



BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.recovery.gov
www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa

Organization:	Horizon Telcom, Inc.
Project Name:	Connecting Appalachian Ohio Middle Mile Consortium
Project Type:	Comprehensive Community Infrastructure
State:	Ohio
Federal Award:	\$66,474,247

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The economically distressed rural regions of the southern and eastern Ohio foothills lack sufficient access to fiber-based broadband service. Led by **Horizon Telcom**, the Connecting Appalachian Ohio Middle Mile Consortium proposes to construct 1,960 new miles of fiber, more than doubling the fiber in the service area and bringing middle-mile speeds of up to 10 Gbps to 34 targeted counties. The project also plans to bring high-capacity services to approximately 600 regional community anchor institutions, including 25 community colleges, 15 universities, 231 K-12 schools, 34 county 911 answering points, 212 healthcare facilities, and 34 industrial parks, with the potential to reach thousands more. Horizon Telcom states that more than 80 percent of community anchors in the area currently lack fiber-based broadband, while others lack the necessary broadband speeds to match their needs. The project also proposes to interconnect with the networks of BTOP awardees OneCommunity and ComNet, providing a far-reaching solution to Appalachian Ohio's broadband needs.

The Connecting Appalachian Ohio Middle Mile Consortium also proposes to:

- Enhance and expand broadband in a region comprised of more than 700,000 households and 37,000 businesses. The project expects to spur new or improved high-speed Internet access for these consumers by enabling local Internet service providers to connect to the new open network.
- Supplements the Southern Ohio Health Care Network's existing 13-county Rural Health Care Pilot, which leverages funds from the Federal Communications Commission to bring telemedicine and electronic medical records adoption to small clinics and rural hospitals in the region.
- Extend fiber connectivity to 32 (over 30 percent) of Ohio's Multi-Agency Radio Communications System towers in the region, improving public safety radio and mobile data capacity for the State Highway Patrol, Department of Rehabilitation & Correction, and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Founded in 1895 as the Home Telephone Company, Horizon Telcom has provided communications services to southern Ohio for over a hundred years. Horizon was the first provider in the state to offer rural dial-up Internet and a companion DSL service, and currently delivers voice, video, and data services to businesses and residents in southern and eastern Ohio.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Ohio Academic Resources Network (OARNet)
- Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District
- Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
- Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission
- Ohio Mid-Eastern Regional Education Service Agency
- South Central Ohio Computer Association
- Southeastern Ohio Voluntary Education Cooperative
- Southern Ohio Health Care Network

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

Made possible by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

