

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

56-50-M09016

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

04-28-2011

1. Recipient Name

EdLab Group Foundation

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

Wyoming

3. Street Address

19020 33rd Avenue West, Suite 210,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Lynwood, WA 98036-4754

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

11-01-2009

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

10-30-2014

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

As of March 31st, we completed the third round of data collection for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) program. In Wyoming, the following providers have officially declined to participate:

** Lariat.net: Telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Declined. Will try again in Round 4.

** Jackson Hole CompuNet: Telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Declined. Will try again in Round 4.

** Wyoming Internet Resources: Telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Declined. Will try again in Round 4.

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

As described in our previous reports, LinkAMERICA uses data from commercial sources and estimation techniques to augment provider coverage reports. Estimation is based upon infrastructure points and involves the extrapolation of coverage and speed information based on engineering principles. Commercial sources are primarily used to complete provider coverage and speed estimates when providers do not submit data on their own. We do not currently substitute third party information for provider-supplied information unless we can independently verify that the provider information is incorrect. Instead, we use discrepancies between the two sources to identify areas where further investigation is required.

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

The following procedures have been described in our previous reports and are consistent with each data collection round and across all LinkAMERICA states:

** Third Party Data Comparison: As data arrives from providers we compare submissions against other data sources. An example would be the comparison of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILEC) reported census blocks with the exchange area boundaries identified by the ExchangeInfo data product. If a reported block falls outside a known exchange area, the block is flagged and the provider is contacted for clarification. Due Date: Ongoing.

** Provider Validation: Portable Document Format (PDF) check maps and other "check data" documents are given to providers at the beginning of each data collection round. We ask them to either verify or correct the coverage and speed information shown on the map and to add new coverage information as applicable. Offering them a view of what is already in our database helps maintain consistency of the data and makes it easier for providers to respond with changes. Due Date: Ongoing.

** Data Format Verification: Several processing scripts have been developed, both internally and at National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), to analyze the format of the data per the NTIA Data Model. These scripts help identify anomalies such as "islands" and "donut holes" that require further investigation, and ensure that the data will be fully accepted when exported to NTIA. Due Date: Ongoing.

****Consumer Feedback/Verification:** The LinkWYOMING interactive map contains a user feedback mechanism that identifies the precise coordinates of each point of feedback. As more user feedback arrives, we are able to investigate areas where provider-reported data consistently conflicts with consumer reports. Due Date: Ongoing.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

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

All of the above activities are ongoing and occur with each new round of data collection.

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

The following procedures are slated for all four LinkAMERICA states in Years 3-5 of the data collection program:

**** Mobile Wireless Broadband Drive Testing:** This process will use a special device from a vendor to test signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on multiple mobile wireless signals at the same time. This technology will be used in areas where there is a large discrepancy between provider-reported coverage/speed and consumer-reported coverage/speed to determine the actual coverage and speed characteristics. This commences in early 2012.

**** Mobile Wireless Crowd Sourced Testing:** This process will use a proprietary smart phone application, provided by a vendor, to constantly check signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on the user's mobile phone. The application will be available on multiple phone platforms and will be downloadable by consumers in each LinkAMERICA state. It runs in the background on the consumer's phone and does not impact phone performance. Data is sent from the vendor to LinkAMERICA for use in validating provider coverage and speed reports. This commences in early 2012.

Staffing

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

Review of actual hours worked in Q1 shows that the project has resulted in a total of 0.97 FTEs created/retained at the Sub Recipient level and 0.17 FTEs at the Prime Recipient level for a total of 1.14 FTEs.

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?

When fully staffed, we expect to create or retain approximately 1.7 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Sub Recipient CEO - Supervisory Role	1	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Director	12	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Manager	26	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient GIS Director	30	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Internal System Support/Architecture	2	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Provider Relations Manager	26	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Executive Director	4	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Operations Manager	2	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Contracts Coordinator	2	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Project Manager	4	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Project Director	5	11/16/2010

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
CostQuest Associates Inc.	Project Management/GIS Programming & Planning Services	N	Y	11/01/2009	10/31/2011	938,609	152,630

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,017,761 10q. How much Remains? \$3,136,072

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$409,970 10s. How much Remains? \$628,494

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	\$270,095	\$200,474	\$470,568	\$37,463	\$169	\$37,632
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$67,524	\$7,682	\$75,206	\$7,867	\$35	\$7,902
Travel	\$17,920	\$0	\$17,920	\$1,060	\$0	\$1,060
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$4,968	\$0	\$4,968	\$60	\$184	\$244
Subcontracts Total	\$3,667,506	\$229,500	\$3,897,006	\$938,609	\$152,630	\$1,091,239
Subcontract #1	\$3,667,506	\$229,500	\$3,897,006	\$938,609	\$152,630	\$1,091,239
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	\$507,155	\$507,155	\$20,204	\$245,144	\$265,348
Total Direct Costs	\$4,028,013	\$944,811	\$4,972,824	\$1,005,263	\$398,162	\$1,403,425
Total Indirect Costs	\$125,820	\$93,653	\$219,473	\$12,498	\$11,808	\$24,306
Total Costs	\$4,153,833	\$1,038,464	\$5,192,297	\$1,017,761	\$409,970	\$1,427,731
% Of Total	80	20	100	71	29	100

Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

** Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Project Manager (WY allocated portion) - \$352.78

** Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Vendor Relations Manager (WY allocated portion) - \$339.48

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

No additional hardware or software expenditures are anticipated for this project.

