

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

05-50-M09009

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-29-2010

1. Recipient Name  
Connect Arkansas

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:  
N/A

3. Street Address  
200 S. Commerce Street, Suite 400,

8. Final Report?

Yes  
 No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly  
 Semi Annual  
 Annual  
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code  
Little Rock, AR 72201

7. Project / Grant Period  
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
09-15-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
09-15-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:  
09-30-2010

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
73	73	70	23	43	57

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

Since the previous report, Connect Arkansas has succeeded in obtaining broadband coverage data from Scott County Telephone. However, Connect has not had any success in acquiring data from the following companies: 1) Alliance Communications, which has stated several occasions that they are simply too busy to provide the data requested. We continue to be shuttled back and forth between their local office and the corporate office in Oklahoma. 2) Black Sheep Computing, Black Sheep has expressed their desire to not participate in the program as they have a "Libertarian business model" 3) IOCC.com LLC: IOCC has stated that they do not wish to participate in the mapping program because they do not believe it will produce any measurable results. 4) HughesNet, after initial commitments to provide coverage data, HughesNet stopped responding to all forms of contact. Connect has not received any reason for HughesNet's sudden refusal to cooperate.

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

At this time, Connect is not utilizing any additional sources for collecting broadband coverage data.

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

Connect Arkansas has been using Self Reported Consumer data combined with targeted surveys, FCC form 477 data and speed test data from our website to verify provider coverage data. In addition to these verification methods, Connect has recently launched an interactive version of our broadband coverage map that features a "feedback" option for consumer to utilize. We will be aggregating all feedback information into a report for each provider to use when compiling coverage information for us.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

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

Connect has utilized Self Reported Consumer data and speed test data collected on our website for verification activities thus far. Going forward, Connect will be utilizing the previously listed sources for verification along with recently collected survey data from Arkansas communities. Connect is currently in the process of using survey data collected from nine South Arkansas counties to verify broadband service in those areas. With the recent funds awarded from the SBDD extension, we will begin a 75 county survey initiative as soon as we are allowed for further verification of broadband coverage.

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?

4.75

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

With the new funds awarded last September to extend this project, Connect will be hiring in the next quarter. This will not impact our project's time line. We expect to be fully staffed by September 2011.

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

Six

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
GIS Manager	100	08/04/2008
GIS Analyst Specialist	100	11/19/2009
Compliance Officer	50	11/19/2009
Community Outreach Leader 1	92	03/01/2010
Community Outreach Leader 2	82	08/16/2010
Database Assistant	50	12/01/2010

Add Row

Remove Row

**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
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	Perform surveys on household Broadband usage	Y	Y	01/01/2010	12/21/2010	40,323	0
The Gadberry Group	Geocode, process provider coverage data, build web-based interactive Arkansas broadband map	Y	Y	12/31/2009	12/09/2011	213,000	0
Not selected	Fixed wireless propagation EDX signal	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	5,400	0
Not selected	Statewide survey for validation	N	N	05/01/2011	08/30/2014	150,000	0
AGIO	Will work with 32 counties to develop geographic information system address points statewide	N	N	01/01/2011	08/30/2014	944,400	571,792
The Gadberry Group	Website hosting fees to support interactive broadband map.	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	150,000	0
Not selected	County Broadband adoption fund raising and planning	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	68,000	0
Not selected	Monthly Newsletter distribution	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	36,000	0
Not selected	Engineering Assessments	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	253,000	0
Not selected	Statewide survey	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2014	25,000	0

Not selected	County websites	N	N	01/01/2011	12/31/2012	104,000	0
Not selected	Annual county website maintenance	N	N	02/01/2011	02/28/2013	58,800	0
Not selected	Website re-development	N	N	01/01/2011	08/30/2014	40,000	0

Add Row

Remove Row

### Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$830,194      10q. How much Remains? \$5,345,172

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$520,310      10s. How much Remains? \$1,023,532

#### 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	\$2,003,939	\$370,280	\$2,374,219	\$349,109	\$217,073	\$566,182
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$357,645	\$80,697	\$438,342	\$56,524	\$60,831	\$117,355
Travel	\$63,000	\$16,339	\$79,339	\$4,017	\$16,339	\$20,355
Equipment	\$72,685	\$22,479	\$95,164	\$16,862	\$22,479	\$39,341
Materials / Supplies	\$214,220	\$33,850	\$248,070	\$39,720	\$33,850	\$73,570
Subcontracts Total	\$2,316,974	\$601,065	\$2,918,039	\$214,324	\$29,273	\$243,597
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	\$744,440	\$378,065	\$1,122,505	\$119,197	\$140,465	\$259,661
Total Direct Costs	\$5,772,903	\$1,502,775	\$7,275,678	\$799,752	\$520,310	\$1,320,062
Total Indirect Costs	\$402,463	\$41,067	\$443,530	\$30,443	\$0	\$30,443
Total Costs	\$6,175,366	\$1,543,842	\$7,719,208	\$830,194	\$520,310	\$1,350,504
% Of Total	80	20	100	61	39	100

## Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

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

Connect has not purchased the hardware/software listed in the extension grant application awarded on September 27, 2010.

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

10y. If yes, please list

Connect purchased only the data set described in our NOFA application. The data set purchased was the MicroBuild Broadband Indicator data obtained from the Gradberry Group, LLC.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

-Wrapped up data collection and submitted our second SBDD data model to NTIA on September 30, 2010. We added 12 new providers to the data set with corresponding broadband coverage data. -New broadband coverage maps depicting Wireline/Fixed Wireless and Mobile Wireless. Satellite access for all 75 counties plus the entire state will be added to the Connect Arkansas website by October 15. -The broadband interactive map will be launched on the Connect Arkansas website by October 15. This will allow all citizens inside the state to search broadband availability at any address within Arkansas.

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

N/A

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

N/A

## 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

Please see attachment

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

We have found that there are great differences among county judges as to perception, understanding, and use of the Internet. The Ouachita County judge has rescheduled meetings twice; we will use a different approach in that county for the e-Community.

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

N/A

## 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

Planning Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
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
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?

We are receiving increased requests for state-level presentations; specifically the Arkansas Farm Bureau, the ARcare Network, LeadAR, and the Arkansas association of Counties. Also asked by a county not in our pilot area, to support its e-Steering Committee formed months ago in anticipation of the new electronic processing center for the Dept. of Human Services to be located in the area.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

Grace Morrissey

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

12d. Email Address

gmorrissey@connect-arkansas.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

11-16-2010

Performance Progress Report  
OMB Approval Number: 0660-0034  
Expiration Date: 08/31/2010