

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

45-50-M09044

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

04-11-2011

1. Recipient Name

Connected Nation, Inc. - SC

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

South Carolina

3. Street Address

1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Bowling Green, KY 42101-2137

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:

03-31-2011

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

- Birch Communications: Provider has chosen to not participate. The main concern was he does not want to divulge the information publicly on his speeds or coverage area - Refused to Participate
- Knology of South Carolina, Inc: Continues to be non-responsive to outreach; 5 individual outreach attempts were made during Q1 - Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts
- Mainstreet Wireless: Received e-mail from provider stating that they are not interested in participating. - Refused to Participate
- US LEC of South Carolina: Continues to be non-responsive to outreach; 4 individual outreach attempts were made during Q1 – Non-Responsive to Multiple Attempts

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

N/A

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

ESRI is deploying and hosting Connected Nation's BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI will house 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.

Connected Nation also collects consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries. 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 collected through the SBDD 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 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.

Before June 30, 2011 Connected Nation will target 10 additional companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 60.00% (currently at 40.00%).

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

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

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connect South Carolina website and received a total of 1,364 visits between January 1, 2011 and March 31, 2011.

During this quarter, the Connect South Carolina project received a total of 27 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 6 for this quarter.

Connected Nation's staff conducted extensive field validation tests in South Carolina on the following providers: Almega Cable, AT&T, Atlantic Broadband, Chester Telephone Company, Clearwire Corporation, Comporium Communications, Electronics Service Company of Hamlet LLC, Fairfield Communications, Farmers Telephone Cooperative Inc., FTC Communications, Home Telephone Company Inc., NTInet Inc., PBT Communications, Pee Dee Net, Pee Dee Online, Sprint, Time Warner Cable Inc., T-Mobile, tw telecom, and Verizon South, Inc.

To date, Connected Nation has completed field validation testing against 20 companies (out of a universe of 50 viable providers) totaling 40% 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?

4.04

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connect South Carolina 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 in their respective areas and by leveraging their expertise the project benefits by their 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

The positions not currently staffed are related to Connect South Carolina's new local and regional planning team activities that are only just beginning and as such have no impact on the project's time line. The positions are expected to be filled during the second and third quarters of 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?

6.04

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	2	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	1	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	3	12/13/2004
CAI Coordinator	3	09/16/2009
CAI Data Analyst	6	03/24/2009
CAI Data Manager	1	08/09/2010
ETS Analyst	23	08/24/2009

ETS Analyst	14	02/18/2010
ETS Analyst	13	02/18/2010
ETS Analyst	12	02/08/2010
ETS Analyst	2	11/01/2007
ETS Analyst	1	08/03/2009
ETS Manager	6	07/01/2007
ETS Sr. Analyst	58	02/18/2010
General Counsel	5	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	42	09/17/2007
GIS Intern	26	04/01/2010
GIS Services Manager	4	05/15/2007
Outreach & Awareness Manager	8	03/24/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	20	01/03/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	6	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	4	10/01/2007
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	3	02/02/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	3	01/04/2010
Project Coordinator	4	04/01/2005
Project Management Director	2	12/20/2004
Project Manager	26	12/16/2009
Project Manager	8	01/14/2008
Project Manager	4	01/14/2008
Project Manager	3	08/20/2007
Project Manager	2	09/04/2007
Project Manager	2	03/16/2010
Project Manager	1	01/01/2007

Provider Relations Manager	8	02/17/2005
Research & GIS Analyst	4	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	13	06/01/2009
Research Analyst	6	02/01/2010
Research Manager	3	05/14/2007
State Services Manager	3	07/01/2007
State Services Specialist	48	02/02/2009
State Services Sr. Specialist	1	12/20/2009

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
Throughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	87,350	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	Y	Y	12/20/2009	12/19/2014	506,111	106,883

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$809,501 10q. How much Remains? \$3,170,331

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$180,122 10s. How much Remains? \$850,545