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

10y. If yes, please list

** American Roamer: Market area boundary and speed data on mobile cellular providers - \$5147

** Media Prints: Cable franchise boundary database - \$500

** ExchangeInfo: Legal exchange area boundary database for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers - \$3805

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

10aa. If yes, please list

** Data Collection Round 3: The third round of data (current as of 12/31/10) was successfully collected, processed and submitted to NTIA on time on April 1, 2011. Status: Completed.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
No significant obstacles or challenges were experienced on the mapping/data collection side of the program in Q1 2011. Round 3 participation by Wyoming providers was again relatively high at 70.6%. Coverage for providers who did not respond was estimated from third party sources when possible.

As mentioned in the quarterly report for other LinkAMERICA states, we would appreciate the finalization of any data model and/or script changes at least 30 days in advance of the submittal deadline. Receiving new scripts and/or clarifications on data model questions in within the last two weeks of a submission cycles leaves little room for error. Costs are also increased as we are forced to use vendors and other staff on an unscheduled basis.

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

As mentioned in other LinkAMERICA state reports, the release of the National Broadband Map (NBM) created an increase in the number of questions/complaints from consumers and providers. Most were concerned with usability issues (currently being addressed by NTIA) or failed to fully understand how census blocks and street segments are used to report and display data. We encourage expanded use of narrative, pop-up notes, FAQs and other means, to explain how them map was developed and the limitations inherent in census-block level data. In particular, we believe there should be more messaging around the NBM to explain that it should not be used to determine coverage at the household/address level. More general tips on how to use various features on the map would also be helpful.

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

** Key Stakeholder Interviews: Identify and interview influential cross-disciplinary stakeholders within the state to determine most critical barriers to broadband expansion and adoption. Due: June 2010. Status: Complete.

** Publish Initial Broadband Vision Summary: Publish draft, review with stakeholders and state, and then finalize summary report of emerging state broadband priorities. Due Date: August 2010. Status: Complete.

** Wyoming Consumer Broadband Survey: A statistically significant study of consumer internet usage and attitudes to help direct broadband planning. Due Date: December 2010. Status: Complete.

** Facilitate Regional Planning Teams: Divide the state into appropriate regions and recruit local stakeholders and other in-state partners to draft regionally specific broadband development plans. Due Date: January 2010. Status: Underway (Seven regions have been identified with all kick-off meetings scheduled for January 2011).

** Recruit Durable In-state Sponsor: Identify and formalize relationship with educational or economic development entity that can assist in regional plan development across the state and that can work to implement plans beyond Year 2. Due Date: December 2010. Status: Underway - The Initial agreement with Wyoming Rural Development Council was signed in December 2010. However, we are currently investigating procurement and contractual issues. Final agreements will be solidified before the (extended) July 31 deadline for the Detailed Project Plan.

** Publish Regional Broadband Investment Plans: Work with Regional Planning Teams (RPT) to identify most productive short-term activities to expand broadband access and adoption in each region. Document steps to implement those activities and release final report to the public. Due Date: Q4 2011. Status: Underway.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
As mentioned in previous reports, the Regional Planning Team has experienced isolated skepticism in some rural communities. These communities have attempted to attract broadband providers in the past, only to run into technical, economic and regulatory road blocks. The team has responded by successfully framing the RPT process as an economic development activity sponsored by the Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC), which has a strong reputation as a trusted and competent economic development leader. With the WRDC's help, the team has been successful in recruiting key community leaders to the seven Regional Planning Teams, thus building credibility for the entire effort.

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

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?

Because no year 3-5 funds are being spent in years 1-2, we have been granted an extension for our Detailed Project Plan. We anticipate full details of the Capacity Building effort to be included in that plan when filed on or before July 31, 2011. Following a similar program to other LinkAMERICA states, we anticipate the following:

**** Build In-state Capacity Training Resources:** Partner with in-state training partner(s) to design, build and deploy specialized training resources to: 1) Expand capacity of Wyoming’s small business sector to access, adopt and utilize broadband, 2) Improve capacity of Regional Planning Teams to advance current and future targeted broadband investments, 3) Strengthen regional leadership capacity to successfully identify and receive broadband-related grant resources, 4) Build in-state capacity for the sustainable use and future development of the broadband planning tools developed for Regional Planning Teams, 5) Build capacity to access, adopt and utilize monitoring and evaluation tools created for Wyoming in years 3 through 5.

**** Develop robust Broadband Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) modules to track program achievement:** LinkWYOMING will seek a qualified vendor to assist with the design and implementation of a research process to monitor the progress of broadband investment activities and evaluate the resulting outcomes and impacts.

**** Establish a State Broadband Director’s office to coordinate the activities of the Capacity Training, M&E, and the ongoing Regional Planning Process.** This full time, in-state staff member will: 1) Provide a “statewide awareness clearinghouse” for broadband development activities and funding opportunities, 2) Track best practices from within state and coordinate the implementation of those

practices within each region, 3) Log and communicate policy-related developments to the LinkWYOMING advisory team, regional teams, and all other stakeholders, 4) implement statewide program communications strategy.

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

No challenges have yet been encountered in promoting the year 3-5 goals.

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

Kyle Foreman

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

12d. Email Address

kyle.foreman@fedarra.com

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

07-08-2011