

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE BROADBAND ADOPTION

General Information

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration	2. Award Identification Number 02-43-B10566	3. DUNS Number 615245164
4. Recipient Organization University of Alaska, Fairbanks Administrative Services CTR RM 109, Fairbanks, AK 99775		
5. Current Reporting Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY) 12-31-2010	6. Is this the last Annual Report of the Award Period? <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No </p>	
7. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.		
7a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Certifying Official John Monahan	7c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)	
	7d. Email Address mailto:jdmonahan@alaska.edu	
7b. Signature of Certifying Official Submitted Electronically	7e. Date Report Submitted (MM/DD/YYYY): 01-27-2011	

PROJECT INDICATORS				
<p>1. Does your Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) project foster a particular broadband technology or technologies? If so, please describe this technology (or technologies) (600 words or less).</p> <p>"Bridging the eSkill Gap in Alaska" (BESG) Sustainable Broadband Adoption project is working within a range of technologies in the State that promote and provide bandwidth to residents. In Alaska the geographic conditions make it such that satellite and microwave are often the only viable option available to remote villages at the moment. The preponderance of available service does not technically meet the Federal definition of "broadband", consequently as "true" broadband becomes available, the project will be in front of the wave promoting the positive benefits of broadband participation. The project will continue to work within communities to highlight and promote what is currently available and advocate for increased services.</p>				
<p>2a. Please list all of the broadband equipment and/or supplies you have purchased during the most recent calendar year using BTOP grant funds or other (matching) funds, including any customer premises equipment or end-user devices. If additional space is needed, please attach a list of equipment and/or supplies. Please also describe how the equipment and supplies have been deployed (100 words or less).</p>				
Manufacturer	Item	Unit Cost per Item	Number of Units	Narrative description of how the equipment and supplies were deployed
n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a
Totals		0	0	
<input type="button" value="Add Equipment"/>			<input type="button" value="Remove Equipment"/>	
<p>2b. To the extent you distribute equipment/supplies to beneficiaries of your project, please describe the equipment/supplies you distribute, the quantities distributed, and the specific populations to whom the equipment/supplies are distributed (600 words or less).</p> <p>No equipment was distributed in the initial stage of the project.</p>				
<p>3. For SBA access and training provided with BTOP grant funds, please provide the information below. Unless otherwise indicated in the instructions, figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the most recent calendar year. For each type of training (other than open access), please count only the participants who completed the course.</p>				
Types of Access or Training	Number of People Targeted	Number of People Participating	Total Training Hours Offered	
Open Lab Access	0	0	0	
Multimedia	0	0	0	
Office Skills	0	0	0	
ESL	0	0	0	
GED	0	0	0	
College Preparatory Training	0	0	0	
Basic Internet and Computer Use	0	0	0	
Certified Training Programs	0	0	0	
Other (please specify): Digital Performance Teaching	35	35	2	
Total	35	35	2	
<p>4. Please describe key economic and social successes of your project during the past year, and why you believe the project is successful thus far (600 words or less).</p> <p>"Bridging the eSkill Gap in Alaska" (BESG) Sustainable Broadband Adoption project is a new adventure for Alaska with bright prospects for economic and social success in the upcoming year. In short order, after the project award was announced, the partners came together and begin planning activities that have established a solid groundwork for the upcoming year. While partners agencies are working on their individual components, the partners as a cohesive project have identified common grounds that promote career awareness and training via broadband.</p>				

5. Please estimate the level of broadband adoption in the community(ies) and/or area(s) your project serves, explain your methodology for estimating the level of broadband adoption, and explain changes in the broadband adoption level, if any, since the project began.

5a. Adoption Level (%):	Narrative description of level, methodology, and change from the level at project inception (600 words or less).
13	<p>At the beginning of 2007 Alaska had 9.2% penetration of DBS (50th of 51 states and DC) direct broadcast satellite (DBS) TV service, and high-speed broadband Internet service (Leichtman Research Group, 2007). The rural villages have made some gains in access during the 2 years since the report was published, but predominately Alaska Rural Villages continue to remain digitally isolated. The methodology for estimating the level of broadband adoption is triangulated using numbers provided by cooperative Alaska telecommunication carriers, data mapping efforts conducted by the Alaska Distance Education Consortium and Alaska Society for Technology in Education, and interviews conducted with trainers from the Alaska School Boards Association 1:1 project.</p> <p>Currently a Scope of Work has been completed and an independent evaluator has been contracted to gather and confirm the baseline number of subscribers for both residential and small business.</p> <p>This quantitative and qualitative methodology will be updated quarterly beginning in Quarter 1, 2011.</p>

6. Please describe the two most common barriers to broadband adoption that you have experienced this year in connection with your project. What steps did you take to address them (600 words or less)?

Access to bandwidth

The lack of access to bandwidth is primarily a factor of vast geographic distances and challenging rough terrain that makes it not feasible to run terrestrial fiber to remote Alaska communities. Through the support of BTOP/NTIA, projects that are capable of lighting up entire regions, such as Terra and SeaLion being implemented, but as a State there are large hub and road system communities that need to be connected.

7. To the extent that you have made any subcontracts or sub grants, please provide the number of subcontracts or sub grants that have been made to socially and economically disadvantaged small business (SDB) concerns as defined by section 8(a) of the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. 647, as modified by NTIA's adoption of an alternative small business size standard for use in BTOP. Please also provide the names of these SDB entities. (150 words or less)

N/A

8. Please describe any best practices / lessons learned that can be shared with other similar BTOP projects (900 words or less).

While technically considered "a new start project", all the partners have been working cooperatively on the grant application for a year and a half prior to the successful announcement of the project. Our "lesson learned" is that good things can come as a result of being consistent and persistent as a team.