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	\$1,199,434	\$123,752	\$1,323,186	\$202,294	\$39,465	\$241,759
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$257,278	\$32,004	\$289,282	\$41,759	\$8,864	\$50,623
Travel	\$157,557	\$0	\$157,557	\$39,756	\$95	\$39,851
Equipment	\$139,143	\$0	\$139,143	\$66,649	\$0	\$66,649
Materials / Supplies	\$50,350	\$0	\$50,350	\$17,930	\$0	\$17,930
Subcontracts Total	\$891,457	\$106,883	\$998,340	\$191,032	\$70,031	\$261,063
Subcontract #1	\$321,347	\$0	\$321,347	\$43,675	\$0	\$43,675
Subcontract #2	\$506,111	\$106,883	\$612,994	\$135,409	\$70,031	\$205,440
Subcontract #3	\$25,316	\$0	\$25,316	\$3,490	\$0	\$3,490
Subcontract #4	\$38,683	\$0	\$38,683	\$8,458	\$0	\$8,458
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Other	\$54,298	\$685,883	\$740,181	\$3,580	\$7,934	\$11,514
Total Direct Costs	\$2,749,517	\$948,522	\$3,698,039	\$563,000	\$126,389	\$689,389
Total Indirect Costs	\$1,230,315	\$82,145	\$1,312,460	\$246,501	\$53,733	\$300,234
Total Costs	\$3,979,832	\$1,030,667	\$5,010,499	\$809,501	\$180,122	\$989,623
% Of Total	79	21	100	82	18	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
- ArchInfo/ArcGIS Software-\$5,195
- Computers & Software-\$5,697
- Speed Test Software-\$1,133
- Spectrum Analyzer-\$4,477
- Google Earth Pro-\$266

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 BroadbandStat maintenance, ArchInfo/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

Received the Community Anchor Institutions data set from South Carolina stakeholders that is currently be valued and will be included in next quarters report.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

- *Compiled the Connect South Carolina Broadband Data and Development amendment project plan and submitted it to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on February 23, 2011
- *Completed the South Carolina Business Technology Assessment and supplied to Stakeholders
- *Compiled and submitted the April 2011 semi-annual mapping data refresh on March 28, 2011. South Carolina had 50 viable providers identified with 42 complete datasets received (84%). Of the 8 remaining providers, 4 refused to participate or did not respond to inquiries, and 4 were in the process of data submission
- *Maintained the budget/finance cost model for Connect South Carolina
- *Maintained the project work plan and Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)
- *Maintained the Connect South Carolina website explaining the program and gathering information from the consumer community
- *Continued to process speed tests from the Connect South Carolina speed test portal
- *Continued to receive and process website broadband inquiries
- *Maintained the outreach and awareness strategy plan
- *Conducted periodic Connect South Carolina project team meetings
- *Produced monthly status reports and distributed to the Connect South Carolina project team
- *Maintained and updated the broadband provider list
- *Distributed Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) to the provider community and securely stored the executed NDAs from providers
- *Conducted BroadbandStat demonstrations
- *Continued identification and collection of Community Anchor Institution connectivity data
- *Monitored and continued updating the South Carolina BroadbandStat instance with the most accurate mapping data
- *Maintained broadband coverage coordinate data sets from provider community
- *Submitted the Connect South Carolina 4th Quarter 2010 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report and NTIA Performance Progress Report
- *Continued on the ground field validation for the NTIA viable South Carolina providers

11i. Planning Worksheet						
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?

Upon approval of the project plan and budget, Connected Nation will conduct a survey that oversamples households that do not subscribe to broadband. This second survey will be in addition to the previously scheduled residential survey. This updated and improved methodology will provide a greater level of analysis regarding barriers to technology adoption among different socio-economic and demographic groups by surveying non-adopters in South Carolina in a way similar to that conducted by the FCC as part of the National Broadband Planning effort. This approach will help create a demographic and socio-economic profile of the population of non-adopters in South Carolina, which can then be applied at the local level of detail by area planning teams, to assist in developing local adoption initiatives that will target the barriers that are unique to that area. In Q1 2011, CN developed the analysis methodology and began developing this survey instrument.

Connect South Carolina composed and submitted the Amended SBDD Detailed Project Plan, Timeline, and Budget (Project Plan). As of the close of the quarter, the Project Plan has been accepted and recommendations for changes have been received. Those changes are in process with resubmission pending

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

The SBDD Detailed Project Plan, Timeline, and Budget was submitted to NTIA initially on February 23. The project team continued with the planning process in preparation for Project Plan approval.

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

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)

06-16-2011