509,268	\$522,401	\$2,031,669	\$566,367	\$317,068	\$883,435
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$323,735	\$112,054	\$435,789	\$122,766	\$68,012	\$190,778
Travel	\$128,223	\$5,198	\$133,421	\$42,951	\$22,874	\$65,825
Equipment	\$136,141	\$0	\$136,141	\$70,833	\$0	\$70,833
Materials / Supplies	\$18,612	\$500	\$19,112	\$8,520	\$5,274	\$13,794
Subcontracts Total	\$603,918	\$114,399	\$718,317	\$176,122	\$82,281	\$258,403
Subcontract #1	\$382,730	\$0	\$382,730	\$69,681	\$38,950	\$108,631
Subcontract #2	\$157,177	\$114,399	\$271,576	\$99,333	\$43,331	\$142,664
Subcontract #3	\$25,328	\$0	\$25,328	\$3,070	\$0	\$3,070
Subcontract #4	\$38,683	\$0	\$38,683	\$4,038	\$0	\$4,038
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$434,921	\$290,961	\$725,882	\$12,607	\$41,392	\$53,999
Total Direct Costs	\$3,154,818	\$1,045,513	\$4,200,331	\$1,000,166	\$536,901	\$1,537,067
Total Indirect Costs	\$1,324,802	\$85,669	\$1,410,471	\$687,721	\$435,794	\$1,123,515
Total Costs	\$4,479,620	\$1,131,182	\$5,610,802	\$1,687,887	\$972,695	\$2,660,582

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
% Of Total	80	20	100	63	37	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/Software purchases for the project to date include the following:

- BroadbandStat- \$60,000
- ArcInfo/ArcGIS Software- \$3,242
- Computers & Software- \$5,975
- Speed Test Software- \$1,890
- Google Earth Pro- \$974

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage servers, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, GPS units, interactive map upgrades/maintenance, ArcInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

N/A

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

During Q4 2011, Connected Tennessee continued gathering data on the location and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the SBI Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Technical Appendix. Efforts have been focused on conducting outreach and raising awareness of this important project through a statewide campaign.

A specific focus during Q4 2011 was placed on coordinating with key education contacts in the state and conducting follow-up survey requests to identify broadband connectivity for K-12 schools across Tennessee. Additionally Connected Tennessee continues to build upon existing relationships with key CAI sectors to identify projects that could benefit from CAI connectivity data while increasing the data we are gathering as part of this project.

Connected Tennessee continues to identify key CAI contacts, utilize our online survey available on the Connected Tennessee website, and raise awareness of the importance of CAI broadband connectivity. Connected Tennessee has an ongoing mission to educate CAI throughout the state on the importance of participating in the project. Participation by these institutions will raise awareness about the importance of broadband connectivity and the need to report the requested data for inclusion on the National Broadband Map.

See Tennessee Q4 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Connected Tennessee has been relying heavily on the State of Tennessee's recommendations to ensure that our work meets expectations. During Q4 2011 there were no significant obstacles to the program's progress.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

Connected Tennessee launched its redesigned website at <http://www.connectedtn.org>, which allows for more convenient access to broadband maps and increased interaction between Connected Tennessee and broadband seekers and providers.

On October 7, 2011, Connected Tennessee held its quarterly Steering Committee Meeting at the Tennessee Electric Cooperative. At the meeting, Michael Ramage shared a new video created by CTN to highlight the Computers 4 Kids distribution event in Perry County in August 2011 (http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Je1n6GYo1FI). Michael also shared Mapping & Research updates before Connected Nation's Phillip Brown joined the meeting via conference call to discuss Universal Service Reform. Deborah Cameron from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) addressed the group to provide updates on TVA's Data Center Project and Comcast's Sara Jo Houghland provided an update on Comcast's "Internet Essentials" program before Michael Ramage

closed out the meeting with an update on Community Engagement.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

Broadband Capacity Building Milestones Year 2, Quarter 4:

Continue collection and confirmation of industrial park addresses – This milestone was met. Collected new industrial park data including new locations, geocoding, and broadband provider information. Connected Tennessee worked with the State of Tennessee to ensure all industrial park data is collected and presented in an immediately useful format.

Incorporate broadband information into industrial park dataset – This milestone was met. Continued to collect and confirm industrial park addresses by contacting providers with missing data information. This information was then added into the industrial park dataset.

Broadband Capacity Building Annual Outcomes Year 2:

Create an inventory and map of available industrial parks across the State of Tennessee as required by the State. Primary corresponding activities include collecting current inventory of industrial parks from Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), determine project requirements for industrial park location mapping, creating a template for telecommunications information, beginning field work and geocoding, digitizing park information collected for mapping, incorporating broadband information into industrial park dataset, and working with providers to add telecommunications information. – This outcome was met.

See Tennessee Q4 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to Report

Technical Assistance

The peer review process was unable to be finalized before the end of Q4 2011. At this time, an ongoing search is being conducted to identify an appropriate partner for the peer review process. The peer review process is anticipated to be completed in Q1 2012.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning? Yes No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to Report

Technical Assistance

The peer review process is anticipated to be completed in Q1 2012.

Based on guidance from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD), Connected Tennessee focused one state project rather than 3 to 6 - a small business toolkit that will be implemented on both a local and regional level. ECD views it as one large project to leverage economies of scale and stretch the dollars. It will then be implemented through the 9 development districts. The project is on schedule, but is being combined into one development process.

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0 11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0 11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

11i. Planning Worksheet						
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

Nothing additional to report.

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

Nothing additional to report.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

Broadband Capacity Building

Connected Tennessee worked with the Department of Economic Development to ensure that broadband was a planning component included in each newly created regional economic development plan. Connected Tennessee was included as a resource in each of the nine regional plans.

In December, Connected Tennessee's Michael Ramage briefed the Tennessee Regulatory Authority on changes to Universal Service Fund Reform.

Through Connected Tennessee's blog, Twitter, and Facebook pages, Connected Tennessee highlighted several uses of broadband across Tennessee that can have a positive impact on local communities. Connected Tennessee's Twitter audience has surpassed 800 followers and Facebook fans have surpassed 100. Examples of stories shared across Connected Tennessee's social media platforms include:

Workshop Equips Boys & Girls Clubs Youth With Skills For the Future: Sixty 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders at the Laura Cassler Boys & Girls Club in Knoxville participated in a listen and learn session with two Pellissippi State Community College students from the Media Technologies Department representing graphic design and video production. Connected Tennessee helped coordinate this hands-on presentation. <http://www.connectedtn.org/blog/post/workshop-equips-boys-girls-clubs-youth-skills-future>

Perry County Expands Its "Vision": Connected Tennessee's partners at Vision Perry in Linden recently expanded their "Vision" a little further – to Gibson County. The new organization will follow in the footsteps of the Perry County Digital Factory to help put thousands of unemployed West Tennesseans back to work. The non-profit company, Vision Gibson, works with for-profit companies to recruit and train applicants. The same group recently brought 300 jobs to Perry County. <http://www.connectedtn.org/blog/post/perry-county-expands-its-vision>

See Tennessee Q4 Supplemental Answers Document for additional information.

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Bernie Bogle

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

01-30-2012